

## The State Ballet of RI's *Coppelia* 2011

Amendment to the official press release

- *Coppelia* was first performed by SBRI in 1962 at Veterans Memorial Auditorium.
- A favorite among the founding members for its spunk, romantic comedy, and Slavic influence, *Coppelia* was chosen as the Company's traditional ballet.
- SBRI has always supported and respected artists of many avenues throughout RI and beyond knowing quite well that financial and audience support in the Arts can be limited and valued. As shown through many collaborations with other Rhode Island dancers, composers, musicians, choreographers, photographers, painters, and other artists of different genres, over the 51 years in existence, SBRI enjoys flourishing and performing and persevering *together*.
- Over a half century old, SBRI holds true to the art form of classical ballet, preserving culture and tradition in motion. The costumes worn, the props carried, and the scenery hung, many are decades old. The storyline of *Coppelia* is vintage as well, as it was performed as a ballet for the first time in 1870 in Paris. However, new dancers, costumes, and audience members come with each passing year. These fresh aspects gel well with the existing, as to create second and third-generation memories and lovers of the ballet.
  - This year, leading dancers share with each other the roles that their mentors, Herci Marsden - Artistic Director and Prima Ballerina and Ana Marsden Fox - Executive Director and SBRI Alumna Principal Dancer, once portrayed. How fortunate the dancers are to have coaching and influence from such epic figures in the dance world.
- SBRI is thrilled to share *Coppelia* with the community during its 51st season and looks forward to continuing its mission to create, present and preserve the world of classical ballet.