

PIRATE DANCE MOMENT

By Ken Grobe

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CAST:

- CAPTAIN NED CRACKITT, pirate, the host of the show
- MISTER SMITTY, his first mate.
- GISELLE VAN DYNE, a ballerina

[TV talk show set, with two chairs (made to approximate theater seats), and room for a person to dance CAPTAIN NED and MISTER SMITTY recline in the chairs]

NED:

Hello and welcome to PIRATE DANCE MOMENT, where we pay tribute to that gossamer marriage of art an' movement known as dance. I'm Captain Ned Crackitt, and this here's me able first mate, Mister Smitty. Tonight, we pay tribute to the seminal last movement of Alexi Koborg's classic 1922 ballet The Firebird.

[GISELLE enters and begins to warm up with some balletic stretches.]

SMITTY:

Cap'n, Tonight the role of Tanya will be danced by Giselle Van Dyne of the Royal Danish School of Ballet.

NED:

Why, I seen this lass dance Tanya in Berlin. She finished with a series of grand jetés that near took this old buccaneer's breath away!

SMITTY:

Aye, cap'n. Giselle injects the character of Tanya with a palpable sense of emotional vortex that practically fills the soul wi' longing.

[BALLET MUSIC UP]

NED:

And now, as danced by Giselle Van Dyne, the climactic final movement of The Firebird:

[GISELLE assumes a ballet position, and prepares to take her first steps.]

[Before she can, CAPTAIN NED and MISTER SMITTY whip out pistols and shoot at her feet. SFX GUNSHOTS.]

[GISELLE has to take jumps to avoid the bullets. It scares her witless.]

GISELLE:

AIIIEEE!

[NED and SMITTY ad lib pirate exclamations]

NED and SMITTY:

DANCE FER US! ARR! DANCE! HOW D'YE LIKE THAT, MISSY? ARR! HA-HAR! NOW THERE'S SOME DANCIN' FER YE! DANCE FER US, YE STRUMPET! ARR!

[NED and SMITTY shoot at her feet some more and laugh and yell things like "Arr!" and "Dance!". GISELLE continues to "dance" to dodge the bullets, yelping in fear]
[Soon NED and SMITTY are laughing too hard to shoot. GISELLE runs offstage in tears.]

NED/SMITTY:

Ha ha ha ha ha ha!

[They wipe tears of laughter from their eyes.]

NED:

Aye, well, that concludes this edition of PIRATE DANCE MOMENT. Tune in tomorrow when we watch legendary tap-dancer Sandman Phillips bleed to death. DARR!

END