



Les Ruses d'Amour (the disguises of love)

The Story of Les Ruses d'Amour

Long ago, when parents chose whom their children would marry, the bride and groom frequently did not meet until the wedding. Isabelle and Damis find themselves in this position. Their families have already signed the marriage contract, and once signed, it cannot be broken without serious consequences. However, both Isabelle and Damis are reluctant to enter into this marriage and, unknown to the other, effect disguises to delay the wedding. The resulting confusion sets the stage for some delightfully absurd situations. Ultimately, everybody believes that they have fallen in love with somebody that they will not be able to marry. The wedding continues as planned, with the heavily veiled bride sobbing her way up the aisle. But, as in all good stories, all ends happily with a double wedding.

The History of Les Ruses

A great Russian composer, Alexander Glazunov wrote *Les Ruses d'Amour* to be performed at the Hermitage Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia during 1900. The original choreography for this work was by Marius Petipa. As masters of their respective arts, they created a charming production that should have become very popular. However, *Les Ruses d'Amour* had the misfortune to premier during an unsettled time of Russian history and did not receive the benefit of continued performances. Regrettably, much of the original choreography has been lost. However, through the talents of gifted choreographers, the Metro Dancers has created a vibrant new staging for *Les Ruses d'Amour*. It is with great pleasure that we bring this wonderful story back to our audiences.

Comments About Metro Dancers' Productions

Homeschool Family, Kindergarten, 2nd grade, 5th grade

We felt that it was "just right" as in introduction to an art form that our children were unfamiliar with.

Clark School, 2nd grade

Please, please put us on your mailing list for next year. I could not believe how totally involved my students were. Some of my students had never seen a ballet before. Even the boys who try to be tough and cool were fascinated.

Woodlawn School, 4th grade

Wow! Everything was just first-rate from the teacher information to the performance. Even the macho boys enjoyed it.

Madison High School, 9th/10th grade Drama

The production values far surpassed my expectations. This group of performers is outstanding. The students talked about it all the way back to school. Great job!

Portsmouth Middle School, 7th grade Language Arts

The project has really expanded my students' horizons. The materials provided related to other class work and it was a fantastic springboard for ideas.

Cedar Park School, 2nd grade

Once the program began, my students didn't even move until the end. That says a great deal. Thanks also for the music tape to help the kids become familiar with the score. They were humming the tunes for weeks after.

Beaumont School, 8th grade

Certainly a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a cultural experience of polished professionalism. The ballet was wonderful. Many of my students said it was the best field trip they had ever been on.

Hall School, 3rd grade

It was wonderful! A great experience for everyone! The pre-performance presentation was extremely important. It helped the kids get excited about it.