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The Georgia Ballet Announces 50th Anniversary Season



MARIETTA, GEORGIA – The Georgia Ballet is pleased and excited to announce its 50th Anniversary Season. In celebration of the 50th Anniversary, the company is bringing back one of its most popular ballets, *A Sleepy Hollow Story*, as well as the timeless classic, *The Nutcracker*.

Kicking off the season in October is the return of the highly successful *A Sleepy Hollow Story*, with choreography by Janusz Mazon. Originally premiered in the 2006-2007 season, *A Sleepy Hollow Story* is based on the American folktale by Washington Irving. When schoolmaster Ichabod Crane arrives in town, strange things begin to happen in the quiet village of Sleepy Hollow. Mr. Mazon's choreography comes to life in this bewitching adaptation that children, parents, and arts aficionados will all enjoy. *A Sleepy Hollow Story* will be performed on the same bill as the fiery, Spanish themed classic, *Paquita*, as well as a new work by Janusz Mazon. Performances are October 24th at 7:30pm and October 25th at 2pm.

The Georgia Ballet will ring in the holidays with their adaptation of *The Nutcracker*. The Georgia Ballet's version of *The Nutcracker* features dancing snowflakes, giant toy soldiers, a growing Christmas tree, and a delectable Land of the Sweets. *The Nutcracker* features choreography by Iris Hensley, the founder of The Georgia Ballet.

"This is a very special year for us to be performing Iris' timeless version of such a beloved story and tradition", said Gina Hyatt-Mazon, the Artistic Director of The Georgia Ballet. "We are so honored to be celebrating 50 years of quality arts education and performances. Performing for our audiences on stage presents the perfect opportunity for us to share our love of what Iris brought to life so many years ago." *The Nutcracker* will be performed December 4th-6th at the Jennie T. Anderson theatre at the Cobb Civic Center.

A special season bonus in February is *Spectrum*, an annual fundraiser run by the professional dancers of The Georgia Ballet. Original works are premiered every year, and the performances

conclude with a silent auction and refreshments. More information about *Spectrum* will be available on the website in the coming months.

Tickets for all performances go on sale August 17th, 2009. Tickets can be purchased by visiting The Georgia Ballet website at www.georgiaballet.org, or by calling the office at 770-528-0881. The first two performances in the series take place at Cobb County Civic Center's Jennie T. Anderson Theatre located at 548 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA 30060. \$15.00 Rush tickets will be available at the door the day of the show to all college students who present their ID.

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The Georgia Ballet, comprised of a professional dance company and a dance school, was founded in 1960. The Georgia Ballet's mission is to promote excellence in ballet performance and training, foster an increased public awareness and appreciation for dance, and provide dedicated and talented dancers with the opportunity for advanced level training and professional performance venues.