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ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER RETURNS TO ATLANTA'S FOX THEATRE JANUARY 25-27 WITH

BREATHTAKING 65TH ANNIVERSARY PERFORMANCES

Ailey's Extraordinary Dancers in World Premieres of CENTURY by Amy Hall Garner and Me, Myself and You by Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrish

New Productions of Ronald K. Brown's Dancing Spirit and Hans Van Manen's Solo as well as Returning Favorite Are You in Your Feelings? by Kyle Abraham

Alvin Ailey's Must-See Masterpiece Revelations is Finale of All Performances

Tickets Now on Sale! Spread Holiday Cheer and Save 25% Before Christmas

ATLANTA - Updated January 23, 2024 - Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, beloved as one of the world's most popular dance companies, announces a return to the Fox Theatre, January 25-27 as part of its 65th Anniversary United States tour. The 2024 Atlanta engagement will showcase the unparalleled artistry and technique of Ailey's extraordinary dancers in four show-stopping performances featuring dazzling premieres, new productions, and repertory favorites sure to thrill returning fans and first-timers alike. Amy Hall Garner debuts her first work for the Company as an Ailey Artist in Residence with CENTURY, inspired by her grandfather's 100th birthday, and Kyle Abraham's returning hit Are You in Your Feelings?, which celebrates Black culture and music. The timeless finale of all programs is Alvin Ailey's must-see masterpiece, Revelations, which has captivated audiences globally since 1960.

The engagement opens Thursday, January 25 at 7:30 p.m. with a new production of Ronald K. Brown's Dancing Spirit, which pays homage to Artistic Director Emerita Judith Jamison and borrows its title from her autobiography. Set to the vibrant tunes of Duke Ellington, Wynton Marsalis, and War, Brown's choreography weaves together movements from Cuba, Brazil, and the United States, summoning dancing spirits that embody Jamison's elegance, vision, dignity, and generosity. The moving performance continues with acclaimed choreographer Kyle Abraham's Are You in Your Feelings? a salute to Black culture, Black music, and the youthful spirit that perseveres in us all. Scored to a "mixtape" of soul, hiphop, and R&B featuring beloved musical artists like Jhené Aiko, Drake, Lauryn Hill, Kendrick Lamar, Jazmine Sullivan, and Summer Walker, the critically applauded work resonates with the themes of love and relationships. The opening performance is also WSB-TV's Family 2 Family Night. This program repeats on Saturday, January 27 at 7:30 p.m.

The Friday, January 26 at 7:30 p.m. performance kicks off with the world premiere CENTURY, Amy Hall Garner's deeply personal gift for her grandfather's 100th birthday. Taking a cue from his spirited essence and set to the music of Ray Charles, Count Basie, The Dirty Dozen Brass Band, and more, CENTURY is a celebration of life, resilience, and joy. The world premiere Me, Myself and You by Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrish is a dreamlike duet of reminiscence. Set to Damien Sneed and Brandie Sutton's rendition of "In A Sentimental Mood," conjuring the memories of love and passion for a woman who is asking herself if she should let go or forge ahead. A New production of Hans Van Manen's dynamic Solo is a tour-de-force for three that challenges the Ailey men's daring agility and grace in an exhilarating whirlwind of movement and musicality. This program repeats on Saturday, January 27 at 2 p.m.

The inspiring finale of all programs is Alvin Ailey's masterpiece <u>Revelations</u>, acclaimed around the world for sending hearts soaring and lifting audiences to their feet. Since its debut in 1960, <u>Revelations</u> has been seen by more people around the world than any other modern dance work, moving audiences with its powerful storytelling and soul-stirring music, evoking timeless themes of determination, hope, and transcendence. Springing from Ailey's childhood memories of growing up in the south and attending services at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Texas, <u>Revelations</u> pays homage to the rich cultural heritage of African Americans while exploring the emotional spectrum of the human condition.

A school-time performance on Friday, January 26 at 10:30 a.m. will enthrall, inspire, and educate Atlanta students with the magic of Ailey. The hour-long program, moderated by one of the dancers, will give Atlanta youth a peek behind the scenes into the world of dance and introduce a new generation to Alvin Ailey's beloved masterpiece *Revelations*. Call 404-881-2000 to arrange \$10 student group tickets.

In addition to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's captivating live performances, the Ailey organization is thrilled to announce community programming, offering engaging workshops, residencies, and auditions for dance enthusiasts. Explore the following opportunities in 2024:

- The National Center for Civil and Human Rights announced the Friday, January 12, 2024 launch of its new signature program series, <u>Truth on the Rocks</u> an immersive experience that blends an evening of cocktails, music, and interactive activities with the unveiling of The Center's 2024 rotation from the King Collection. In collaboration with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the event will showcase an Ailey <u>Revelations</u> Celebration—an engaging interactive workshop led by Ailey Extension Director and former Company member, Lisa Johnson-Willingham. The Atlanta community is invited to explore excerpts from Alvin Ailey's iconic work of modern dance as well as embark on a self-guided tour through the new gallery rotation and the exhibits upstairs, celebrating the legacy of Dr. King, the Civil Rights Movement, and the accomplishments of 1964. Tickets can be reserved here.
- Revelations: An Interdisciplinary Approach student residency will be led by Master Teacher and former Ailey star
 Nasha Thomas from Monday, January 22 to Thursday, January 25 at Coretta Scott King Young Women's Leadership
 Academy and M. Agnes Jones. <u>Revelations Residency</u> is an innovative, curriculum-based initiative for public school
 students that utilizes Alvin Ailey's American masterpiece, <u>Revelations</u>, as the inspirational framework for an in-depth
 study of language arts, social studies, and dance.
- The Ailey School Auditions will be held on Saturday, February 17, 2024 for aspiring dancers at Atlanta Ballet. Auditions for the Junior Division (ages 12 to 15) start at 10:00 a.m., followed by the Professional Division (ages 16 and older at 12:00 p.m.). Spots can be secured by filling out the registration form here.
- <u>Ailey Experience with AREA Atlanta:</u> Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 24 to Sunday, February 25, where AREA Atlanta hosts the Ailey Experience at Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts. Instructors Lisa Johnson-Willingham, Linda Sims, Glenn Allen Sims, and Judith McCarty will guide participants through Horton, Contemporary, and Afro-Dance techniques. No experience is necessary to join in the fun! To learn more and sign up, visit <u>Ailey Experience Atlanta</u>.

In 1958, Alvin Ailey and a small group of dancers took the stage in New York and forever changed American dance and culture. One of the country's groundbreaking greats, his Company earned a reputation as one of the finest international ambassadors of American culture, promoting the uniqueness of the African American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of American modern dance. 65 years after its founding, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater continues to inspire audiences around the world.

For more information on Ailey's upcoming performances, visit www.alvinailey.org. For additional press materials, including bios, b-roll, and photos, members of the media may visit pressroom.alvinailey.org.

Bank of America is Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Tour Sponsor.

The 2024 National Tour is supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The world premiere of *CENTURY* is made possible with support from Maury & Joseph Bohan, The Ellen Jewett & Richard L. Kaufman Endowment Fund, and the Pamela D. Zilly and John H. Schaefer Endowment Fund.

The creation of *Me, Myself and You* is supported by commissioning funds from New York City Center.

The world premiere of *Me, Myself and You* is made possible with support from Celestine & Howard Campbell, and The Fred Eychaner New Works Endowment Fund.

Generous support for this new production of *Dancing Spirit* was received from an Anonymous supporter, Judith McDonough Kaminski & Joseph Kaminski, Sara & Bill Morgan New Works Endowment Fund, Dr. Crawford Parker, and the Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey through the generosity of its donors.

This new production of Solo is made possible by the Red Moose Charitable Fund.

The creation of Are You in Your Feelings? was supported by commissioning funds from New York City Center.

Are You in Your Feelings? was made possible with major support from Michele & Timothy Barakett,

Melinda & Paul Pressler, Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn & Nicolas S. Rohatyn New Works Endowment Fund,

and The Pamela D. Zilly & John H. Schaefer Endowment Fund.

Additional support was provided by an Anonymous supporter, The Fred Eychaner New Works Endowment Fund, and The Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey—Sara and Bill Morgan New Works Endowment Fund.

All performances of *Revelations* are permanently endowed by a generous gift from Donald L. Jonas in celebration of the birthday of his wife, Barbara, and her deep commitment to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.







L to R: Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Jacquelin Harris and Chalvar Monteiro in Amy Hall Garner's CENTURY. Photo by Paul Kolnik; 2023-2024 Season Image, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Constance Stamatiou. Photo by Dario Calmese; Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Solomon Dumas, Khalia Campbell and Samantha Figgins in Alvin Ailey's Revelations. Photo by Paul Kolnik. Please credit photos. Ctrl+Click the photos for hi-res download.

Calendar Listing Information

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater returns to The Fox Theatre from January 25-27 for four show-shopping performances. The highly anticipated 2024 Atlanta engagement showcases the unparalleled passion and dynamic artistry of Ailey's extraordinary dancers in dazzling premieres, new productions and repertory favorites. The uplifting finale of all performances will be the must-see masterpiece *Revelations*. Tickets, starting at \$34, are available at The Fox Theatre box office, 660 Peachtree Street NE, www.alvinailey.org, www.foxatltix.com or by calling 855-285-8499.

Ailey's 2024 Atlanta Engagement Performance Dates and Times:

Thursday, Jan. 25 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 26 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 27 at 2 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m./ Student Performance – Friday, Jan. 26 at 10:30 a.m.

Tickets

<u>Tickets for Ailey's 2024 Atlanta engagement</u> from January 25 to 27 are on sale starting at \$34 at The Fox Theatre box office, 660 Peachtree Street NE, <u>www.alvinailey.org</u>, <u>www.foxatltix.com</u> or by calling 855-285-8499. Atlantans can take advantage of a variety of special offers:

- Receive \$10 off tickets \$39 or higher to the Thursday, January 25 WSB Family 2 Family performance using code FAM2FAM (limit 8 tickets per order).
- Student tickets are available for all performances except Saturday, January 27 matinee for \$15 or two for \$25 with a valid student ID. Tickets must be purchased at the Fox Theatre box office (limit two per ID and subject to availability).
- Groups of 10 or more can receive up to 25% off by calling 404-881-2000 or completing a <u>request form</u> online (discounts applied to tickets regularly priced \$39 or higher).

About Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, recognized by U.S. Congressional resolution as a vital American "Cultural Ambassador to the World," grew from a now-fabled March 1958 performance in New York that changed forever the perception of American dance. Founded by Alvin Ailey, recent posthumous recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom – the nation's highest civilian honor, and guided by Judith Jamison beginning in 1989, the Company was then led by Robert Battle from 2011 to 2023. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater has performed for an estimated 25 million people in 71 countries on 6 continents – as well as millions more through television broadcasts, film screenings, and online platforms -promoting the uniqueness of the African-American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of the American modern dance tradition. In addition to being the Principal Dance Company of New York City Center, where its performances have become a year-end tradition, the Ailey company performs annually at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, the Auditorium Theatre in Chicago, The Fox Theatre in Atlanta, Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley, CA and at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark where it is the Principal Resident Affiliate), and appears frequently in other major theaters throughout the United States and the world during extensive yearly tours. The Ailey organization also includes Ailey II (1974), a second performing company of emerging young dancers and innovative choreographers; The Ailey School (1969), one of the most extensive dance training programs in the world; Ailey Arts in Education & Community Programs, which brings dance into the classrooms, communities and lives of people of all ages; and The Ailey Extension (2005), a program offering dance and fitness classes to the general public, which began with the opening of Ailey's permanent home—the largest building dedicated to dance in New York City, the dance capital of the world —named The Joan Weill Center for Dance, at 55th Street at 9th Avenue in New York City. For more information, visit www.alvinailey.org.

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