

ALADDIN

A Tip Sheet for the Sensory Friendly Performance

Sunday, April 8 at 10:30am at The Aronoff Center

What to Expect During the Performance

Aladdin is a ballet. The dancers will tell the story of Aladdin by dancing. The audience will hear music and a narrator will tell parts of the story, but the dancers will not be talking while they dance. There will be one five-minute break, where the host, Julie will come out, talk about the show, and lead some movement exercises that you can do in your seat

Aladdin Program Notes/Synopsis

Act I

Scene 1: Introduction of the Narrators

Scheherazade along with King Sharyar and her sister, Dinarzad, introduce themselves as the narrators and prepare to tell the story of Aladdin.

Scene 2: Meet Aladdin

The narrators introduce Aladdin, his mother, and his pet monkey, Malik. His mother spins yarn in order to provide for Aladdin. The narrators then explain how although Aladdin is good natured, he also likes to cause mischief by playing in the Market Place. Aladdin's mother worries for him and longs for Aladdin to learn a trade since he only comes home for meals and to rest.

Scene 3: The Market Place

Aladdin and his monkey, Malik, wake up to do their daily routine. They say goodbye to Aladdin's mother and head to the Market Place to play. At the Market Place they see all kind of people such as vendors, street urchins, and even a snake charmer.

Scene 4: The Royal Parade

As Aladdin and Malik play in the market, all of a sudden they hear the sounds of trumpets blowing and guards quickly clear the streets. A royal parade from the palace is passing through, including the Sultan, his daughter Princess Kalila, and her pet tiger cub, Samirah. It is Kalila's birthday and she's on her way to receive a blessing from Fatima, the Holy Woman. While the parade is moving through the market place, Aladdin and Malik hid. As Princess Kalila passes by, Aladdin spots her for a brief moment and is captivated by her beauty. He then instantly falls in love with her.

Scene 5: Aladdin's "Uncle"

After the royal parade passes through, a mysterious man reaches out to Aladdin who claimed to be his uncle. His uncle explained that he was a traveler and recently returned from Africa. Aladdin invites him to his home to meet his mother. At Aladdin's home, his uncle asks his mother for permission to take Aladdin with him on his journey. He promises to look after Aladdin and to help him learn a worthy trade. This delighted Aladdin's mother, and she agrees to let his uncle take Aladdin on his journey.

Scene 6: The Cave of Wonders

The next day, Aladdin and his uncle traveled far until they arrived at the base of two mountains. His uncle instructed Aladdin to gather wood so that they could build a fire. After Aladdin gathered the wood, his uncle started the fire. Once it was hot enough, his uncle casted a spell upon the fire. All of a sudden, the ground shook and a cave emerged from the ground. Aladdin was terrified, however his uncle instructed him to go into the cave. Aladdin's uncle gave him additional instructions on what do when entering the cave and told him to retrieve a lamp on an altar. It is then revealed that Aladdin's "uncle" is really an Evil Sorcerer who is seeking out the lamp's magical abilities for himself. However, it is said that only a poor boy by the name of Aladdin could retrieve the lamp. The Sorcerer's plan was to use Aladdin to retrieve the lamp, and then to kill him afterwards. Before Aladdin journeyed into the cave, his "uncle" gave him a special ring for protection. However, the cave had magic of its own and sealed Aladdin inside once he entered, leaving the Sorcerer outside and without his prize.

Scene 7: The Little Genie of the Ring

Aladdin was now trapped alone in the cave, longing to be reunited with his mother and his pet Monkey, Malik. He also thought about the beautiful Princess Kalila and dreamt about being able to see her again. Cold from the air in the cave, Aladdin rubbed his hands together for warmth. When he did, he freed a Genie from the ring that his uncle gave him. The Genie explained that he was a slave of the Evil Sorcerer and was required to do his bidding. However, the Sorcerer was unaware that once the Genie was free, he could choose his own path, and he chose to follow Aladdin. Since Aladdin freed him from the Sorcerer, in return he freed Aladdin from the cave and took him home to be reunited with his mother and his pet money, Malik. Once Aladdin was home with his family, the Genie put him to sleep so he could rest.

Scene 8: The Great Genie of the Lamp

When Aladdin awoke, he was hungry. Sadly there was no food or money to buy food. Alas, Aladdin remembered the lamp from the cave, and polished it. Suddenly a Great Genie appeared from the lamp and told Aladdin that any wish he desired was the Genie's command. Aladdin thought about his desires, and wished for great wealth so that he could marry Princess Kalila. The Great Genie of the Lamp granted his wish and suddenly servants appeared carrying trays full with gold and jewels. Aladdin then decided to head to the palace so he could ask for the Sultan's permission to marry his daughter. However, the Sorcerer followed. But without the Little Genie of the Ring or the Great Genie of the Lamp, he was filled with rage and vowed to get his revenge.

Act II

Scene 1: The Sultan's Palace

Once Aladdin and his mother arrived at the Sultan's palace, Aladdin displayed his great wealth before the Sultan, and asked for permission to marry his daughter. When the Sultan saw Aladdin's remarkable jewels, he was impressed and granted Aladdin permission to marry his daughter. However, the Evil Sorcerer followed the parade and knew that all of Aladdin's wealth he obtained should belong to him. The Sorcerer desired the Great Genie of the Lamp and the Little Genie of the Ring, and swore that he would reclaim them for himself.

Scene 2: Meeting Princess Kalila

As Aladdin enters the palace, he is introduced to the Sultan's assistant, Wazir. Wazir assists with helping Aladdin and his mother become familiar with the palace, while also preparing Aladdin to meet Princess Kalila. Finally, Aladdin meets Kalila and is captivated by her beauty again. At first the Princess is shy, however she eventually opens up and falls in love with Aladdin. As Aladdin and Kalila spend time together, the Evil Sorcerer interrupts them and kidnaps the Princess. Quickly, Aladdin summons the Little Genie of the Ring and requests his assistance to help him rescue Kalila. The Genie understands and conjures up a magic carpet. Aladdin and the Genie climb onto the carpet, and fly after the Evil Sorcerer in order to rescue Kalila. Thanks to the help of the Little Genie of the Ring, Aladdin successfully rescues Kalila and they return to the palace to make preparations for their upcoming wedding.

Scene 3: Wedding Preparations

After rescuing Princess Kalila, the palace begins to make preparations for Aladdin and Kalila's grand wedding. As part of the preparations, Fatima the Holy Woman, was invited to bless the couple at their wedding. Aladdin had plans of his own, and used the Great Genie of the Lamp to surprise Kalila with a wonderful wedding gift: jewels that came to life. However, the Sorcerer was making wedding preparations of his own. He planned to disguise himself as Fatima, the Holy Woman, and to wreak havoc at the wedding.

Scene 4: The Wedding Day

Finally the day of the wedding has arrived. Everything was going smoothly and according to plan, until the Evil Sorcerer takes off his disguise and steals the Lamp. Chaos breaks out as the Sorcerer summons the Great Genie of the Lamp and commands him to do his bidding. However, Aladdin summoned the Little Genie of the Ring so he could help Aladdin stop the Sorcerer. A battle ensues until Aladdin reclaims the Lamp and the Great Genie is back under his command. Together, both Genies turn the Evil Sorcerer into a rat. Everyone rejoices that the threat has passed. Aladdin's kingdom loved their new ruler, and Aladdin and Princess Kalila lived long and happily together until the end of their days.