

SHUMKA's

Nutcracker



Dec 17-18, 2021
Northern Alberta
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FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS ~ THE RETURN OF SHUMKA'S NUTCRACKER...

Welcome to the elegance and enchantment of Shumka's *Nutcracker*. The delightful story of young Clara, her dream prince, brave soldiers, and meddling mice, is reimaged and proudly presented as a Ukrainian version of Tchaikovsky's famous work. This unique blend of the grace and lyricism of classical movement with the strength and power of Ukrainian dance brings a special sense of energy and excitement to this Christmas classic.

Joining us in dance are renowned artists of the National Ballet of Ukraine (Kyiv Ballet), Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company, Mattierin Irish Dance, 14 amazing community voices who have gathered to form the Clara's Dream Choir, and young dancers from the Shumka School. With over 100 cast and crew united in this artistic collaboration, true magic comes to life on stage after a two year absence due to COVID.

Shumka's *Nutcracker* has returned as a new Christmas tradition in Edmonton and we couldn't be happier. We sincerely thank our funders, sponsors, donors and volunteers for helping make this a reality. And of course, we thank you, our audience, for making our *Nutcracker* part of your holiday celebrations.

May you and yours share a Christmas season full of love, hope, and peace. Enjoy Clara's magical journey with us, and be sure to come back to the world of Shumka again and again. (We hope to see you at our Canadian Tour performances as we head into 2022!)

Ukrainian Shumka Dancers



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Alberta Ballet Company Artist Kelley McKinlay, photo by Paul McGrath



Clara (Kyiv Ballet)
Tetyana Lozova

SHUMKA'S NUTCRACKER CAST

(All cast subject to change)



Prince (Kyiv Ballet)
Yaroslav Tkachuk

Principals & Soloists

Drosselmeier (Kyiv Ballet) – Denys Turchak
Fritz (Shumka) – Nicolas Pacholok
Mr. Stahlbaum (Shumka) – Zane Zimmerman
Mrs. Stahlbaum (Shumka) – Audrey Boccara
Columbina (Shumka) – Mikalina Rylance
Marionette (Shumka) – Tesia Doblanko
Mouse King – Jessica Bell, Zachary Wynnyk
Spanish (Shumka) – Michael Eeles, Alyssa Eugenio, Arlyssa McArthur,
Daria Podilsky, Mikalina Rylance
Verbunk (Virsky) – Kostiantyn Frolov, Viachyslav Ilinskyi, Mykyta Litvinov, Yevhen Lototskyi
Chinese (Shumka) – Calynn Lirette, Courtney Basaraba, Nicolas Pacholok
Trepak (Shumka) – Leda Tarnawsky, Maksym Kadziela, Murray Steele, Michael V. Sulyma
Hadiuka (Shumka) – Audrey Boccara, Ryan Beztilny, Zachary Wynnyk, Zane Zimmerman
Irish (Mattierin Irish Dance) – Olivia Nachtigal & Siobhan Tomlinson

Artists of the Kyiv Ballet

Tetyana Lozova
Yaroslav Tkachuk
Denys Turchak

Artists of Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company

Kostiantyn Frolov
Viachyslav Ilinskyi
Mykyta Litvinov
Yevhen Lototskyi

Artists of Canada's Ukrainian Shumka Dancers

Jason Adams**
Jacob August
Courtney Basaraba
Jessica Bell
Ryan Beztilny*
Audrey Boccara
Matthew Borys
Annalise Chwok
Annikka Dobko
Tesia Doblanko
Elyse Dzenick
Lauren Dzenick
Michael Eeles
Alyssa Eugenio*
Taras Geleta**
Viktoriya Glozhyk**
Natasha Grant
Ashlyn Grummett
Maksym Kadziela
Caitlin Kaminsky
Katelyn Kuchta

Larysa Kuchta
Brooklyn Lema
Calynn Lirette
Nikolai Lychak
Taryna Marko
Arlyssa McArthur
Ava Moser**
Joshua Pacholok
Nicolas Pacholok*
Mara Palahniuk
Nicholas Pawluk
Daria Podilsky
Mikalina Rylance
Adam Samoil
Alexander Samoil
Andrew Samoil
Nicole Schimpf*
Alyssa Shukalek
Julianna Shukalek
Danica Skitsko
Jacob Skitsko
Murray Steele
Michael V. Sulyma
Leda Tarnawsky
Laurelle Unger
Ashlyn Waller
Vanessa Wynnyk
Zachary Wynnyk
Zane Zimmerman
Michael Zukiwsky

Artists of Clara's Dream Choir

Tim Baydala
Natalka Beaudoin
Rick Doblanko

Orest Fialka
Gene Hirniak
Dorianne Martyniuk
Slavko Nohas
Natalia Onyschuk
Greg Pacholok
Michaela Pacholok
Susan Romaniuk
Irena Tarnawsky
Vlodko Tarnawsky
Michael Zukiwsky

Dancers of the Shumka School of Dance

"Children"
Darrian Mayko
Ryan Michaud
Ella Montgomery
Vanessa Rachmistruk
Ella Sikora
Khloe Starko
Kate Woychuk
Sabrina Young
Genevieve Zakordonski
Madeline Zakordonski
"Mice"
Annabelle Joly
Eleanor Opyr
Peter Sendziak
Grace Starko
Alex Taylor
Jasmine Taylor

* Shumka Artistic Committee

** Apprentice Dancer

SYNOPSIS

ACT I

Our story takes place one magical Christmas Eve, as the Stahlbaum family busily finishes last minute preparations for a grand party. A tableau is presented and we see a puppet workshop, where Dr. Drosselmeier's nephew is hard at work. His mysterious uncle makes an unexpected appearance. Happy to show off his wares, the nephew reveals a Verstep, a Ukrainian puppet theatre. Together the two entertain a group of children who are joyfully anticipating the Christmas Eve celebration about to take place. After bidding good night to the young ones, Dr. Drosselmeier indicates he is wishing a special gift for his Goddaughter Clara. Although his nephew offers suggestions, he is not content. Thinking for a moment, the young man reluctantly brings out his newest creation, a large Nutcracker doll. Dr. Drosselmeier, impressed, considers it but feels it is missing that 'special something.' His nephew, eager to please, gifts the Nutcracker a most magical element – his heart.



An enchanting city streetscape sees the guests begin to arrive, dressed in their holiday finery. With a flourish of his great black cape, the mysterious Dr. Drosselmeier appears, greeting Ukrainian carolers. His arrival to the Stahlbaum party is magical and he brings a doll as a gift, which performs a delightful dance with the children, while a Ukrainian marionette brings yet more joy to the young ones. However, it is the Nutcracker doll, Drosselmeier's gift to his Clara that wins her heart. Clara's brother Fritz teases her by snatching the Nutcracker away from his sister and accidentally breaks the doll's arm. She is devastated. Dr. Drosselmeier encourages them to gently cradle the broken Nutcracker doll before carefully placing it beneath the Christmas tree. Then he beckons the carolers and their Christmas star.

After the guests depart, Clara creeps back to the darkened parlour to check on her Nutcracker. The clock chimes, striking midnight. As Clara peers into the darkness, she realizes she is surrounded by an army of menacing mice. A cannon blast downs a battalion of mice while the Nutcracker, now come to life, leads toy soldiers into battle. The fight rages on until the Mouse King corners the Nutcracker in a duel. Clara comes to the Nutcracker's aid and defeats the Mouse King by pulling off his tail.

The spell broken, the Nutcracker transforms to a handsome Prince, and he declares his eternal gratitude to the young heroine. He whisks her away to his fantasy fairytale kingdom, far from the mice, the parlour and Clara's childhood home.



ACT II

Clara and the Prince journey to a magical fairytale kingdom. Upon their arrival at the palace, they are entertained by a beautiful celebration of *Carol of the Bells*.

Once inside, their welcome continues as dancers from faraway lands perform for the pair: elegant Spanish dancers, a fiery Roma quartet, an athletic Chinese trio, an energetic Trepak, a mysterious snake girl, spirited Irish dancers, and a dazzling Hopak are presented in a most spectacular fashion. Soon, the Prince

asks Clara to join him in a romantic and lyrical pas de deux.

Suddenly, Clara is back in her family's parlour, cradling her Nutcracker. She sighs, realizing her wonderful journey was but a fantasy. Or was it? Drosselmeier later visits with his young nephew, who bears a striking resemblance to Clara's beloved Prince...



UKRAINIAN SHUMKA DANCERS

Established in Edmonton in 1959, the Ukrainian Shumka Dancers is Canada's only professional Ukrainian dance company. Shumka presents dance-theatre touring productions, as well as intimate concert repertoire across the country and around the world. Seen by millions on international television broadcasts, the company has presented command performances for Queens, Prime Ministers, and Presidents, and have performed alongside the likes of Andrea Bocelli and Julie Andrews. Along with Alberta Ballet and Edmonton Opera, Shumka is honoured to be a resident company of the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium.

Over 60 years of performance history has shaped Shumka's signature music and dance style. While maintaining deep respect for their heritage, Shumka continually challenges conventional boundaries to define the experience of Ukrainian dance in the context of today's society.

Shumka's most recent works include *Kobzar* (2016), *Ancestors & Elders* (2018/2019) and *Mosquito's Wedding* (2019). The company will be bringing *Mosquito's Wedding* and two new pieces across the country with its Shumka On Tour production in 2022, Shumka's 10th Cross Canada tour.

Part of Shumka's mandate is the creation of a centre of excellence in dance education to prepare the next generation of dancers in the art form. The Shumka School of Dance trains over 200 young dancers using North America's only syllabus for Ukrainian dance, in addition to contemporary movement and RAD ballet instruction. Studia Shumka is a bridging program between the Shumka

School and Shumka that focuses on training and performing experience. Shumka also offers Ukrainian-dance and RAD-based fitness classes for seniors and adults.

Shumka is based in the Shumka Dance Centre nestled between the Ice District and Brewery District of downtown Edmonton.

For more information, visit shumka.com.



TETYANA LOZOVA



Honoured Artist of Ukraine

Tetyana Lozova joined the National Opera of Ukraine's ballet company in 2002 after graduating from the Kyiv Choreographic College. With outstanding technical ability, elegance, and emotion, Tetyana rose to principal dancer in the National Ballet of Ukraine and has performed main roles in several premieres over the past decade.

Garnering praise from professional critics worldwide, Tetyana is one of the shining stars of Ukrainian contemporary ballet with an unsurpassed sensitivity, passion, and refinement as a performer. A true prima ballerina with impeccable acting talent, she has performed leading roles in *Forest Song*,

Swan Lake, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella*, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*, to name a few.

In 2010 Tetyana was acknowledged as a Merited Artist of Ukraine and in 2017 she was awarded an honorary diploma from the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. 2021 marks Tetyana's 6th year performing Clara in Shumka's *Nutcracker*.

YAROSLAV TKACHUK



Honoured Artist of Ukraine

Yaroslav Tkachuk was born in Zaporizhia, Ukraine in 1992. He began attending the Kyiv Municipal Ukrainian Academy of Dance in 2007 and immediately joined the world-renowned National Opera of Ukraine's ballet company upon graduation four years later.

As a member of the National Opera, Yaroslav has portrayed a variety of physically demanding roles in numerous productions around the world. From the gladiator Spartacus to Prince Charming in *Cinderella*, he effortlessly blends Ukrainian folk dance with classical performance and unquestionably stands amongst the world's top dancers.

In 2013 Yaroslav was nominated for the top prize in the international competition of "Thought – Flow," and in 2016 he secured first place while competing on the world stage at the Tallinn International Ballet Competition in Estonia.

This is Yaroslav's 6th year performing the role of the Prince in Shumka's *Nutcracker*.



DENYS TURCHAK



Honoured Artist of Ukraine

Denys Turchak was born in Vinnytsia, Ukraine in 1988. It was there that he began his creative activity in art school. Later he moved to Kyiv where he entered the Pavlo Virsky choreographic school. After graduation, he was enrolled in Studia Virsky, and as a student took part in numerous Virsky ensemble concerts. He became a full member of Virsky and after ten years of touring and performances (including Shumka's *Nutcracker*), Denys received the title of Honoured Artist of Ukraine. In 2018, Denys joined the National Opera of Ukraine's ballet company, where he continues his artistic work as a character dancer.

This is Denys' 2nd year performing the role of Drosselmeier in Shumka's *Nutcracker*.



VIRSKY UKRAINIAN NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY

The renowned folk dance ensemble named after Pavlo Virsky is famous for its bright colors, unity of content and form, and the vivid embodiment of its stage concept. This magnificent artistic group has embraced the beauty of its native Ukraine. Each and every performance is a dynamic, passionate and exciting show. The ensemble's diverse concert programs, presenting the exquisite charm of Ukrainian folk dancing and the wealth of its traditions, have been warmly received by audiences all over the world.

The history of the ensemble goes back to 1937 when Pavlo Virsky and Mykola Bolotov, well-known Ukrainian ballet-masters, brought a group of folk dancers together. From 1955 to 1975, Pavlo headed the ensemble, and, under his guidance, the ensemble matured into a professional dance company that has thrilled audiences and critics in England, throughout Europe, South and Central America, the United States and Canada. In 1962, Pavlo created a children's two-year choreographic studio.

Myroslav Vantuch, Pavlo's disciple and an expert in folk traditions and ethnography, has overseen the ensemble since 1980 as Artistic Director and Managing Director. His main objective and creative quest is the preservation and development of choreographic folk art. In 1992, Myroslav turned Pavlo's two-year studio into a choreographic school for children, which later became a source of talented young performers for the ensemble.

Today, the Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company continues to create new dances full of surprise and delight, under Myroslav Vantukh's direction.

MATTIERIN IRISH DANCE - OLIVIA NACHTIGAL & SIOBHAN TOMLINSON



Mattierin Irish Dance has been established in Edmonton since 1993. Under the direction of the Bell family, the School has earned incredible competitive success in both teams and solos at local and international competitions. In 2019, they took home the prestigious World Irish Dance Championship title becoming Edmonton's - and one of Canada's - most successful Irish Dance studios.

Returning to perform in Shumka's *Nutcracker* for the 3rd year is Mattierin dancer Olivia Nachtigal (20). She is a three-time North American Champion, eight-time Western Canadian Regional Champion, 3rd place All Ireland Champion, NAFC Junior Belt Champion and has taken home two World Globes, currently ranking 4th in the World. Olivia is also a current cast member of the world-renowned phenomenon, *Riverdance*, having recently returned from performing at Expo 2020 in Dubai, UAE.

Joining Olivia is Mattierin dancer, Siobhan Tomlinson (16) who is the current Canadian National Champion, 3rd place All-Ireland Champion, 5th place Great Britain Champion and Western Canadian Regional Champion. Olivia and Siobhan will be performing a soft shoe piece choreographed by Rebecca Bell TCRG, who choreographs and teaches with Mattierin in addition to providing workshops internationally. The piece will be performed to music by Anton & Sully and Kayna.



CLARA'S DREAM CHOIR

The Clara's Dream Choir, under the direction of Susan Romaniuk (Zinchuk), has been specially assembled for Shumka's *Nutcracker*. The ensemble is made up of singers from local choirs including the Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble, Ukrainian Male Chorus of Edmonton, Axios, Kappella Kyrie and Viter Ukrainian Folk Choir. The Clara's Dream Choir also includes numerous Shumka dancer alumni whom we are excited to welcome back to the stage with Shumka.

CREATIVE TEAM



Creative Producer

Michael H. Sulyma, Sulyma Productions Inc.

As an independent arts and entertainment/cultural producer of 34 years, Michael has produced numerous projects for Stage West, television and London's West End as well as over 25 years of international tours of the Kyiv Ballet of the National Opera of Ukraine, China's longest running theatrical production *Chun Yi, The Legend of Kung Fu* and Canada's Ukrainian Shumka Dancers. Sulyma Productions Inc. (SPI) toured

SHUMKA at 50 to 35 cities for 50 performances across Canada and China.

A 17 year relationship with China Heaven Creation has led to long standing affiliations with Chinese production companies including Bravo (Beijing) International Culture Exchange Co., China Performing Arts Agency, Beijing Beiao Yitong Culture and Arts Development Co., and Beijing Poly Theatre Management Co. SPI was instrumental in placing the spectacular productions *Cavalia* and *Odysseo* in Mainland China.

SPI's documentaries have been broadcast nationally by CBC television and in 37 countries around the world: *Shumka - Return of the Whirlwind* (Shumka's monumental 1990 tour to Ukraine and Moscow), Shumka's *Katrusia, Cycles of the Sun* and *Night of Perun*.

Excerpts of SPI's *THE NUTCRACKER, a ballet fantasy* were produced for *A Royal Christmas* starring Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer, Andrea Bocelli, The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and principal dancers from Royal Ballet Covent Garden, Bolshoi Ballet and Royal Winnipeg Ballet. SPI's current Canada-Ukraine collaboration is Shumka's *Nutcracker* based on the beloved Hoffman tale. This unique and ground-breaking production brings an entirely new concept to the world of Ukrainian dance, as well as dance in general. This is the first time *The Nutcracker* story has been created in the Ukrainian folk ballet style.

Michael is a co-producer with Princeton Entertainment Group and Northern Gateway Films for the 2021 premiere of *Lasting Impressions 3D LED*, a breathtaking new journey into impressionist art hosted by Sophie Renoir. He is currently involved in the 3D, 4K Video and Virtual Reality world of cultural entertainment including recent award-winning productions.



Artistic Director & Choreographer

Viktor Lytvynov, National Artist of Ukraine

A soloist with the Kyiv Ballet of the National Opera of Ukraine in the 1960s, Viktor Lytvynov is the former Artistic Director and current Resident Choreographer of both the Kyiv Ballet of the National Opera of Ukraine and the Municipal Opera and Ballet Theatre of Kyiv.

Viktor's work with Canada's Ukrainian Shumka Dancers has been hailed by audiences and critics alike. He propelled Shumka to a new dance level with his 1995 work *Absolutely Shumka* and *Shumka's Cinderella* in 2000. Viktor was the Artistic Director/Choreographer of Sulyma Productions Inc.'s *THE NUTCRACKER, a ballet fantasy* featuring the Kyiv Ballet and Shumka (1997-2004). Excerpts of this Nutcracker were performed in the touring spectacular *A Royal Christmas*, starring Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer and Andrea Bocelli. Viktor's *Pathways to Hopak* premiered at the Canada Dance Festival at Ottawa's National Arts Centre in 2004 and was showcased in the touring production *SHUMKA at 50*.

Viktor's newest full-length ballets include *Pinocchio, Dr. Doolittle* and *Caprice – The Life of Paganini*, and Kyiv's recent sensation *For Two Rabbits* commissioned by The National Opera of Ukraine. He was also the choreographic lead on Shumka's *Kobzar* which premiered in 2016.



Artistic Consultant & Choreographer

John Pichlyk, Canada's Ukrainian Shumka Dancers

John Pichlyk joined Shumka as a dancer in 1976 and following periods of study in New York and Ukraine with the famed Virsky Dance Academy, returned to Canada to become Shumka's third Artistic Director from 1982 to 1996. After his retirement from Shumka, his involvement continued as an artistic consultant, choreographer, mentor and advisor.

A man with a vision and an intrinsic understanding of dance, John became the captain at the helm of one of the largest and most diverse dance companies ever to tour across Canada and abroad. Under his guidance, the company made a historic tour to Ukraine and pushed the boundaries of Ukrainian dance by creating a unique hybrid of folk dance, ballet, character and contemporary movement.

A strong believer in the universality of the human spirit, John endeavours to create dance that transcends all boundaries and ultimately touches the soul. Respectful of the time-honoured traditions of Ukrainian folklore and customs, he believes that Ukrainian dance must also evolve, reflecting the sensitivities of the performers and their audience.

John is revered in the Ukrainian dance community, both in Canada and Ukraine, as a true visionary in the art form. His latest collaborative work – *Kobzar* – focuses on the words of Taras Shevchenko and explores the themes of destiny, soul, courage and hope. This powerful and moving production follows the Ukrainian people in their struggles throughout history... and today.

John was also involved in Shumka's most recent production, *Mosquito's Wedding*, as story consultant.

In 2019, John was honoured with the City of Edmonton Salute to Excellence Award in the area of Arts & Culture.



Set and Costume Designer

Maria Levitska, National Artist of Ukraine

A fourth generation Kyiv artist, Maria Levitska studied at the Art Institute in Kyiv and has designed more than 200 operas, ballets and dramatic works. Her first ballet production was Lysenko's 1983 work *The Magic Dream* at the National Opera of Ukraine, and culminated in her appointment as Director of Stage Design in 1989. Maria is and remains, the first woman to hold this prestigious position.

In addition to her theatrical work, Maria has and continues to design sets and costumes for numerous historical films created and produced at the Dovzhenko Film Studios. Also an accomplished artist, her art has appeared in numerous international exhibitions.

In 2003, Maria received Ukraine's Honourary Lifetime Achievement Award for her work. Maria's set and costume designs for *Shumka's Cinderella*, *Pathways to Hopak*, *SHUMKA at 50* and *Kobzar* have provided an entirely new visual world, and benchmark, for theatrical Ukrainian dance.





Musical Director

Yuri Shevchenko, National Artist of Ukraine

Yuri Shevchenko is acknowledged as one of the finest composers in the Ukrainian classical and theatrical music scene. He creates works for musicals, dramatic theatre and television productions, as well as orchestral works for ballet, folk dance and choral ensembles.

Yuri's decades of composing music for Shumka has resulted in a profound artistic relationship. The marvel of his score for 1995's *Absolutely Shumka* was followed by the full-length composition for *Shumka's Cinderella*, which toured Canada, China and Ukraine from 2000 to 2007. Yuri's composition of Shumka's ground-breaking *Pathways to Hopak* was a prestigious commission by the 2004 Canada Dance Festival in Ottawa. His progressive and captivating *50th Anniversary Hopak* enjoyed its world premiere in *SHUMKA at 50: An Anniversary Concert* in 2009.

One of Yuri's gifts to Shumka is a grand symphonic version of *Carol of the Bells* (the Ukrainian Christmas carol *Shchedryk*) for inclusion in Shumka's *Nutcracker*.

Yuri created the dramatic musical score for Kyiv Ballet's 2017 sensation *For Two Rabbits* commissioned by the National Opera of Ukraine. His most recent full work for Shumka was his epic score for *Kobzar* which premiered in 2016.



Senior Creative Director (Shumka)

Les Sereida

Les began his dance career at the age of 12 and joined Shumka four years later. Throughout his ten years in the company, he had the privilege of working with such artists as John Pichlyk, Viktor Lytvynov, Brian Webb and Yuri Shevchenko. He toured Canada and the United States in Shumka's productions of *Absolutely Shumka* and *Cinderella* and was honoured to be one of the performers in Sulyma Productions' *The Nutcracker* for three consecutive years. During Shumka's 50th Anniversary

celebrations, he received a Membership with Distinction award from Shumka for his ongoing dedication to the company.

In 1993 Les trained at the Ukrainian Academy of Dance in Lviv, Ukraine, focusing on both ballet and character training along with regional choreography and music. This immersive experience was a guiding force, influencing his future artistic journey and ongoing commitment to the art form. Serving as the Artistic Director of Viter Ukrainian Dancers from 2004 to 2010, his direction forged new ground for the company guiding the creation of the song and dance style that is a hallmark of the ensemble today.

In 2018, Les directed Shumka's newest work, *Mosquito's Wedding: All You Need is Love*. An enchanting Disney-esque production with a relevant universal message for today, it successfully speaks to audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

Les is also owner, director and producer of Blue Toque Productions, an Edmonton based media company specializing in telling stories through film. Les recently completed an award-winning behind-the-scenes documentary on the journey to Shumka's *Ancestors & Elders* plus a film of the full production.





Creative Director (Shumka)

Tasha Orysiuk

Tasha Orysiuk is a highly respected and accomplished dance educator, adjudicator and choreographer in Canada, having trained extensively in various disciplines under internationally renowned artists in Canada, the United States, England, and Ukraine during her dance career.

Tasha toured internationally with the Arkan Dance Company before she moved to Edmonton, joining the Ukrainian Shumka Dancers in 1996. She has toured with *Absolutely Shumka*, *Cinderella* and *THE NUTCRACKER – a ballet fantasy*.

Tasha furthered her dance teaching education by obtaining her ARAD Teaching Diploma and AISTD Teaching Diploma in the National Branch. She is an ISDSA Examiner and a Silver Swans Licensee. Tasha is recognized for her work in the development and notation of the Shumka Dance Syllabus Academy's syllabi and complementary Classical Ballet Instructors Manual. Throughout her career, Tasha has adjudicated at numerous festivals and competitions across Western Canada, while also receiving several choreographic accolades.

Tasha has choreographed for numerous Shumka productions including *Cinderella*, *Kobzar*, *Ancestors & Elders* and *Mosquito's Wedding*. In addition to her work with Shumka, Tasha is an instructor at Shumka School of Dance. She also teaches Seniors Can Shumka and Silver Swans, two dance classes for learners over 55. Tasha is also an examiner and an Instructor Workshop presenter for the Shumka Dance Syllabus Academy.



Creative Director (Shumka)

Paul Olijnyk

Toronto-born Paul Olijnyk began his association with Shumka in 2001 when he moved to Edmonton and joined the company. Since then, Paul has taught dance throughout Alberta; adjudicates dance festivals throughout Western Canada; and has been a guest choreographer for dance ensembles across Canada.

Paul is a graduate of the Edmonton School of Ballet's Pre-Professional Dance Training Program and a certified teacher under the Shumka Dance Syllabus Academy. He holds a BFA Honours degree from York University, specializing in dance, and a Master of Arts degree, specializing in Ukrainian folklore, from the University of Alberta. In December 2017, Paul graduated with a Bachelor of Education from the U of A.

With Shumka, Paul performed throughout Canada and China with *Cinderella*, *Absolutely Shumka*, *Travelling Chumaky*, *Shumka at 50* and *Clara's Dream*, a collaboration with Ukraine's Virsky and Kyiv Ballet companies. After four years as a repetiteur and choreographer for Shumka, Paul now serves as a Creative Director.

We Salute You!
Alberta Ukrainian
Dance Instructors

Please share your Ukrainian Dance Instructor experiences through this QR code or at <https://www.abuda.ca/>

For the 130th Anniversary of Ukrainian Settlement in Canada, AUDA is saluting the hundreds of dance instructors who, throughout the decades, have shaped our Alberta dance mosaic and cultural heritage.

AUDA
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 ТОВАРИСТВО УКРАЇНСЬКОГО ТАНЦЮ АЛЬБЕРТИ (ТУТА)

CREDITS

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Michael H. Sulyma,
Producer

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General Manager

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Artistic Consultant /
Snowflake Waltz, Hopak
Choreographer

John Pichlyk

Shumka Senior
Creative Director
Les Sereda

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Les Sereda

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The National Opera

Shchedryk (Carol of the Bells) Musical Recording

Yuri Shevchenko, *Arrangement*
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Darka Tarnawsky,
Production Management

For the Kyiv Ballet of
The National Opera
of Ukraine

Petro Chupryna,
Director General
Elena Filipyeva,
Kyiv Ballet Artistic Director

For Virsky Ukrainian
National Dance Company

Myroslav Vantuch, *Artistic
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Anonymous
Anonymous
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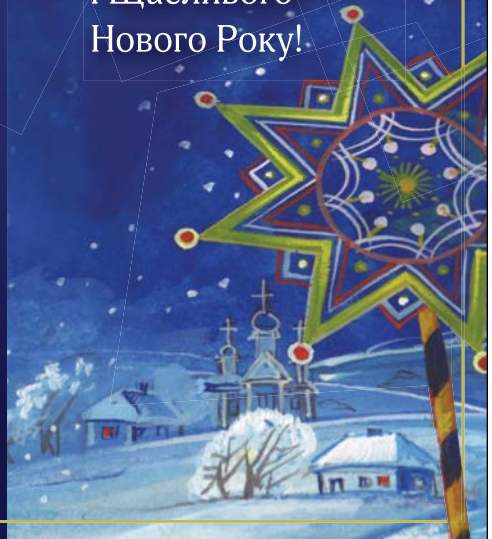


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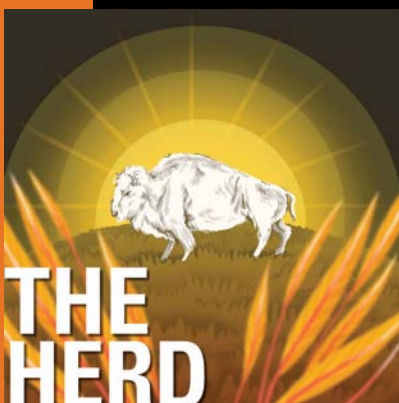
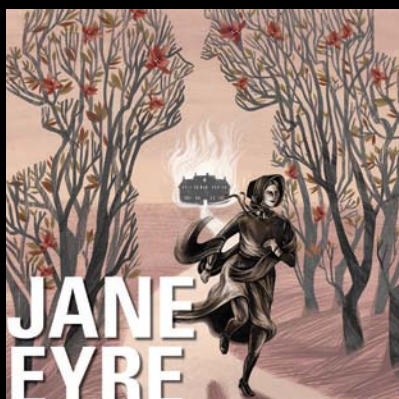
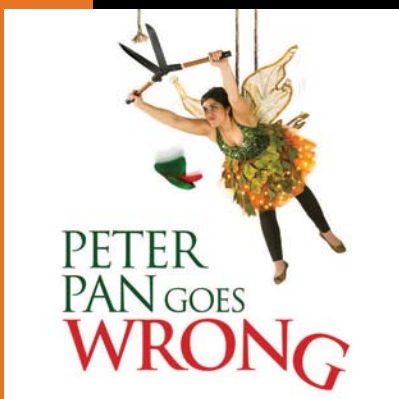
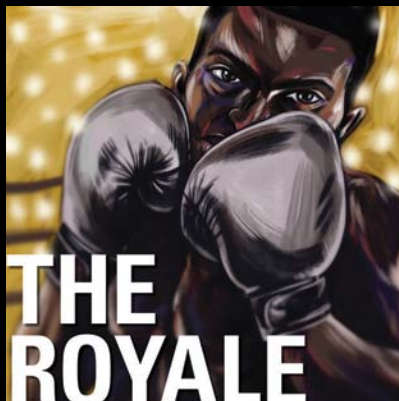
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