



The NUTTIEST “Nutcracker” of all ©™



JUST NUTS ©™



WHAT IF “THE NUTCRACKER”...



**...WAS SET IN 1977
WEST HOLLYWOOD?**

70s



Every dance company has taken a crack at **The Nutcracker**. It's the most popular Holiday show of all time.

There have been Hip Hop, African, Country, Tap, Urban and Salsa versions; a "Nutcracker On Ice", even a Klezmer version!

But there is one very cool Nutcracker scenario that hasn't been tried.

Looking for a holiday hit that sells tickets; that builds new audiences with its "Honey, we've gotta SEE this" appeal? One that gives your community something unforgettable?

Just Nuts is a hilarious 'slightly-salty', high-energy reimaging of "The Nutcracker" that turns a beloved classic into a joyous theatrical event audiences won't stop talking about.

Set to an exhilarating disco soundtrack, Just Nuts blends virtuosic dance, comedy, camp, and irresistible 70s grooves into a holiday spectacular that keeps audiences laughing, dancing in their seats, and coming back for more, more, more.



JUST NUTS ©™ was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Foundation and The Mellon Foundation.

Just Nuts©™ is a grantee of the National Dance Production Fund.



Why Presenters Will Go Nuts Over "Just Nuts"

- * A Fresh Holiday Alternative — A fun, contemporary Nutcracker based on the decidedly retro Gay L.A. Disco Subculture of the 70's, but appealing to ALL.
- * Broad Audience Appeal — Dance lovers, theatergoers, young singles, Bohemians, progressive families, LGBTQ+ audiences, and first-time ticket buyers.
- * Seasonal + Flexible Programming — Perfect for holiday bookings, Christmas in July, Pride festivals, galas, and special events.
- * Scalable Touring Options — Full-length production or excerpt performances for festivals and special engagements.
- * Built-In Audience Engagement — A performance plus a community event.

TOURING INFORMATION

Touring Party: 15-25

Duration: 60-90 minutes

Music: Recorded

Stage: 40' x 30', Marley, Projector



Community Engagement Offerings

Available residency and engagement activities include:

- Master classes and workshops
- Artist talkbacks and lecture demonstrations
- Community dance classes, including social dances of the disco era
- Customized participatory events and audience activations

A New Holiday Tradition

Finally—a Nutcracker where audiences leave laughing, singing, and ready to boogie. Just Nuts delivers the nostalgia of a classic with the energy of a party, offering presenters a distinctive, highly marketable production that can become an annual audience favorite.

Available for touring, co-presenting, festivals, and special event bookings.

Book Just Nuts and bring the disco to your stage.



Want to watch the [Trailer?](#)



Inspiration for “Just Nuts”

You know, life wasn’t supposed to get this heavy...or this dark, or this gloomy. We are “the otters of the universe” after all.

The idea came to create something that would allow everyone to take a break from all the “Doomscrolling”; to get out of the house and to MINGLE over something “FUN”.

“**Just Nuts**” began as a love letter—first to the dancers.

In rehearsal, I was drawn to those unguarded moments when dancers move simply for the pleasure of moving: when ballet dissolves into social dance, when jazz slips into club movement, when a hip roll or groove carries as much poetry as formal choreography.

“**Just Nuts**” is also a love letter to LGBTQ+ community—an act of “radical joy”. It honors a community that has long transformed struggle into beauty, wit, glamour, and collective liberation.

The work is deeply inspired by the visual and sonic exuberance of the 1970s—the glitter and glam of disco, its colors and textures, the theatricality of its fashion, the ecstatic “four-on-the-floor” pulse of the disco dance floor. The ‘70’s were a time when stylistic innovation, and self-invention collided, and where movement itself became an expression of Freedom.

Now, we all know that every Dance Co. needs to fundraise and traditionally, they’ll turn to a nice traditional staging of the Nutcracker (yawn).

So, “what if” we come up with a new “book” for the Nutcracker?

What if we set it in 1978 Hollywood in the disco era?

What if we make it fun, and FUNNY and use “disco hits” instead of Tchaikovsky?

At its heart, Just Nuts comes from a simple impulse: the desire to remember JOY in dark times and to make a piece where laughter, music and communal celebration are not so much escape, but a celebration.

A “Nutcracker” reimagined as a “fabulous” evening of delight.

-Jaime Carabetta





The NUTTIEST "Nutcracker" of all

About PONY BOX DANCE THEATER

Pony Box Dance Theatre is a cutting-edge, diverse all male identifying, contemporary dance troupe based in NYC. The company has performed notable venues including the Ailey Citigroup Theatre, Battery Dance Festival, and City Center (NYC). PBDT was a finalist in the prestigious McCallum Theatre's Choreography Festival, and been called a "significant driving force in professional dance and concert performance" by critic Steven Woodruff.

In addition to their performance work, Pony Box Dance Theatre offers educational and community engagement programming, impacting more than 5,000 students and youth annually. One of their primary community engagement programs, Dance for Life, offers therapeutic movement classes for people in juvenile detention centers, homeless shelters, hospitals, senior centers, and foster homes—supporting PBDT's mission to share the healing power and joy of movement.

To learn more about us, visit <https://www.ponyboxdance.org>



Christmas Eve.

Hollywood 1978.

High above the city lights, a 25-foot tree glitter/sparkles on a rather eccentric holiday party high in the Hollywood Hills. The disco ball is spinning... are you in?









SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/ponyboxdance/>

Vimeo

<https://vimeo.com/ponyboxdance>

Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/@ponyboxdancetheatre6405>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/PonyBoxDanceTheatre>







Funders

PBDT is grateful to the following foundations for their generous support:

California Arts Council
 Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture
 Dept of Cultural Affairs, LA and NYC
 Arts Council of Long Beach
 Local Initiatives Support Corporation, LISC
 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, LMCC
 National Endowment for the Arts
 New York State Council on the Arts, NYSCA
 New York Foundation for the Arts, NYFA
 Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone, UMEZ Corporation
 Center for Cultural Innovation, CCI
 Earl B. and Loraine H. Miller Foundation
 RumBa Foundation
 Annenberg Foundation
 Pentacle's ASP Program
 New England Foundation For The Arts



NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY.
**Council on
the Arts**



**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
for the ARTS**
arts.gov



**Arts COUNCIL
FOR LONG BEACH**

dance/NYC



A man with a beard, wearing a pink mesh long-sleeved shirt and white leggings, is holding a large, reflective disco ball. He is looking up at the ball with an expression of wonder. The background is a soft-focus stage setting with other dancers visible in the distance. The overall color palette is dominated by pinks, purples, and whites, with bright, colorful laser lights (red, purple, blue) crisscrossing the scene. The text 'The NUTTIEST "Nutcracker" of all' is overlaid in the center, with 'NUTTIEST' in black, 'Nutcracker' in pink, and 'of all' in black. At the bottom, the words 'JUST NUTS' are written in large, white, dotted letters with a pink shadow, set against a large, shiny, pink and purple nut-shaped object.

The NUTTIEST "Nutcracker" of all

JUST NUTS