

The Nutcracker and the Mouse King



Photo by Charles Stonewall

Choreography: Jennifer Owen

Music: Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky - arranged by Patrick Alonzo Conway, Brad Cox, Jeff Harshbarger, Forest Stewart, The People's Liberation Big Band of Greater Kansas City

Costume Design: Peggy Noland, Peregrine Honig, Mark Southerland

Lighting Design: John "Moose" Kimball

Number of dancers: 9

Number of musicians: 16

Number of local students: 6

Run time: 90 minutes in two Acts

Premiere: December 11, 2009

H&R Block City Stage Theater

Kansas City, MO

Almost everyone is familiar with the traditional version of the holiday story *The Nutcracker*. Far fewer are aware of the original and notably darker inspiration for this beloved ballet--E.T.A Hoffman's 1816 story *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King*. This modern jazz adaptation of *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King* features both original music and radical rearrangements of Tchaikovsky melodies created by a host of innovative Kansas City jazz musicians.

"...the Owen/Cox production succeeds because each element is top-notch, from the dancers to the music to the bright, polka-dot costumes. It seems poised to become a classic in its own way as the production's fans spread the word."

-Ann Spivak, *The Kansas City Star*

Owen/Cox Dance

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