



Visual Storybook

Meet the Artists



**Choreographer
Marius Petipa**



**Artistic Director
Gil Boggs**



**Composer
Pyotr Tchaikovsky**



**Conductor
Adam Flatt**

A choreographer creates and arranges dance movements, a composer writes and arranges music, an artistic director oversees the creative direction of performances, and a conductor leads the orchestra during rehearsals and performances.

ACT I



Photo Credit: Artists of Colorado Ballet by Andrew Fassbender.



Photo Credit: Artists of Colorado Ballet and Students of Colorado Ballet Academy by Andrew Fassbender.

Welcome to Dr. and Frau Stahlbaum's annual Christmas Party!



Photo Credit: Gregory Gonzalez by Andrew Fassbender.

The magical and eccentric Herr Drosselmeyer has arrived. He has planned a special surprise for his beloved Godchild, Clara Stahlbaum.



Photo Credit: Sonata Ross with Artists of Colorado Ballet by Andrew Fassbender.

He gives her a wonderfully mysterious wooden Nutcracker.



Photo Credit: Jessica Payne and Sean Omandam by Andrew Fassbender.



Photo Credit: Students of Colorado Ballet Academy and Artists of Colorado Ballet by Andrew Fassbender.

Fritz, Clara's brother, is filled with jealousy about her special gift. In the chaos of teasing and stealing the Nutcracker, Fritz accidentally breaks it! Herr Drosselmeyer comes to the rescue and assures Clara that all will be well.



Photo Credit: Artists of Colorado Ballet by Andrew Fassbender.

The party ends and Clara, just before the stroke of midnight, returns to the darkened living room to check on her Nutcracker. She is frightened by large mice, but suddenly, Herr Drosselmeyer appears, and the mice flee.



Photo Credit: Jessica Payne and Bryce Lee by Andrew Fassbender.

Herr Drosselmeyer commands the tree to grow, filling the room. He also transforms Clara's little Nutcracker toy into a life-size Nutcracker



Photo Credit: Sonata Ross and Artists of Colorado Ballet by Andrew Fassbender.



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**The mice reappear and a battle against the Nutcracker and his soldiers breaks out.
It seems like the soldiers are going to win.**



Photo Credit: Artists of Colorado Ballet by Andrew Fassbender.

The Mouse Kings enters and just as he is about to overpower the Nutcracker, Clara distracts him, giving the Nutcracker a chance to overcome the mighty Mouse King.



Photo Credit: Sonata Ross and Christopher Mitchell by Andrew Fassbender.

To Clara's delight and surprise, the Nutcracker is transformed into a handsome young prince who takes her off on an enchanted journey.



Photo Credit: Artists of Colorado Ballet by Andrew Fassbender.

Clara and the Prince journey through the Land of Snow where they meet the Snow Queen and her snowflakes. They send Clara and the Prince off to end Act I.

ACT II



*Top Photo: Alexander Roy; Bottom Photo: Kenny Allen
by Andrew Fassbender.*



*Top Photo: Jessica Payne and Liam Hogan; Bottom Photo: Student of
Colorado Ballet by Andrew Fassbender.*

The Prince takes Clara to the beautiful kingdom of the Sugar Plum Fairy where she is entertained by dances from many lands.



Photo Credit: Kevin Gaël Thomas and Leah McFadden by Andrew Fassbender.



Photo Credit: Jessica Payne with Artists of Colorado Ballet by Andrew Fassbender.

Clara and the Prince dance together surrounded by radiant flowers.



*Photo Credit: Christophor Moulton
by Andrew Fassbender.*



*Photo Credit: Jessica Payne
by Andrew Fassbender.*



*Photo Credit: Leah McFadden and Jonnathan Ramirez
by Andrew Fassbender.*

The Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier then dance for Clara and her Prince.



Photo Credit: Sonata Ross and Christopher Mitchell by Andrew Fassbender.

The Nutcracker Prince carries a sleeping Clara back to her home. When she awakens she is uncertain if her journey was a dream or reality...

The End



*Photo Credit: Leah McFadden and Gregory Gonzalez
by Andrew Fassbender.*



Photo Credit: Artists of Colorado Ballet by Andrew Fassbender.