

2023-24
39TH SEASON



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SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA
Israel Getzov, Music Director

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Holiday

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FEATURING NIA RENÉE, VOCALIST
GUEST ARTISTS, ARKANSAS FESTIVAL BALLET

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023, 7:30 PM

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CONWAY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Israel Getzov, Music Director

2023-2024
39th
SEASON

Saturday, December 2nd 2023, 7:30 pm
Reynolds Performance Hall, Conway Arkansas

Conway Symphony Orchestra

Israel Getzov, Conductor

Arkansas Festival Ballet

Rebecca Stalcup, Artistic Director

Nia Renée

Guest Vocalist

A Christmas Festival

Leroy Anderson

Around the World at Christmas Time

Arr. Bruce Chase

White Christmas

Irving Berlin

Ms. Renée

Arr. John Moss

Concert Suite from *The Polar Express*

Alan Silvestri & Glen Ballard

Arr. Jerry Brubaker

Stille Nacht from Manheim Steamroller

Franz Gruber

Arr. Chip Davis

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Compiled by John Wesley Work, Jr.

Ms. Renée

Arr. James M. Stephenson

Christmas Sing-Along

Arr. John Finnegan

—*Intermission*—

From "The Nutcracker", Op. 71

P.I. Tchaikovsky

Arkansas Festival Ballet

Scene: Christmas Party

March of the Children

Departure of Guests & Metamorphosis

Battle of the Soldiers and the Mice

Pas de Deux in the Land of Snow

Arrival in the Land of Sweets

Spanish Dance

Chinese Dance

Arabian Dance

Dance of the Mirlitons

Tropak

Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairy

Waltz of the Flowers

Sleigh Ride

Leroy Anderson

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MAESTRO PATRON



Israel Getzov, Music Director

American conductor Israel Getzov begins his nineteenth season as Music Director of the Conway Symphony Orchestra. He also serves as Music Director of the Little Rock Winds, and Artistic Advisor to the Orquesta Filarmónica de Santa Cruz de la Sierra. He previously held the positions of Associate Conductor of the Arkansas Symphony and Principal Conductor of the Tianjin Philharmonic, the resident orchestra of the Tianjin Grand Theater.

Mr. Getzov has conducted orchestras throughout the United States and abroad, including Abilene Philharmonic, Asheville, Symphony, Cleveland Pops, Monroe Symphony, Skokie Valley Symphony, Mid-Texas Symphony, Shanghai Philharmonic, Symphony of the Mountains, Tianjin Symphony, Zhejiang Symphony Orchestra, Bolivia Classica, University of Taipei Symphony, and the Encuentro Jovenes Musicos Festival in La Paz. As an opera conductor, he led the world premiere of *The Scarlett Letter* by American composer Lori Laitman, conducted works of Giancarlo Menotti at the Shanghai Oriental Arts Center and the Cleveland Institute of Music, and worked as Staff Conductor for Tianjin Grand Opera in productions of *La Traviata*, *Il Trovatore*, *Rigoletto*, *Bluebeard's Castle*, and *Oedipus Rex*.

Mr. Getzov was selected by Leonard Slatkin to conduct the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and was chosen by David Zinman for the American Academy of Conducting at the Aspen Music Festival.

Mr. Getzov started the violin at age 3, and later studied viola, piano and percussion. He has performed as an orchestral violinist with many renowned conductors including Barenboim, Boulez, Solti, Mehta and Rostropovich. He was a founding member of the Rockefeller String Quartet, a professional quartet with whom he gave over 200 concerts. Mr. Getzov holds a tenured professorship at the University of Central Arkansas and has given clinics at many conservatories and music schools in the U.S., Asia, and South America. An experienced public speaker, he hosted his own weekly radio program on Arkansas KLRE 90.5FM called "Izzy Investigates" and has performed live as a chamber musician on WFMT and WBEZ in Chicago.

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+ denotes associate principal

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GUEST ARTISTS



Rebecca Miller Stalcup Artistic Director-Arkansas Festival Ballet

As director and choreographer, Ms Miller Stalcup has created original staging and choreography for *Beauty and the Beast*, *Peter Pan*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Aladdin*, *The Adventures of Pinocchio*, *Snow White*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Peter and the Wolf*, *The Nutcracker*, *Carmina Burana*, *Peter Grimes*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *Dracula Unearthed*, and has staged the classic storybook ballets, *The Nutcracker Ballet*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Coppelia*. She has produced numerous original choreographic works including *A Tangled Composition*, *Aplomb*, and *A New Influence*, for which she won the Arkansas Arts Council Artist Fellowship Award. Ms Miller Stalcup is the Director of Arkansas Academy of Dance, established in 2000, and serves on the board of directors for Regional Dance America/Southwest and the National Society of Arts and Letters. Under Ms. Miller Stalcup's leadership, Arkansas Festival Ballet continues to develop the next generation of accomplished dancers through performance and educational opportunities.

Arkansas Festival Ballet

Arkansas Festival Ballet, under the direction of Artistic Director Rebecca Miller Stalcup, contributes to the cultural community in central Arkansas through quality performances featuring local and guest artists. Through a partnership with Arkansas Academy of Dance, Arkansas Festival Ballet encourages formal classical ballet training to prepare talents for extensive training programs at major companies and schools.

Arkansas Festival Ballet's Performance Season includes two full-length storybook ballet productions, *The Nutcracker Ballet*, a mixed bill performance, and collaborative projects with local arts organizations.

Arkansas Festival Ballet has performed the classic ballets, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella* and *Coppelia*, in addition to storybook ballets *The Princess and the Frog*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Peter Pan*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Aladdin*, *The Adventures of Pinocchio*, *Snow White* and *Hansel & Gretel*. Additional works include grand scaled productions of *Carmina Burana*, *Peter Grimes*, *The Magic Flute*, *Dido & Aeneas*, *Dracula Unearthed* and *Romeo & Juliet*.

Arkansas Festival Ballet strives to strengthen arts education in the community through its collaborative partnerships with organizations in Central Arkansas. As a featured guest artist, Arkansas Festival Ballet has appeared with the Conway Symphony Orchestra, Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre, South Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Pine Bluff Symphony Orchestra, University of Arkansas Music Department & Concert Choir, Wildwood Park for the Arts, Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Opera in the Rock, Argenta Community Theatre, Arkansas Arts Center, Praelara Arts, and The Clinton Foundation.

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Nia Renée Kelley Vocalist

Tania Renée Kelley, known professionally as Nia Renée is an American singer, songwriter, and actress. Born in Maumelle, Arkansas, Nia started singing in church at a very early age. In 2018 Nia performed at the Washington Nationals Game, and at the FBLA National Convention in Baltimore, MD. In 2020 Nia won Miss Heritage Outstanding Teen. In 2021 on American Idol, she made it to the top 40, and won 1st place in the National and International Omega Talent Hunt. Nia Renée attends the University of Central Arkansas as a Vocal Performance major. Nia is the first freshman to win the title Miss University of Central Arkansas 2022. She competed in the Miss Arkansas 2022 and placed in the top 15 where she won Alpha talent and the Coleman Dairy overall talent. Currently she holds the title Miss Greater Jacksonville and at the Miss Arkansas 2023 won Coleman Dairy overall talent. Nia was chosen to sing opera in Bolivia for the Orquesta Filarmonica De Santa Cruz De Sierra in April 2023.

"A colorful storybook ballet that is snappy + sensational"

*Presented by Arkansas Festival Ballet
Artistic Director, Rebecca Miller Stalcup*

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- Friday
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ARKANSAS FESTIVAL BALLET

Excerpts from **The Nutcracker Ballet**

Choreography by **Melinda Tobian & Rebecca Miller Stalcup**

Cast

Mother Stahlbaum: Rebecca Miller Stalcup

Father Stahlbaum: Dennis Glasscock

Herr Drosselmeyer: Brian Earles

Clara: Olya Tryndyak

Fritz: Abbie Porter

Governess: Keira Eady, Avery Head

Parlor Maid: Avaleigh Stalcup, Sarah Tarawally

Doll: Mary Olive Smith

Friends of Clara: Amelia Alexander, Nora Lancaster, Farah Stalcup, Charlotte Vaughn, Kinsley Walker

Nutcracker Prince: Lanphia Tarawally

Mouse Queen: Sarah Tarawally

Mice: Abbie Porter, Mary Olive Smith, Avaleigh Stalcup, Farah Stalcup

Mini-Mice: Olivia Beachboard, Avery Shipley, Willamina Wilson

Soldier: Keira Eady, Avery Head, Charlotte Vaughn, Amelia Alexander, Nora Lancaster, Kinsley Walker

Mini-Soldier: Sam Alexander

Snow Pas de Trois: Drosselmeyer, Clara, Nut Prince

Baker: Sam Alexander, Olivia Beachboard, Avery Shipley, Willamina Wilson

Spanish Chocolate: Sarah Tarawally

Arabian Coffee: Avaleigh Stalcup

Chinese Tea Maiden: Soloist: Mary Olive Smith. *Demi Soloist:* Nora Lancaster, Charlotte Vaughn, Kinsley Walker

Mirliton: Avery Head, Farah Stalcup, Ava Wylie

Trepak: Anya Ratycz

Sugar Plum: Olya Tryndyak

Waltz of the Flowers: *Dew Drop Fairy:* Keira Eady. *Flowers:* Amelia Alexander, Avery Head, Nora Lancaster, Avaleigh Stalcup, Farah Stalcup, Mary Olive Smith, Sarah Tarawally, Charlotte Vaughn, Kinsley Walker, Ava Wylie

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FEBRUARY 3, 7:30 PM

REYNOLDS PERFORMANCE HALL, UCA

The CSO performs the score @ LIVE along side the film!

Don't miss "Batman" (1989, starring Micheal Keaton.)

Tickets available at the box office, (501) 450-3265, M-F 10-4,
or conwaysymphony.org



ORIGIN STORIES

MARCH 2, 7:30 PM

WINDGATE CENTER CONCERT HALL

The CSO journeys way WAY back to tell the origin stories of two of the greatest composers through their most beloved works: Bach's sparkling Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 and Mozart's elegant Symphony No. 29 heard on the soundtrack of the film "Amadeus."

IT TAKES 2!

APRIL 27, 7:30 PM

WINDGATE CENTER CONCERT HALL

Two soloists join forces in Brahms' "Double Concerto for Violin and Cello," before two rival gangs spar and two star-crossed lovers have a fateful meeting in Bernstein's "West Side Story Symphonic Dances." Linda Hsu, violin; Stephen Feldman, cello.



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