

### ACT III

The curtain rises on the final act, which is again set in the village square. Franz and Swanilda, now reconciled, approach the Burgomaster to receive their dowries and be married.

Dr. Coppélius storms in, accusing the lovers of destroying his life's work. Swanilda, realizing the justness of his claim, offers him her dowry, but the Burgomaster gives Dr. Coppélius a bag of gold and sends him off. The townspeople then participate in the fete that unites Swanilda and Franz in a happy marriage.

### Production History

*Coppélia* was first performed on May 25, 1870, with choreography by Arthur Saint-Leon, at the Theatre Imperial de l'Opéra in Paris. It entered the repertoire of American Ballet Theatre on September 1, 1942, with choreography by Simon

Semenoff, at the Palacio de Bellas Artes, Mexico City. A new production, with choreography by Enrique Martinez, from the original of Arthur Saint Leon, was premiered on December 24, 1968 at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. A third production, also by Martinez, was premiered at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. on January 18, 1991. This production was restaged by Frederic Franklin and premiered at the Orange County Performing Arts Centre in Costa Mesa, California on February 14, 1997.

Costumes executed by Barbara Matera, Ltd. and Grace Costumes, Inc.

Scenery and soft goods painted by ShowMotion, Inc., Norwalk, CT.

Sculpture, dolls, and marionettes by Costume Armour, Inc. and Nick Miller.

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## DRESDEN PHILHARMONIC



In 2010 the Dresden Philharmonic marked the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding. The Dresden Philharmonic has worked with the most eminent conductors in each historical period since its founding. The orchestra gained worldwide fame in the 1930s, with much credit going to the leadership of Paul van Kempen. This in turn attracted the great conductors of the time to appear in concert with the Philharmonic, including Arthur Nikisch, Hermann Abendroth, Hans Knappertsbusch, Fritz Busch, Erich Kleiber and Joseph Keilberth. The work of Heinz Bongartz as Principal Conductor was essential in rebuilding the orchestra in the years following World War II. Among other conductors, Kurt Masur served as Principal Conductor of the Dresden Philharmonic.

From the 1994/95 concert season the internationally acclaimed Principal Conductor Michel Plasson led the Philharmonic, a collaboration which

resulted in a strong focus on key French composers on the orchestra's concerts programs. In 1999 Michel Plasson's tenure came to an end. In 2001 an equally renowned conductor, Marek Janowski, became Plasson's successor. Deeply rooted in German tradition and familiar with the performance practice of leading orchestras in all of the world's major music centers, his coming to the Philharmonic was a particularly welcome turn of events. For the 2003/04 season, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos was named Principal Guest Conductor and a year later became Principal Conductor. His experience conducting the best orchestras in the world and his personal charisma led to a highly successful partnership with the orchestra, both concerts performed in Dresden, on tour and in the international music recording industry. Since the beginning of the season 2011/12 Michael Sanderling has been Principal Conductor.

