

Dance

Critics' picks The five best events this week



1 American Ballet Theatre's *The Nutcracker*
BAM Howard Gilman Opera House

Alexei Ratmansky's 2010 production of the ballet returns to BAM; on Sat 8, Hee Seo makes her debut as Clara opposite Cory Stearns as the Nutcracker Prince. ▶ **Fri 7-Dec 16**

2 Yvonne Meier New York Live Arts

There's nothing like a twisted mind to improve your mood during the holiday season: Check out Yvonne Meier's *The Shining*, a dance adventure in the dark. ▶ **Tue 11-Dec 16 and Dec 18-22**

3 Jillian Peña The Chocolate Factory

The choreographer takes a closer look at science fiction, cults, religion and ballet in her new *The Guiding Light*. ▶ **Through Sat 8**

4 Adrienne Truscott The Kitchen

The Kitchen hosts Truscott's *...Too Freedom...*, an improvisational solo. ▶ **Sat 8, Sun 9, Wed 12-Dec 15**

5 New York City Ballet

David H. Koch Theater (at Lincoln Center)

The company continues performances of George Balanchine's 1954 dazzler, *The Nutcracker*. ▶ **Through Dec 30**

*** Adrienne Truscott *The Kitchen*, 512 W 19th St between Tenth and Eleventh Aves (212-255-5793, ext 11, thekitchen.org). Subway: 1 to 18th St. 8pm; \$15.** Choreographer and dancer Adrienne Truscott presents *...Too Freedom...*, an improvisational solo.