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# VENTURA COUNTY STAR



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RICHARD QUINN/SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Lilit Hogtalian rehearses the title role in the Ventura County Ballet Company's production of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." The group will perform the piece at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center on Sunday.

# Heroine to wake on Oxnard stage

# ■ Professionals, students to dance 'Snow White'

**By Kristi Kellogg**

Special to The Star

Ballerina Lilit Hogtanian, formerly of the Los Angeles and Joffrey ballets, will make her debut performance with the Ventura County Ballet Company in "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" on Sunday.

Hogtanian, 21, received much of her training in Monaco and has played principal and soloist roles in "The Nutcracker" and "Waltz Fantasie." She said she finds playing Snow White magical.

"I really enjoy bringing a character from my childhood to life and giving the same joy I had watching this classic fairy tale to ... the audience," Hogtanian said.

Playing opposite Hogtanian is Ryan Camou as Prince Charming. In his fifth season with the company, Camou is no stranger to princely roles. He has performed as the prince in recent

productions of "The Nutcracker" and "Sleeping Beauty."

Hogtanian and Camou will be joined by eight professional dancers, and ballet company students and pre-professionals will round out the ensemble roles in the rest of the 65-person cast.

"We are very eager to have Lilit and the rest of the all-star cast in 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs,'" said Kathie Noblin, the company's executive director. "Their souls shine through every moment, and it is clear that they all love sharing their gift. Working with these professionals gives the younger dancers additional experience and confidence onstage. This ballet will leave you happy and wanting to dance."

Dancers from the troupe brought a portion of the show to life last week at a preview performance at Barnes & Noble in Ventura.

Choreographer Marina Fliagina said she was "thrilled to bring a small cast from Ventura County Ballet Company so the young children can meet Snow White and her forest animals."

Noblin read "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" aloud, and the bookstore offered a craft session in which children could make crowns.

The children and their parents also met Snow White, along with youth dancers costumed as chipmunks, rabbits and birds, as well as a graceful fox and lithesome deer.

The performance of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$15 for children 10 and younger.

For more information and to buy tickets, call 486-2424 or visit <http://oxnardpacc.com/>.