

The Passion of Ailey Returns

February 16, 2012 By Alberto Rodriguez

In this month of February during his traditional stopover in Atlanta, the company of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater will present two new choreographies: Arden Court by Paul Taylor, and *Home* by Rennie Harris.

In this season, for the first time in its history, the popular dance company performs a piece by the legendary Taylor. In the opinion of Guillermo Asca, one of the three most veteran dancers, Arden Court is one of the best works by the master of modern dance and takes on a new dimension with the magic of AAADT.

"It was one of the first tasks of Robert Battle as new director of Alvin Ailey to select new ballets to be presented to the public. Arden Court is a dynamic dance and technically very difficult," expressed Asca, who was born in New York in a Peruvian family and joined AAADT 18 years ago.

About Home, Asca said that it is a piece inspired by stories of ten survivors of the AIDS, which were chosen during a writers contest.

"The choreographer Rennie Harris read the compositions and was inspired to create *Home*. This piece, which also pays a tribute to Alvin Ailey, who died from this disease, rises with the energy and cheerful soul of hip hop," assured Asca.

Vuelve la pasión de Alvin Ailey



En este mes de febrero du

ia danza moderna y cobra uma mueva dimensión con la magia del AAADT. "Una de las primeras ta-reas de Robert Battle como nuevo director de Alvin Ailey Iue seleccionar los nuevos ballots que se pre-sentarín al control." co y técnicamente muy di-fícil", expresó Asca, que nació en Nueva York en el seno de una familia perua-na y que ingresó al AAA-DT hace 18 años. Sobre Home, Asca dijo



que es una pieza inspirada en historias de diez sobre-vivientes del sida, que se eligieron durante un con-curso de escritores.

coreógrafo Rennie

está pasando por una de



On the other hand, and talking about his personal life, the Peruvian-American dancer stated that he is going through one of his best seasons and enjoying to the maximum his infant son.

"The birth of my son Abraham Michael, who is five months, has changed my life completely. Before, I loved to travel. I was a gypsy with suitcases from hotel to hotel. Now I miss my home, my family and the smiling face of my child," stated the dancer who will perform in Atlanta performances including *Home* and *Revelations*, the masterpiece of Ailey.

In conclusion, Asca added that among the group of new dancers joined this season from AAADT, he highlights the performance of the Dominican Belen Estrada.

"Belen is an incredible dancer, is young and has an incredible dynamic. I feel that over time she will be a phenomenon," he added.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

When: February 16-19. Thursday, 7: 30 p.m.; Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 3 p.m. cost: \$25-\$ 60. Where: Teatro Fox, 660 Peachtree St., Atlanta. Info: 404.881.2100 and www.foxtheatre.org