



# The Nutcracker

## Renowned Conductor, Leslie Dala, Returns to Lead the Vancouver Opera Orchestra in Goh Ballet's *The Nutcracker*

### For Immediate Release

Vancouver, BC- Goh Ballet is delighted to announce that Leslie Dala returns as conductor in this year's production of Goh Ballet's *The Nutcracker*. The timeless holiday music serves as the perfect compliment to the critically acclaimed production, which is returning to The Centre in downtown Vancouver from December 17<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 for 8 performances.

A member of the Vancouver Opera music staff since 1996, this will be Dala's fifth time leading the musical accompaniment to *The Nutcracker*. Studying piano, violin and organ at a young age, Dala knew as a child that he wanted to be involved with music, but also had an equal interest in theatre, poetry and literature. Dala studied piano performance at the University of Toronto, and then transitioned to The Banff Centre, where he discovered his love for collaborating on various facets of art and music in opera. He eventually moved to Vancouver to complete his Masters Degree at the University of British Columbia and works extensively in a number of musical organisations such as the Vancouver Bach Choir, the Vancouver Opera and the Vancouver Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra.

*"Goh Ballet's The Nutcracker is a magical production in every sense of the word. My experience is quite different when I conduct for the ballet because there is that very important element of the dancer's needs to contend with. Not only am I the one who leads the orchestra but I must also make sure that the musical accents and phrasing match that of the dancers, enabling them to – personify the music."* said Dala. *"To return to this amazing production and work with world-calibre musicians and dancers is always an experience that I find artistically fulfilling."*

*The Nutcracker* is one of the world's most recognized ballets, cherished by both children and adults alike. Originally written by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, the performance debuted in 1892 and has since become a tradition for the holiday season, beloved by families around the world. Goh Ballet's *The Nutcracker* will be presented from December 17 to December 22 at the Centre in Vancouver, with performances featuring talented local and international professionals and guest stars from the San Francisco Ballet as well as the Pacific Northwest Ballet.

Tickets for this iconic production are available now at [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca).

### About Goh Ballet:

Since 1978, Vancouver, Canada has been home to the Goh Ballet, a vibrant, innovative and diverse dance organization. Under the direction of Chan Hon Goh since 2010, the organization is following the vision of its founders while expanding on current artistic aspirations. The Goh Ballet pursues technical and artistic excellence while raising cultural awareness in our communities through performance productions. The Goh Ballet is synonymous with excellence, training talent and fostering the presentation of classical ballet. It provides extraordinary opportunities for dancers to reach their full potential, while contributing to the artistic well being of our city and country. The Goh Ballet is always at the forefront of the arts community and has toured around the world, including the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, Japan, France and the U.S.A. For more information on the Goh Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, please visit: [www.gohnutcracker.com](http://www.gohnutcracker.com)

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