



BALLET

On the Goh!

GOH BALLET
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January 2010

A Nutcracker to Treasure

This past December saw the inaugural production of the Goh Ballet's Nutcracker. The countless rehearsals and numerous performances enabled each participant to shine in their chosen part. Their hard work and dedication received applause from sold out audiences and garnered encouraging reviews from the press. The [Vancouver Sun](#) said that the Nutcracker was "far from a student production"; The [Georgia Straight](#) boasted that the production was "a gift" for Vancouver, "blow[ing] away so many versions of the Chestnut"; and [TV Week Magazine](#) gave The Nutcracker the sought after spot as the number one thing to do in the city of Vancouver for the week of December 12, 2009.

"Right from the curtain rising through the following two hours of the outstanding production, surprise and delight followed one after another".

– The Vancouver Sun
December 19, 2009

Congratulations to our beautiful cast, our enthusiastic volunteers and all of the production support staff.

Our production provided a unique opportunity to create new and enriching partnerships with other artistic organizations. It gave everyone involved the amazing chance to work

with groups and individuals of various talents and backgrounds.

We would like to thank Maestro Ken Hsieh and the Vancouver Metropolitan Orchestra for sharing their talents and for providing The Nutcracker with live music. For some of our dancers, this was their first opportunity to work with an orchestra and it allowed them to fully express themselves through movements in a way they could not have before. Also, we would like to send a thank you to the Vancouver Children's Choir and Tzu Chi Children's Choir for adding depth and warmth to the ever famous snow scene.

It was a privilege to have had Anna-Marie Holmes choreograph her memorable version for the Goh Ballet and for the City of Vancouver. The dancers worked a total of ten weeks with Ms. Holmes who shared her invaluable expertise. Her version of the Nutcracker was not only unique and innovative but it included performers of other talents such as magicians, a rhythmic gymnast and ballroom dancers while still maintaining the delightful traditions.

It was a pleasure to feature the inspirational performances of National Ballet of Canada's Principal Dancers Sonia Rodriguez and Piotr Stanczyk. In late September, Ms. Rodriguez and Mr. Stanczyk learned Ms. Holmes' choreography after the National Ballet's



Photography by David Cooper

tour to Vancouver. They returned to the city in December, just in time for the first dress rehearsal, enchanting a crowd in awe of their artistry.

In this time of global economic uncertainties, we were grateful to have received such tremendous community support. A heartfelt thanks goes to our Title Sponsor, Montecristo Jewellers in partnership with Rolex Canada for their vision to support arts and culture in the city. Furthermore, we would like to thank all of our significant sponsors: Open Road Auto Group, Choo Chiat Goh & Lin Yee Goh, Vancouver Metropolitan Orchestra, Birks, Chan Hon

"Goh Ballet breathes new life into Nutcracker".

– The Globe and Mail
December 18, 2009

Goh, Judith and Robert Lawrie, North Rim Pulp & Paper, Robert L. Conconi Foundation, Rosedale on Robson Suites Hotel, The Dance Shop, and Sandra Marencyh for their patronage.

The holiday season is a special time of sharing and giving. On behalf of the entire Academy's staff, the Goh Ballet made a humble contribution to Family Services North Shore.

This production would not have been possible if it

were not for the wonderful parents who showed patience and support while sacrificing their time in order to commit to the busy rehearsal schedule. We deeply appreciate their care for the cultural well-being of their children and look forward to any comments and suggestions. Please e-mail all comments/suggestions to Communications Associate, Katie Weber (kweber@gohballet.com).

Only two weeks after her retirement from the National Ballet of Canada, Chan Hon Goh took on the role of Artistic Coordinator for the Nutcracker. She worked tirelessly to ensure that efficiency, quality and professionalism was present in every aspect of this production. To Ms. Goh, we say "thank you" and "welcome home"!

We hope you will make The Nutcracker an annual holiday tradition and we look forward to being able to continue to provide the wonderful opportunity for dancers to participate in the production in December of 2010.

"With its inaugural performance of The Nutcracker, Goh Ballet has given Vancouver a gift ... Here's hoping the Goh's Nutcracker becomes a December tradition"

– The Georgia Straight

Nutcracker auditions will be held in June of 2010. Check www.gohballet.com.

Upcoming Events and Performances

Olympics

Goh Ballet Performs at Official Olympic Venues

The Goh Ballet is pleased to announce performances at several official Olympic Venues during the 2010 Winter Games. We are proud to play our part in this historical event.

BC Place Stadium
Victory Celebration Site

Live City Yaletown
City of Vancouver 2010 Celebration Site

Surrey 2010 Celebration Site
[\(Read More\)](#)

Save the Date

Goh Ballet Annual Performance Showcase

The Goh Ballet is happy to announce our Annual Performance Showcase on June 17, 18 & 19, 2010 at the Playhouse Theatre in Vancouver.

Come and see the rise of the future talents of dance emerge. Tickets will be on sale through the Goh Ballet Administration Office.

For more information, please visit our website at www.gohballet.com.



Photography by David Cooper

International Summer Intensive Program and New Performance Intensive Workshop

We are gearing up for an exciting summer start with our annual International Summer Intensive program. This year, we are also introducing our New Performance Intensive Workshop.

As a premier dance academy in Canada, the Goh Ballet strives to nurture the development of innovation and artistry amongst young dancers focusing on a career in dance.

Renowned guest instructors include: [Margaret Barbieri](#), Director of the London Studio Centre and Former Principal Dancer of Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet; [Iain Webb](#), Artistic Director of the Sarasota Ballet and Former Principal Dancer of the Royal ballet, Covent Garden; [Vera Solovyeva](#), Former Principal Teacher of Universal Ballet Theatre and Former Principal Dancer of the Leningrad State Ballet Company; [Diana Kaarina](#) Vocal, Musical Theatre and Acting Coach and [Peter Jorgensen](#), Musical Theatre and Acting Coach, Writer, Director and Choreographer.

For More information on the new Performance Intensive Workshop, International Summer Intensive Program and the guest instructors please visit our [website](#).

Goh Ballet Winter Celebration at Aberdeen Centre—December 12, 2009

On December 12, 2009 the Goh Ballet Junior School enchanted a crowd of hundreds at the Aberdeen Shopping Centre in Richmond BC. Hosted by our own Katie Weber along with FMA Entertainment's Erin Ireland and Andy Chu, this program featured over 80 dancers ranging in age from 3 ½ to 16 in three segments. The young dancers were able to demonstrate their progress to their parents and the community while sharing the joy that they received from dancing on the stage.

Announcements

Best of the City 2010

The Goh Ballet is honoured to accept silver in the Westender's recent pole of Best in the City in the category of Ballet Company. Thank you to everyone that voted for us.



The Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games

Classes will be optional through the duration of the Olympics. (February 12-28).

To view information regarding road closures and ways to get around Vancouver, please visit: <http://travelsmart2010.ca/>.

Email Verifications

Here at Goh Ballet the New Year brings new initiatives. One of our 2010 initiatives is to be more environmentally friendly by communicating with parents and students via email on a regular basis.

Goh Ballet's new Communications and Administrative Intern, Kay Gellert, will be sending out a verification email in the coming week with hope of a quick reply verifying that this email address is your current or preferred address to be contacted at.

Please look out for this email and we look forward to this new, more efficient means of communication.

Subscriptions

If you wish to subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter please send your request to info@gohballet.com.