

Birds of Light

Inspiration and meaning:

Birds of Light is a narrated story ballet merging dance and education, written and choreographed by Jhe Russell. Birds of Light is inspired by first African American Ballerina of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, Ms. Raven Wilkinson who also has family roots in Charleston and Spartanburg South Carolina. With the company of local talent in Columbia South Carolina and the students of Southeastern School of Ballet, Birds of Light is designed to celebrate Ms. Wilkinson's inspiring contribution to the world of ballet by unifying all walks of life through the celebration of the light that shines from within humanity.

Birds of Light is also a representation of the planets and constellations which are reflections of light that dwell within the Universe. The character Goldeniece represents the positive energy of the Sun bird, the character Silvera represents the positive and negative energy of the Moon bird, Loom represents the positive energy of the Venus bird, Ledger represents the negative energy of the Saturn bird, the Ravens represent the negative energy of the "Corvus" (crow) Constellation and the doves represent the positive energy of the "Columba" (Dove) constellation.

The story of Birds of Light:

Scene one- We have the forming of the planetary energies and constellations of light. The Ravens and the Doves are established and guided by the influence of Goldeniece, Silvera, Loom and Ledger. Loom has a very bright source of Light and wants to share this with the universe. However Ledger possesses a strong controlling power and influences jealousy and confusion amongst the Ravens and Doves forcing them to reject Loom! Loom is confused by this rejection because she is designed to unify the universe through the balance of a glowing pentagram.

Scene two- Loom is depressed from her rejection and is visited by Goldeniece who gives her a beacon of glowing light! Loom dances in celebration of this Light but is quickly sabotaged by the negative forces of Ledger who summons the Ravens and Doves to snatch her light! The Ravens and the Doves ruthlessly attack Loom draining her of her positive energy. Loom ends up broken and lifeless dangling in the center of the universe.

Scene three- Silvera hears all the commotion coming from the battle with Loom and flies in using her negative and positive energies to heal Loom. Ledger discovers this union and challenges Silvera to a battle to stop Loom from regaining her Light. Goldeniece flies in and brings ease to the chaotic imbalance taking place in the universe.

Scene four- Ledger and Silvera fly away leaving Loom and Goldeniece alone in the center of the universe. Goldeniece tells Loom that the real Light she possesses lives within the heart of her wing. Excited by this news, Loom begins to celebrate her Light from within! Ledger once again flies in and summons the Ravens and Doves to take away Loom's inner light, but they fail at every attempt!

Scene five- Silvera and Goldeniece form a glowing ball of light around Loom. Loom expresses to Ledger, the Ravens and Doves that the true light shines from within. Ledger, the Ravens and Doves hearts suddenly begin to glow and they all form a glowing pentagram of peace floating in the center of the universe.

End

