

Ballet Gala to Celebrate 55th Anniversary of Cuban Revolution



The Cuban National Ballet Company, headed by dance legend and company director, Alicia Alonso, will celebrate the 55th anniversary of the Cuban Revolution with a Gala on January 1^o at the National Theater.

One of the most sought-after and staged classics at this time of the year, *the Nutcracker*, choreographed by Alicia Alonso after Lev Ivanov, will be danced on January 1st to celebrate the Revolution,

With a score by Piotr Ilich Tchaikovski, a script after Marius Petipa, based on Alexandre Dumas' free version of the short story *The Nutcracker and the King of Mice* by E.T.A. Hoffmann and set and costume designs by Guido Fiorato, the famous classic will be danced at the National on Wednesday, January 1st; Saturday, January 4 and Sunday, January 5; and the following weekend.

The leading roles will be danced by premier dancers Viengsay Valdés, Anette Delgado, Yanela Piñera, Dani Hernández; principal dancers Arián Molina, Víctor Estévez, Camilo Ramos, Grettel Morejón, Leandro Pérez, and first soloists Estheysis Menéndez, Alfredo Ibáñez, Serafín Castro and Miguel Anaya, among others.

The premier of *the Nutcracker* took place on December 18th, 1892 at the Marinski Theater in Russia. The current choreographic version by Alicia Alonso was staged at the 16th International Ballet Festival of Havana on November 5th, 1998. Alicia Alonso danced *the Nutcracker* with the New York based American

Ballet Theater and the Ballets Russes of Montecarlo.

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