



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 5, 2011

## **LES BALLETS TROCKADERO DE MONTE CARLO TO GRACE COLUMBUS COMEDY AND DANCE**

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo is an all-male company of professional dancers that perform playful parodies of traditional ballet. The comedy is achieved by incorporating and exaggerating the foibles, accidents, and underlying incongruities of serious dance. The fact that men dance all the parts—heavy bodies delicately balancing on toes as swans, sylphs, water sprites, romantic princesses, or angst-ridden Victorian ladies—enhances, rather than mocks, the spirit of dance as an art form, delighting and amusing the most knowledgeable, as well as novices.

CAPA presents **Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo** at the **Palace Theatre** (34 W. Broad St.) on Friday, January 28, at 8pm. Tickets are \$20, \$25, and \$35 at the Ohio Theatre Ticket Office (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 469-0939 or (800) 745-3000. Students between the ages of 13-19 may purchase \$5 High Five tickets while available.

Founded in 1974 by a group of ballet enthusiasts for the purpose of presenting a playful, entertaining view of traditional, classical ballet in parody form and en travesti, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo first performed in late-late shows of Off-Off Broadway lofts. The Trocks, as the dancers are affectionately known, quickly garnered a major critical essay by Arlene Croce in *The New Yorker* which, combined with reviews in *The New York Times* and *The Village Voice*, established the company as an artistic and popular success.

By mid-1975, the Trocks' inspired blend of a loving knowledge of dance, impeccable comic approach, and the astounding fact that men can, indeed, dance en pointe without falling flat on their faces, was being noted beyond New York. Articles and notices in publications such as *Variety*, *Oui*, and *The London Daily Telegraph*, as well as a Richard Avedon photo essay in *Vogue*, made the company nationally and internationally known.

The 1975-76 season was a year of growth and full professionalization. The company added management, qualified for the National Endowment for the Arts Touring Program, hired a full-time teacher and ballet mistress to oversee daily classes and rehearsals, and made its first extended tours of the US and Canada. Packing, unpacking, and repacking tutus and drops, stocking giant-sized toe shoes by the case, and running for planes and chartered buses became a routine part of life.

Since those beginnings, the Trocks have established themselves as a major dance phenomenon throughout the world. The company has participated in dance festivals in Turkey, Holland, San Luis Potosi, Madrid, Montreal, New York, Paris, Spoleto, Turin, and Vienna. There have been television appearances as varied as a Shirley MacLaine special, "The Dick Cavett Show," "What's My Line?," "Real People," "On-Stage America," visiting with Kermit and Miss Piggy on "Muppet Babies," and a BBC "Omnibus" special on the world of ballet hosted by Jennifer Saunders. The Trocks also had their own solo specials on national networks in Japan and Germany, as well as a French television special with Julia Migenes. A documentary was filmed and aired internationally by the acclaimed British arts program, "The South Bank Show," and the company was featured in "The Egg," the PBS program about arts in America. Several performances were taped by a consortium of Dutch, French, and Japanese TV networks at the Maison de la Danse in Lyon, France, for worldwide broadcast and DVD distribution.

The Trocks numerous tours have been both popular and critical successes. The company's annual schedules have included six tours to Australia and New Zealand, 25 to Japan (where annual visits have created a nationwide cult following and a fan club), ten to South America, three to South Africa, and 55 tours of Europe. In the US, the company has become a regular part of the college and university circuit, in addition to frequent presentations in all 50 states. The Trocks have appeared in more than 30 countries and 500 cities worldwide since its founding in 1974.

The company continues to appear in benefits for international AIDS organizations such as DRA (Dancers Responding to AIDS) and Classical Action in New York City; the Life Ball in Vienna, Austria; Dancers for Life in Toronto, Canada; and London's Stonewall Gala. In addition, the Trocks have given or participated in special benefit performances for Connecticut Ballet Theater, Ballet Hawaii, Rochester City Ballet, Sadler's Wells Theater in London and the Gay

and Lesbian Community Center and Young Audiences/Arts for Learning Organization, and the Ali Forney House, benefiting gay youths in need in New York City.

After recent appearances on ABC News and for the Prince of Wales on the “Royal Variety Show,” the dancers of Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo have become more well-known than ever. In the future, there are plans for new works in the repertoire; new cities, states and countries to perform in; and for the continuation of the Trocks’ original purpose—to bring the pleasure of dance to the widest possible audience. The company will, as it has done for 35 years, “Keep on Trockin’.”

[www.trockadero.org](http://www.trockadero.org)

### **CALENDAR LISTING**

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**Friday, January 28, 8pm**

**Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)**

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Owner/operator of downtown Columbus’ magnificent, historic theatres (Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre, Southern Theatre) and manager of the Riffe Center Theatre Complex, Lincoln Theatre, Valentine Theatre (Toledo, OH), and Shubert Theater (New Haven, CT), CAPA is a not-for-profit, award-winning presenter of national and international performing arts and entertainment in operation for more than 40 years. For more information, visit [www.capa.com](http://www.capa.com).

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