



NUTCRACKER 2005

Once again auditions have taken place and rehearsals are in progress for Kittiwake's 19th annual production of THE NUTCRACKER and as usual there are some changes in store. Just to mention a few, the Snow Maiden scene has doubled in size, the girl cousins are currently being fitted for new costumes this year and there has been a boom in the mouse population.

Margaret Hitchens, honoured last year for her 100th performance of Granny, will once again be creating the role. She is the only performer to have been in every performance of our production of THE NUTCRACKER.

For seventeen years Gerard Hayes has created the role of Father and during that time he has had nearly as many women play the role of his wife. This year, for the first time he will play opposite his real wife, Patty Callahan.

Martin Vallee will once again be joined by his wife, Jennifer Foley, in the role of Snow Queen and Prince. Martin, as many of you know, is the primary choreographer for the production having

joined the artistic staff six years ago when we moved the production to the Arts and Culture Centre. Together, he and Jennifer run Dance Studio East in Manuels.

Rebekah Rimsay returns this year as the Sugar Plum Fairy. Piotr Stanczyk will create the role of Cavalier. Both are First Soloists with The National Ballet of Canada. It has been many years since The National Ballet of Canada has performed in this province so this is the only chance local audiences will have an opportunity to see member of this company perform.

There are over one hundred performers in this year's production representing nearly every dance school in and around St. John's. Our thanks to these schools for training some fine young dancers. As we audition each year it has become apparent that the technical level of auditionees has increased considerably.

Please do join us in this Christmas tradition at the St. John's Arts & Culture Centre.

Performance dates are:

Friday December 16 & Saturday December 17 at 7:30 P.M.

Sunday, December 18 at 2:00 P.M.

Tickets are now on sale at the Arts & Culture Centre Box Office.

To secure yours, call 729-3900.

NATIONAL BALLET SCHOOL AUDITION TOUR

The National Ballet School (NBS) was in St. John's the end of October and beginning of November for its annual audition tour. In addition to auditioning local students for possible admission to the school, part of their program included open dance classes and special workshops for local musicians who accompany dance.

Craig Wingrove, musician at the NBS held a workshop for seven local musicians at the MUN School of Music during which time he explained the relationship between dance and dance accompaniment. Participants then were invited to observe the open classes to see the role of the accompanist in action.

Later that day he gave a workshop at Holy Heart of Mary High School where nearly forty young

musicians and dance students gathered to watch Craig and members of the NBS Ballet Staff demonstrate how music and dance fit together. The session ended with the students, percussion instruments in hand, joining Craig in a wide variety of wild and wonderful rhythms to which the dance faculty created movement exercises.

Dance and music were not the only art forms on the agenda. Students from the Anna Templeton Centre came to the open classes to sketch as the students moved through the classes.

Plans are underway for the NBS to return to St. John's in April of 2006 with a series of events designed for the general public, local dance students and music teachers. Details will be announced at a later date.

THE AFRICAN CONNECTION - A FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

On a clear warm night in mid-July, eighty people gathered at the Fluvarium for an evening of African dance and food with a Newfoundland connection. With a menu of boiled lobster and luscious African salads created by Kitty Drake and entertainment provided by Curtis Andrew's African drummers and dancers and belly dancers under the direction of Andrea Kitta and Dounia Hamoutene

Kitty Drake's menu of boiled lobster and luscious African salads followed by Figgy Duff Pudding with molasses gave great joy to our palates.

Throughout the meal The Neighbourhood Strays and Dounia's Dancers (Belly Dancing Troupes) performed a variety of colourful dances often using swords and candles. Following the meal Curtis Andrews and his African Drumming and Dance group filled the evening with incredible sounds and movement.

The menu and entertainment along with decorations by Elizabeth Murphy and the Anna Templeton Centre made for a memorable evening and raised funds for Kittiwake's on going projects.

Our special thanks to the committee of Kitty Drake, Sonia Dawe Ryan, Elizabeth Murphy and Margaret Hitchens as well as members of the Guild for a project well done.

KDT RECEIVES GRANTS FROM THE CITY AND THE NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR ARTS COUNCIL

Grants were received from the City of St. John's and the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council for the creation of new works based on two Edgar Allen Poe short stories. **THE TELL-TALE HEART** and **THE PIT AND THE PENDULUM** will premiere in the new year at Kittiwake Dance Theatre's new performance space.

Currently the repertoire includes **JOCASTA** based on the story of Oedipus; **KAFKA QUICKSTEP** (Cindy Holden), inspired by Kafka's parable Vor dem Gesetz and **L'AUTRE**, (Jessica Webb) based on Sartre's one act play **NO EXIT**. These works will be remounted as a part of the series on literature and dance.

The purpose of the project is give life to the printed page. To create characters that are three dimensional who can reach out to the audience. In essence, the goal is to create an interest (in young people) in both literature and dance. The project includes an opportunity for the audience to discuss the works with the choreographers after the performances.

WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Over the past few months, we have had a number of new board members join our ranks, bringing new energy to Kittiwake Dance Theatre. We welcome them and thank them for their contributions of time and talent.

These new (and in some cases, not-so-new to Kittiwake but new to the board) are:

- Lorraine Brown
- Brad Burness
- Nancy Cook
- Karlene DePass
- Regina Edwards
- Kenneth Jerrett
- Susan Morrisson

Unfortunately for us, Karlene has had to leave the board since she has taken a new job in London, Ontario. We wish her all the best in her new city!

COFFEE FUNDRAISER FOR KITTIWAKE DANCE THEATRE

<http://www.multatuli.ca/>

The Multatuli fundraising program provides nonprofit groups and other organizations an easy way to raise funds on an ongoing basis by supplying friends, family and co-workers with gourmet coffees at very favorable prices. Instead of just asking for donations or selling typical items such as cookies and chocolates, Multatuli provides an alternative with fresh roasted coffee, something most people consume every day.

Multatuli also offers Fair Trade certified coffee, which means a better deal for farmers and their communities. For more information on Fair Trade Certified visit www.transfair.ca

COFFEES FOR SALE:

1 lb. Bag Coffees (\$12.00 each, choose from whole bean or ground)

Fair Trade Organic French Roast (dark):

Our most popular blend. Great as a regular coffee but strong enough for an espresso.

Fair Trade Organic Mexican:

Dark roasted with big body and sweet aftertaste.

Fair Trade Organic Guatemalan:

This medium roast has a wine-like flavor and a sharp finish.

Fair Trade Organic Ethiopian Limu (light):

From the birthplace of coffee. Bright coffee with a floral aroma.

Fair Trade Organic Confederation Blend (medium/light):

Specialty blend, served on Parliament Hill.

House Decaf:

Our famous decaf breaks all the rules on decaf taste. This coffee stands on its own with medium body, sharp acidity and excellent aroma.

300g Can Coffee (\$6.50-\$7.50)

Our coffee for cans is roasted and packaged immediately using new "valve" technology which permits the coffee to de-gas while preserving the delicate oils. Each can contains 300g and is ground fine. The coffee includes an overcap to reseal the can.

Choose from four different varieties:

- **Multatuli Blend (\$6.50)**
- **Buzz (\$6.50)**
- **Fair Trade Certified (\$7.50)**
- **Decaffeinated (\$7.00)**

<p>To order Multatuli coffees, please email Jessica at jwebb@nf.sympatico.ca or call Kittiwake at 722-6907. Please be sure to indicate your phone number/email address, quantity and type of coffee desired, and your choice of whole bean or ground for the 1lb bag coffees. We place orders once we have reached at least 25lbs.</p>

WHAT DO CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS, FUDGE & TUTUS HAVE IN COMMON?

Christmas stockings, Fudge, Tutus and much, much more are an important part of the annual Nutcracker Sales which take place at the Arts and Culture Centre before performances and during intermission. This tradition started many years ago when we first started the production at the LSPU Hall. It became so popular that it has become a major fund-raiser for the production.

Throughout the year the guild has been making more of the ever popular tutus for young dancers and this year we have brought back the pointe shoe Christmas stockings - the perfect gift for your young dancer. Many of the parents, joined by the guild, have begun making fudge and all those other goodies that have become part of the Nutcracker tradition.



50/50 DRAW

We are having a 50/50 draw to help support Kittiwake. This effort is titled Pay Your Christmas Bills. We have printed 5000 tickets, and the lucky winner will receive 50% of all ticket sales - in other words, up to \$2500!

Tickets are \$1.00 each and will be on sale at The Nutcracker as well as from any board member or Kittiwake Dance Theatre.

If you would like to obtain some tickets to sell on our behalf, we would love to have your support - please call 722-6907.

The draw date is December 29th, so get your tickets now! What a great stocking stuffer idea...

<p>KDT NEWS, founded in April 1992, is a publication of KITTIWAKE DANCE THEATRE 157 Water Street, 2nd Floor PO. Box 7414, St. John's, NL, A1E 3Y5 (phone) 709-722-6907; (fax) 709-722-3099; (e-mail)kittiwake@nfld.net website: http://www.kittiwakedancetheatre.ca Newsletter Editor: Jessica Webb</p>

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2006

Kittiwake Dance Theatre is Newfoundland's oldest not-for-profit dance company. Your support will help KDT continue to provide Newfoundland audiences with quality performances reflecting the depth and breadth of the world of dance.

KDT is a not-for-profit organization with charitable status, run by a volunteer board of directors.

Our members help sustain Kittiwake Dance Theatre's activities. Members over 18 years of age may also vote at the Annual General Meeting.

Annual membership costs \$25 for an individual or a family. Donations are also gratefully accepted. If this newsletter does not have a membership insert, please call or email Kittiwake and we would be happy to send you one. Thanks for your support!