



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE TRADITION CONTINUES!
ARONOFF CENTER WELCOMES
CINCINNATI BALLET'S
HISTORIC NUTCRACKER PRODUCTION**

CINCINNATI, OH – May 14, 2007 – Cincinnati Ballet announced today that the Ballet's popular holiday ballet series, Frisch's *The Nutcracker*, will be performed at The Procter & Gamble Hall of downtown Cincinnati's Aronoff Center for the Arts beginning this December. The performance will run from December 19 through the 29th.

The move, from Music Hall in Over-the-Rhine, where the production has been housed since 1974, occurs during Cincinnati Ballet's 2007-08 season. Except for the groundbreaking *New Works* series (held for the past two years at the company's own Mickey Jarson Kaplan Performance Studio in Over-the-Rhine), Cincinnati Ballet's regular subscription series has been performed at The Aronoff Center since the Center's grand opening in 1995.

"We believe that The Aronoff Center will provide a more intimate and enjoyable experience for our patrons," said Paul Kaine, Executive Director of Cincinnati Ballet. "It will also add to the air of holiday celebration in the core of downtown Cincinnati."

THE NEED FOR SCHEDULING FLEXIBILITY

"The process to change from our previous longtime venue was initiated because of our need for flexibility in scheduling with Music Hall," said Kaine.

"Due to the way the calendar fell our usual dates were not available, we looked for an alternative. Cincinnati Ballet approached the Cincinnati Arts Association (CAA) regarding The Aronoff Center's availability for those dates.

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“The CAA entertained our request and investigated whether the agreement could be ongoing. When CAA ascertained that it was possible, we made the decision to present *The Nutcracker* at The Aronoff Center this season and in the future.

“Though moving our *Nutcracker* series to The Aronoff Center was driven by a scheduling conflict, we look at it as providing additional benefits to our patrons, who will be closer to downtown merchants for shopping and dining during the holidays,” said Kaine.

“We have greatly enjoyed our relationship with the Cincinnati Ballet – one of our major resident companies – over the past decade at both Music Hall and The Aronoff Center. We appreciate the careful consideration they have given to this decision, and we look forward to supporting their wonderful work for many years to come,” said Steve Loftin, President and Executive Director of the Cincinnati Arts Association.

Recognizing the value and importance of maintaining the historic building, Cincinnati Ballet will continue to be involved in the Music Hall Working Group. “We want to be able to help keep Music Hall viable and amazing for generations to come,” said Kaine.

FOR MORE INFORMATION or to order single tickets (\$21 - \$66) for Cincinnati Ballet’s Frisch’s *The Nutcracker* (available summer 2007) call 513-621-5282 or go to www.cincinnati-ballet.com.

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