

Clara, Fritz and the Rat King Are Back

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet performs The Nutcracker this weekend

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Aspen

Isis Theater 925-7584

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

(R) 5:20, 8:00

Coco (PG) 4:45, 7:20

Murder on the Orient Express (PG-13) 5:00, 7:45

Lady Bird (R) 5:10, 7:30

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, THRU SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

(R) 2:30, 5:20, 8:00

Coco (PG) 2:00, 4:45, 7:20

Murder on the Orient Express (PG-13) 2:15, 5:00, 7:45

Lady Bird (R) 2:45, 5:10, 7:30

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, THRU WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

(R) 5:20, 8:00

Coco (PG) 4:45, 7:20

Murder on the Orient Express (PG-13) 5:00, 7:45

Lady Bird (R) 5:10, 7:30

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

(R) 5:00, 6:45

Coco (PG) 4:30

Murder on the Orient Express (PG-13) 5:45

Lady Bird (R) 4:40

Star Wars: The Last Jedi (PG-13) 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 9:15, 10:15

El Jabel

Bow Tie Movieland 920-1300

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, THRU SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Just Getting Started (PG-13) 10:50 AM, 2:30,

5:00, 7:30, 9:45

Coco (PG) 11:30 AM, 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30

Justice League (PG-13) 11:20 AM, 2:00, 4:45,

7:40, 10:20

Wonder (PG) 11:00 AM, 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15

Daddy's Home 2 (PG-13) 10:30 AM, 1:20,

4:00, 6:45, 9:20

Murder on the Orient Express (PG-13) 10:40

AM, 12:50, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00

Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

(R) 11:10 AM, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, THRU WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Just Getting Started (PG-13) 1:20, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

Coco (PG) 1:50, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

Justice League (PG-13) 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 9:10

Wonder (PG) 1:00, 3:40, 6:20, 9:20

Daddy's Home 2 (PG-13) 1:40, 4:00, 6:30, 10:00

Murder on the Orient Express (PG-13) 2:10,

3:30, 6:10, 9:00

Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

(R) 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:40

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Ferdinand (PG) 5:00, 7:40, 10:10

Star Wars: The Last Jedi (PG-13) 7:00, 10:20

Star Wars: The Last Jedi 3D (PG-13) 8:00

Just Getting Started (PG-13) 1:20, 5:00

Coco (PG) 1:50, 4:30

Justice League (PG-13) 2:00

Wonder (PG) 1:00, 3:40, 6:20, 9:20

Daddy's Home 2 (PG-13) 1:40, 4:00

Murder on the Orient Express (PG-13) 2:10, 3:30

Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

(R) 1:30, 4:10

Carbondale

Crystal Theatre 963-0633

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

Lady Bird (R) 7:30

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Loving Vincent (PG-13) 5:15

Lady Bird (R) 7:30

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Loving Vincent (PG-13) 2:45

Lady Bird (R) 5:00

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, THRU THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Lady Bird (R) 7:30



Visions of sugar plums are dancing in little heads all around the world as the Christmas season approaches, and nothing says the holidays are here like the Nutcracker. For over two decades, the Aspen Santa Fe Ballet has been putting its unique contemporary spin on the classic and beloved production. The storied company is back this weekend for four shows as well as a Sugar Plum Tea Party at the Hotel Jerome. This limited engagement doesn't mean the production is limited, however. The ASFB company is known for its intimate, expressive productions, but they break out all the stops for the Nutcracker. Hundreds of extras are cast, and the Aspen District Theater is no stranger to large productions and beautiful sets. Clara's living room and the Land of the Sweets will be explored in all their fantastical glory.

The Nutcracker is a favorite of company members as it lets

the contemporary dancers explore their classical skills. But that doesn't mean the company converts entirely to the traditional production.

"One of the things that sets this production apart is how we handle the traditional variations in Act II. Instead of ballet dancers taking the roles of the Arabian, Chinese and Russian, we have an aerialist perform on silks for Arabian, an authentic Chinese ribbon dance and a pair of acclaimed Russian dancers, all of whom we bring in year after year to perform in our production. Having these performers contribute their unique talents brings a new dynamic to what may be a familiar holiday story," says Jessica Moore, the director of marketing for Aspen Santa Fe Ballet.

For those who might wonder how a company of roughly a dozen dancers puts on such a large production, look no further than

the Roaring Fork Valley. In addition to the entire company, guest dancers are hired from around the country, but even so, there are dozens of roles that need to be filled. Kids from local valley schools are brought in to rehearse and perform alongside the professional dancers.

There are two performances this Saturday, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and two more Sunday at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. The company then travels to Santa Fe for four performances at the Lensic Performing Arts Center next weekend. The Sugar Plum Tea Party — new this year — is Sunday at 3:00 p.m. at the Hotel Jerome, where characters from the show will be on hand for photos, and sweet treats straight from Clara's dreams will be enjoyed. A cookie-decorating station and a surprise performance highlight the afternoon, which takes place in the grand ballroom in the historic hotel.

