

Dance The World Nutcracker Festival a Delightfully Unexpected Twist on the Classic at The Secret Theatre, December 15 - December 20, 2015

Set to Duke Ellington's jazz arrangement of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, Act 1 opens on a hoppin' holiday party in a NYC Brownstone at the height of the roaring 20's. At the party, Clara receives a nutcracker doll from her mysterious aunt Drossa Myer. Little does she know that the Nutcracker has a magical spell cast upon it. Later that night the Nutcracker conjures a magical snowstorm that carries Clara on a magical adventure to the 1922 World's Fair in Rio De Janiero. In Act 2, the World's Fair, audiences will be treated to performances by a host of New York City's cultural dance companies.

This production celebrates the diverse cultures that call New York City home and aims to educate audiences about various kinds of cultural dance and music.

Program A (Tuesday Dec. 15th, 8pm/ Friday Dec. 17th, 8pm)
GORANA Bulgarian Folk Dance Company - Bulgarian Folk Dance
Pei-Rong Wu – Chinese Fan Dance
NylaPhoenix- Middle Eastern Belly Dance
Ajna Dance- Semi-classical Indian/Bollywood

Program B (Wednesday Dec 16th, 8pm/Saturday Dec. 19th, 7pm)
Yang Wang- Chinese Folk Dance
Danse Xpressions Dance Co - African & Hatian Dance
Reaction Dance Company - Bollywood Fusion

Program C (Thursday Dec.18th 8pm/ Sunday Dec. 20th 3pm)
Harika Chatlapalli - Kuchipudi Classical Indian Dance
FIYAH Dancehall Theater - Jamaican Dancehall
Xochipilli Dance Ensamble - Mexican Folkloric Dance

When: Tuesday December 15- Sunday December 20

Where: The Secret Theatre, 44-02 23rd St, Long Island City, NYC, NY 11101, (718) 392- 0722

Tickets: \$25 General Admission, \$20 Students/Seniors/Artists; Ticket Sales begin November 1st

Running time: approx. 1 hour, 25 minutes, including intermission

Tuesday December 15th at 8pm
Wednesday December 16 at 8pm
Thursday December 17th at 8pm
Friday December 18th at 8pm
Saturday December 19th at 7pm
Sunday December 20th at 3pm

The Secret Theatre is in The Long Island City Art Center. Take the 7, E, M or G train to Courthouse/23rd St. Also close to the N, W & R Trains at Queensboro Plaza.

Why the Nutcracker? *The Nutcracker* is one of the most attended and most widely recognized dance productions in the USA. There are people who do not attend dance performances regularly, but will go see *The Nutcracker* each year as part of their holiday traditions. We thought it would be interesting to take the production and reinvent it in a way that presents all different types of dance and music that the audience might not otherwise see, and hopefully gain a deeper understanding of the diversity that is a part of dance, and a part of American culture as a whole.

What is Cultural Dance? We define world/cultural dance as dance that is an authentic representation of an artist's culture, nationality, heritage, and/or ethnicity. We want each artist to interpret this definition for themselves. The festival will feature contemporary work, fusions of both contemporary and traditional

styles, as well as works that aim to preserve traditional dance practices of a particular nation. We welcome a variety of perspectives on the term "cultural".

About JP Dance Group

JP Dance Group (JPDG) is a contemporary dance company founded in 2013 by Artistic Director/Choreographer Julie Petrusak and is dedicated to inspiring, educating and entertaining its audiences. We believe that dance is the ideal format for storytelling and strive to deliver powerful dance narratives that resonate with people of all ages and walks of life. JPDG blends dance and drama to connect with the audience in a unique way and to share our stories. JPDG truly believes that dance moves everyone and is dedicated to promoting diversity in dance and making the arts accessible to all. Based in Harlem, the company regularly presents work in New York City and aims to expand its reach to new audiences throughout the metropolitan area. Through a partnership with Riverbank State Park's Young People Performance Series, the company provides free dance performances to approximately 2,500 children and senior citizens each year. (<http://jpdancegroup.org>)