



# THE NUTCRACKER

Choreography by Vladimir Issaev • Music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

## CHARACTER GUIDE

### SYNOPSIS

It is Christmas Eve at the Stahlbaum home where everyone is celebrating with gifts and dancing.

Clara's godfather, a toymaker, gives her a nutcracker that she treasures. Once the party is over, Clara sneaks downstairs to admire the Nutcracker. She falls asleep and begins to dream that her Nutcracker does battle with the Mouse King. After the battle, the Nutcracker turns into a handsome prince who takes Clara to the Land of Snowflakes and then onto the Land of Sweets.

Clara and the Prince are entertained by dancers who represent treats from several countries including Chocolate from Spain, Dolls from Russia, Tea from China, Coffee from Arabia, and Marzipan from France. To top it all, the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier honor Clara and her Prince with a beautiful Pas De Deux (dance of two).



**CLARA**, a young girl, is presented with a Nutcracker doll for Christmas and dreams that he comes to life.



**THE NUTCRACKER PRINCE** is Clara's toy that comes to life. He is transformed into a handsome Prince and accompanies Clara on her adventure.



**THE SUGAR PLUM FAIRY AND HER CAVALIER** are professional dancers. Ayami Sato, the Sugar Plum Fairy, was born in Ibaraki, Japan. Taiyu He, the Sugar Plum Cavalier, was born in Hunan, China. They are award-winning performers who have danced all over the world.



**THE MOUSE KING AND THE NUTCRACKER** do battle.



**CLARA AND HER NUTCRACKER PRINCE** visit the Land of Snow.



**THE KING AND QUEEN OF SNOW** dance with their Snowflakes.

**IN THE LAND OF SWEETS, CLARA AND HER PRINCE MEET DANCERS REPRESENTING**



**SPAIN**

Think of chocolate as these characters dance to the lively music of trumpets and castanets of the Spanish fandango.



**ARABIA**

The steam from the hot coffee is represented by fluid movements of balance. The woodwinds and strings of the orchestra will take you to an enticing place.



**CHINA** – Tea



**FRANCE** – Marzipan



**RUSSIA** – Dolls



**THE FINALE**

And finally, everyone joins in the fun by dancing the final Coda.

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