

Le Casse-noix Moderne ~ The Modern Nutcracker

The Timeless Holiday Classic Re-Envisioned with Modern Music and Dance

Thursday, December 29 at 7:00pm - One Night Only!

Gerald W. Lynch Theater at John Jay College, New York City

For Immediate Release, November 28, 2011, New York, NY ... Bidding adieu to 2011 with sparkle, splendour and swing, Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) presents ***Le Casse-noix Moderne - The Modern Nutcracker*** on **Thursday, December 29 at 7:00pm** at the Gerald W. Lynch Theater at John Jay College (899 Tenth Avenue). This delectable holiday treat from **Alabama's Etowah Youth Orchestras** and **Downtown Dance Conservatory** will be seen in its New York City debut for one night only.



Composer and arranger **Mike Gagliardo** and choreographer **Linze Rickles McRae's** *Casse-noix Moderne* is a version of the famous holiday classic like no other -- a retrospective of modern music and dance, encompassing every form of popular music from the 1920's to the present. Featuring selected music from Tchaikovsky's original, Gagliardo and McRae's new take on the show transforms each selection into a different style: "Trepak" becomes a swinging big band number, while the "Sugar Plum Fairy" becomes a soulful ballad; "Mirlitons" turns into a western swing number, while the Overture is straight-ahead rock and roll. *Le Casse-noix Moderne* enthralled with its original, modern interpretations, while maintaining all of the magic and familiarity of the timeless holiday classic.

Founded in 1990, the **Etowah Youth Orchestras** (EYO) provides students from Northeast Alabama with major musical and educational experiences in the US and beyond. Under Music Director and Conductor Michael R. Gagliardo, EYO has presented concerts at Carnegie Hall, the Lincoln and Kennedy Centers, Stratford-Upon-Avon (UK), and in Costa Rica, and has been honoured with eleven ASCAP Youth Orchestra Awards. Over 250



dedicated students train at **The Downtown Dance Conservatory**, based in Gadsden, Alabama, under the direction of Artistic Director Linze Rickles McRae.

Distinguished Concerts International New York, now in its fourth season, was founded by Iris Derke (General Director) and Jonathan Griffith (Artistic Director and Principal Conductor). With an unwavering commitment to bring forth unforgettable audience experiences, DCINY is driven by passion and innovative vision.

Tickets (\$50) at www.dciny.org or www.brownpapertickets.com/event/207839

or by calling 1.800.838.3006