



ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

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CULTURAL
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AILEY ANNOUNCES PROGRAMMING FOR ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER PERFORMANCES AT THE FOX THEATRE FEB. 15-19 & ACTIVITIES FOR AILEY'S "DESTINATION DANCE" IN ATLANTA INITIATIVE

PERFORMANCES FEATURE "AILEY JAZZ" PROGRAM & WORLD PREMIERES OF AILEY DANCER HOPE BOYKIN'S *R-EVOLUTION, DREAM.*, INSPIRED BY LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., MACARTHUR "GENIUS" KYLE ABRAHAM'S *UNTITLED AMERICA*, AND MAURO BIGONZETTI'S *DEEP*, WITH MUSIC BY RISING GLOBAL STARS IBEYI

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS, MASTER CLASSES LED BY AILEY DANCERS, FREE PUBLIC WORKSHOPS, AND MORE!

ATLANTA – January 9, 2017 – A long-beloved member of the Atlanta community with a 41-year history in the city, Ailey announces programming for **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's** performances at the **Fabulous Fox Theatre February 15 – 19, 2017**, as well as for the pilot year of Ailey's "[Destination Dance](#)" partnership initiative in Atlanta. Destination Dance will allow Ailey to better serve the Atlanta community by deepening its commitment to the city's cultural organizations – including Atlanta Ballet and Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education, AREA, Dance Canvas, ELEVATE, the Fox Theatre, Spelman College, the Center for Civil and Human Rights, Rialto Center for the Arts, and High Museum of Art – through diverse year-round programming, ranging from performances to dance classes to educational programs for students. The new initiative has the potential to extend Ailey's position as a cultural ambassador through collaborations with arts and civic organizations across the country, using dance as a centerpiece for engagement.

One of the world's most celebrated dance companies, Ailey's Atlanta engagement is part of a 19-city coast-to-coast tour that follows a successful five-week season launch in New York City. Six breathtaking performances will showcase the virtuosity of Ailey's 32 renowned dancers, shine a spotlight on social issues with timely and topical premieres, and celebrate the centennials of birth for jazz legends **Ella Fitzgerald** and **Dizzy Gillespie** in an "**Ailey Jazz**" program, which also features the premiere of Ailey dancer **Hope Boykin's *r-Evolution-Dream.***, inspired by the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Now more than ever, I'm proud to use dance to unite and uplift audiences in Atlanta, where the Company has been warmly welcomed for over 40 years," **stated Artistic Director Robert Battle.** "Ailey's renowned dancers will bring to life at the Fox Theatre premieres that hold up a mirror to society, including Hope Boykin's *r-Evolution, Dream.*, inspired by one of this city's greatest peacemakers. We will also revel in the marriage of modern dance and jazz with an "Ailey Jazz" program celebrating the music of legends Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespie, and Ella Fitzgerald. And of course, we are thrilled to kick off the Destination Dance initiative, partnering with so many of the city's important arts and civic organizations."

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The inspiring finale of all programs will be Alvin Ailey's perennial crowd-pleasing masterpiece [Revelations](#), acclaimed as a must-see and recognized by U.S. Senate resolution.

The five-day Atlanta engagement kicks off with **Ailey Fan Night**, a thank you to the city's audiences, on **Wednesday, February 15 at 8 p.m.** The program offers Atlantans the opportunity to experience the magic of Ailey at an exclusive price of only \$25 or \$39! The evening includes Italian choreographer Mauro Bigonzetti's soulful world premiere [Deep](#), set to music by rising global music stars Ibeyi; [Cry](#), Alvin Ailey's signature female solo choreographed as a birthday gift for his mother, made famous by Judith Jamison, and dedicated to "all black women everywhere – especially our mothers;" and [The Hunt](#), Robert Battle's thrilling, percussive work for six men.

The **Thursday, February 16 at 8 p.m. "Ailey Jazz"** program features *r-Evolution*, *Dream.*, *The Winter in Lisbon*, and *Ella*. Veteran Ailey dancer **Hope Boykin** was inspired by Dr. King's sermons and speeches, that she experienced during a visit to Atlanta's Center for Civil and Human Rights to create [r-Evolution, Dream.](#), a large ensemble work melding creative storytelling, new music composed by Ali Jackson (Jazz at Lincoln Center), and historic and original writings narrated by Tony Award winner Leslie Odom, Jr. (*Hamilton*). Restaged for the centennial of Dizzy Gillespie's birth, **Billy Wilson's [The Winter in Lisbon](#)** (1992), is a tribute to the consummate jazz musician that evokes an atmosphere in which the dancers challenge, tease and romance against a backdrop of rhythm, color and four decades of his brilliant music. **Robert Battle's [Ella](#)** is a tour-de-force duet celebrating the centenary of legendary Ella Fitzgerald's birth set to her virtuosic scatting in the song "Airmail Special." In addition, "Ailey Jazz" will be performed on the **Saturday, February 18 at 2 p.m. Family Matinee**, which offers tickets that are buy one, get one 50 percent off and includes a free Q and A with Ailey dancers, and on **Sunday, February 19 at 3 p.m.**

The **Friday, February 17 at 8 p.m.** performance includes a new production of **Alvin Ailey's [Masekela Langage](#)**, a searing portrait of South African apartheid and 1960s violence in Chicago, as well as **Rennie Harris' soul-stirring [Exodus](#)**, and **Christopher Wheeldon's sensual [After the Rain Pas de Deux](#)**. The **Saturday, February 18 at 8 p.m.** performance features MacArthur "Genius" **Kyle Abraham's [Untitled America](#)**, a haunting world premiere that shines a spotlight on the impact of the prison system on African-American families, as well as Mauro Bigonzetti's *Deep*.

In addition to these public performances, the Company will further Mr. Ailey's legacy of bringing dance to the people by participating in special outreach for area students. On February 14, in collaboration with **Dance Canvas**, an Ailey dancer will lead a **master class** for students ages 9-11 from the City of Atlanta's Martin Luther King Centers of Hope program, who will then attend the Saturday matinee. A special **school-time performance** for students from Atlanta's underserved communities will take place on February 16. In 2016, more than 4,300 students were able to attend such a performance, which is often the first professional dance performance that these children experience.

A variety of additional performances & special events, classes & workshops, auditions, and more will take place throughout the year. For information on the ongoing schedule of collaborations with many of the city's wonderful arts and civic organizations, visit: www.Destination.Dance.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater inspires in all a universal celebration of the human spirit using the African-American cultural experience and the American modern dance tradition. Nearly 60 years after its founding, Ailey continues to move forward under the leadership of Robert Battle, revealing once again why Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is one of the world's most beloved dance companies.

Tickets starting at \$25 are available at The Fox Theatre box office, 660 Peachtree Street NE, www.alvinailey.org, www.foxatltix.com or by calling 855-285-8499.

Programming and Ballet descriptions are on page 5.

Destination Dance Schedule of Activities below (as of 1/9/17 – subject to change)

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Additional activities that are part of **Ailey's Destination Dance in Atlanta 2017** include:

January 11

Ailey in Collaboration with the Center for Civil and Human Rights – Master Class and Panel Discussion:

Revelations Master Class with Hope Boykin

Veteran Ailey dancer Hope Boykin will lead teen students from Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education, Dance Canvas, AREA (Atlanta's Resource for Entertainment & Arts), and Ballethnic in a workshop featuring movement from Alvin Ailey's masterpiece and one of the most well-known works in modern dance history, *Revelations*.

A Legacy of Dreams & Revelations: Shining a Spotlight on Social Issues Past and Present

Moderated by CNN's Fredricka Whitfield, this panel discussion will bring Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Artistic Director Robert Battle, longtime Ailey dancer and choreographer Hope Boykin, and the Andrew J. Young Foundation Executive Director Andrea Young come together to discuss the relationship and impact art and social movements (past and present) have on each other, and how they can connect to be a vehicle for change.

January 30 – February 3

Revelations Residencies – M. Agnes Jones Elementary and Drew Charter School

Arts In Education Residencies will take place at M. Agnes Jones Elementary and Drew Charter School from Monday, January 30 – Friday, February 3. Ailey teaching artists Darius Damazi Williams and Theara Ward will lead 5th grade students at M. Agnes Jones and middle school students at Drew Charter School in *Revelations: An Interdisciplinary Approach*, which utilizes Alvin Ailey's signature work, *Revelations*, as the inspirational framework for a comprehensive study of language arts, social studies, and dance.

February 11 & 12

Ailey Experience, presented in collaboration with AREA – North Atlanta High School

Ailey Extension and AREA (Atlanta's Resource for Entertainment & Arts) come together to present the Ailey Experience Atlanta. This workshop is designed to expand on Mr. Ailey's life-long commitment to bringing dance to everyone, by teaching the rich history of Ailey's signature style and how he changed the perception of American modern dance. Students will be taught by former Ailey dancers Amos J. Machanic, Jr., Christopher Jackson (Ailey Extension instructor), and Lisa Johnson-Willingham (Director of Ailey Extension). The Ailey Experience features Contemporary and Horton classes with live accompanists, and an in-depth study of Alvin Ailey's masterpiece, *Revelations*. No experience is necessary, and all levels are welcomed.

Saturday, February 11

Ages 8 – 12

3-4 p.m.: Contemporary w/Christopher Jackson

4-5 p.m.: *Revelations* workshop w/Lisa Johnson-Willingham

Teens and Adults

4:15-5:30 p.m.: Contemporary w/Christopher Jackson

5:30-6:45 p.m.: *Revelations* workshop w/Lisa Johnson-Willingham

Sunday, February 12

Ages 8 – 12

3-4 p.m.: Horton w/Lisa Johnson-Willingham

4-5 p.m.: *Revelations* workshop w/Amos J. Machanic, Jr.

Teens and Adults

4:15-5:30 p.m.: Horton w/Lisa Johnson-Willingham

5:30-6:45 p.m.: *Revelations* workshop w/Amos J. Machanic, Jr.

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May 12 – 14

Mother's Day Revelations Celebration Workshops – The High Museum

As part of the High Museum's new Second Sunday monthly series, participants of all ages will be given an opportunity to take part in three free dance workshops celebrating Alvin Ailey's signature American masterpiece, *Revelations*. National AileyCamp Director and Arts In Education Master Teacher Nasha Thomas and teaching artist Darius Damazi Williams will teach movements from three distinctive sections of *Revelations*: "I Been 'Buked," "Wade in the Water," and "Rocka My Soul." The workshops will feature live drumming by Matthew Hill.

June 5 – July 14

Atlanta Ballet's AileyCamp – Drew Charter School

Serving 100 middle school children in summer 2017, Atlanta Ballet's AileyCamp is an innovative, six-week day camp that uses the power of disciplined dance training, creative writing instruction, and personal development and communication workshops to provide a highly motivating experience for at-risk youth. The program, returning to Atlanta for its 11th year, is provided at no cost to the campers or their families and helps youth develop their self-confidence in an atmosphere of warmth, respect, and trust.

October 19 – 21

Ailey II – Rialto Center for the Arts at Georgia State University & ELEVATE

Ailey II – universally renowned for merging the spirit and energy of the country's best young dance talent with the passion and creative vision of today's most outstanding emerging choreographers – will perform a variety of works during public and school-time performances, as well as lead lecture demonstrations at the Rialto Center for the Arts. The second company will also participate in ELEVATE – the multi-arts festival organized by the city's Office of Cultural Affairs.

December 27 – 30

The Ailey School and The Atlanta Ballet Training Intensive

This 4-day training intensive for Georgia-area dancers will be offered jointly by Atlanta Ballet's Centre for Dance Education and The Ailey School.

Annual Ailey School Auditions

Talented young dancers in Atlanta will have the opportunity to audition for a spot at the esteemed Ailey School in New York City, where 75% of the current members of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater trained.

The 2017 North American Tour is supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Wells Fargo is a Proud Ailey Sponsor of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's 2017 engagement in Atlanta, GA.

Georgia Power and The Home Depot Foundation are Platinum Circle Sponsors of Destination Dance in Atlanta.

Georgia-Pacific is a Silver Circle Sponsor of Destination Dance in Atlanta.

American Express is the lead funder of the new production of Masekela Langage.

The World Premiere of Untitled America is made possible by Denise R. Sobel and Tikkun Olam Foundation, Inc.

The creation of Untitled America is supported by commissioning funds from New York City Center.

Generous support for Untitled America is also provided, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

The creation of r-Evolution, Dream. is supported by commissioning funds from The Music Center.

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Left to right: Hope Boykin with master class students at the Center for Civil and Human Rights. Photo by Emily Hawkins; AAADT in Hope Boykin’s *r-Evolution, Dream*. Photo by Paul Kolnik; AileyCamp Atlanta 2015 final performance. Photo by Kim Kenney; Lisa Johnson-Willingham and Ailey Experience Atlanta 2016 students. Photo by Shoccara Marcus. **CTRL + CLICK on photos for hi-res download. Please credit photos.**

PRESS: For additional press materials please visit the links below or pressroom.alvinailey.org.

[Images](#)

[Sizzle Reel For Broadcast](#)

[Electronic Press Kit](#)

2017 Atlanta Programs

Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m.	AILEY FAN NIGHT – <i>Deep / Cry, The Hunt / Revelations</i>
Thursday, Feb. 16 at 8 p.m.	AILEY JAZZ - <i>The Winter in Lisbon / r-Evolution, Dream. / Ella, Revelations</i>
Friday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m.	<i>Exodus / Masekela Langage / After The Rain Pas De Deux, Revelations</i>
Saturday, Feb. 18 at 2 p.m.*	AILEY JAZZ - <i>The Winter in Lisbon / r-Evolution, Dream. / Ella, Revelations</i> *Family Matinee – free post-performance Q&A with dancers
Saturday, Feb. 18 at 8 p.m.	<i>Deep / Untitled America / Revelations</i>
Sunday, Feb. 19 at 3 p.m.	AILEY JAZZ - <i>The Winter in Lisbon / r-Evolution, Dream. / Ella, Revelations</i>

2017 Atlanta Repertory

World Premieres

[Untitled America](#) (World Premiere)

Choreography by Kyle Abraham

Music: Laura Mvula, Raime, Traditional

In this haunting three-part suite, MacArthur “Genius” Kyle Abraham shines a light on the impact of the prison system on African-American families. Developed over three seasons, the work features interviews by those impacted by incarceration. Laura Mvula’s touching “Father, Father,” the traditional spiritual “No More My Lord,” contemporary music by Raime, and other musical compositions underscore Abraham’s distinct movement style and signature avant-garde aesthetic. Wendy Perron of *Dance Magazine* praised the first installment of *Untitled America* by saying, “This is something our culture should be looking at...Kudos to Ailey—and Abraham—for keeping the revelations relevant.”

[r-Evolution, Dream.](#) (World Premiere)

Choreography by Hope Boykin

Music: Ali Jackson

Veteran Company member Hope Boykin was inspired by the sermons and speeches of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to create *r-Evolution, Dream.* after immersing herself in this historical material after a visit to the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta, during Ailey’s U.S. tour. Convinced of the timely relevance of the messages, she staged the large ensemble work that melds creative storytelling, new music composed by Ali Jackson (Jazz at Lincoln Center), and historic and original writings narrated by Tony Award winner Leslie Odom, Jr. (*Hamilton*).

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[Deep](#) (2016 Season World Premiere)

Choreography by Mauro Bigonzetti

Music: Ibeyi

Mauro Bigonzetti's elegant and soulful work is set to songs by Ibeyi, twin sisters who sing in English and Yoruba and are rising global music stars. Last at Ailey with 2008's *Festa Barocca*, the newly appointed director of La Scala Ballet is known for his seamless integration of classical and modern techniques, and has been praised for his fresh and inventive sensibility.

Company Premiere

[Ella](#) (2008)

Choreography by Robert Battle

Music: Ella Fitzgerald

Originally created as a solo, this high-energy comical dance was reinvented as a duet by the Ailey company for its December 2016 Opening Night Gala benefit, "An Evening of Ailey and Jazz" – in anticipation of the legendary singer Ella Fitzgerald's centennial in April 2017. Using a live concert recording of Fitzgerald performing the song "Airmail Special," *Ella* matches the iconic singer's virtuosic scatting with lightning-fast, articulated movement in an irresistible tour-de-force that leaves audiences (and the dancers) breathless.

New Productions

[The Winter in Lisbon](#) (1992)

Choreography by Billy Wilson

Music: Dizzy Gillespie

The Winter in Lisbon is a sizzling, sensuous ballet celebrating four decades of Dizzy Gillespie's brilliant music. Choreographed in 1992 by Billy Wilson, the work pays tribute to Mr. Gillespie, the consummate jazz musician, creating an atmosphere in which the dancers challenge, tease and romance against a backdrop of rhythm and color. Wilson's exuberant, playful ballet was conceived in celebration of Gillespie's birthday after Artistic Director Emerita Judith Jamison was approached by the musician's management to create a dance for his music. Confident in Wilson's ability to blend his eclectic ballet and modern dance training with the boisterous sound of Gillespie's music, Jamison commissioned him to bring the project to life. "It's a celebration of life," explains Ailey's Associate Artistic Director Masazumi Chaya, who restaged the work. "It's fun, it's full of energy, it's about life going on."

[Masekela Langage](#) (1969)

Choreography by Alvin Ailey

Music: Hugh Masekela

Masekela Langage, a rarely-seen Ailey masterwork, which premiered at Connecticut College in 1969, was last performed at BAM during the Company's 50th anniversary. Set in a shebeen (a South African beer house) and danced to the driving score of South African jazz composer and trumpeter Hugh Masekela, Ailey's choreography speaks of passivity, militancy, despair and defiance in a searing portrait of oppression during the apartheid era, drawing parallels between events in South Africa and those in Chicago.

[The Hunt](#) (2001 / New Production 2016)

Choreography by Robert Battle

Music: Les Tambours du Bronx

Artistic director Robert Battle's athletic work for six men reveals the predatory side of human nature and the primitive thrill of the hunt. A thundering percussion score by Les Tambours du Bronx drives the ritualized movement and pushes the dancers to their physical limits.

Returning Favorite

[After the Rain Pas de Deux](#) (2005)

Choreography by Christopher Wheeldon

Music by Arvo Pärt

An instant hit at New York City Ballet in 2005, Christopher Wheeldon's dreamlike duet – praised for its sublime simplicity and intricate partnering – is revealed in a fresh light as the Ailey dancers make it their own. Set to music by the Estonian composer Arvo Pärt, the sensual male-female *pas de deux* has resonated deeply with audiences and will be the first work by Christopher Wheeldon to enter the Ailey repertory. *Dance Magazine* described *After the Rain* as "an intelligently, masterfully choreographed ballet that strikes an emotional chord. The still point at the heart of the work lingers long after the curtain has descended."

Ailey Classics

Cry (1971 / New Production 2015)

Choreography by Alvin Ailey

Music: Alice Coltrane, Laura Nyro, Voices of East Harlem

In 1971, Alvin Ailey choreographed the ballet *Cry*, as a birthday present for his mother Mrs. Lula Cooper, and created the dance on his stunning muse, Judith Jamison. It was an instant sensation and went on to become an enduring work of American art. This physically and emotionally demanding 16-minute solo is dedicated to “all black women everywhere – especially our mothers.” The solo is made up of three parts – the first set to Alice Coltrane’s “Something about John Coltrane,” the second to Laura Nyro’s “Been on a Train” and the last has the Voices of East Harlem singing “Right On, Be Free.” Ms. Jamison, who has since taught the treasured role to subsequent generations of Ailey women, wrote of the work in her autobiography *Dancing Spirit*: “In my interpretation, she represented those women before her who came from the hardships of slavery, through the pain of losing loved ones, through overcoming extraordinary depressions and tribulations. Coming out of a world of pain and trouble, she has found her way-and triumphed.”

Revelations (1960)

Choreography by Alvin Ailey

Music: Traditional Spirituals

More than just a popular dance work, *Revelations* has become a cultural treasure, beloved by generations of fans. An American classic acclaimed as a must-see for all, **Alvin Ailey’s** signature masterpiece is a tribute to his heritage and genius. Using African-American spirituals, the work fervently explores the places of deepest grief and holiest joy in the soul. Seeing *Revelations* for the first time or the hundredth can be a transcendent experience, with audiences cheering, singing along and dancing in their seats from the opening notes of the plaintive “I Been ’Buked” to the rousing “Wade in the Water” and the triumphant finale, “Rocka My Soul in the Bosom of Abraham.”

Calendar Listing Information

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater’s breathtaking and beloved dancers return to center stage at the Fox Theatre February 15 – 19, 2017, with premieres, new productions and *Revelations* for six audience-captivating performances only. Highlights include an “Ailey Jazz” program celebrating the birth centennials of Ella Fitzgerald, Dizzy Gillespie and the premiere of Hope Boykin’s *r-Evolution-Dream.*, inspired by the speeches and sermons of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with a soundtrack of original music by Ali Jackson of Jazz at Lincoln Center and narration by Tony Award-winning actor Leslie Odom, Jr. Tickets, starting at \$25, are available at The Fox Theatre box office, www.alvinailey.org, www.foxatltix.com or by calling 855-285-8499.

Ailey’s 2017 Atlanta Engagement Performance dates and times:

Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m.; Thursday, Feb. 16 at 8 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 18 at 2 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 18 at 8 p.m. ; Sunday, Feb. 19 at 3 p.m.

Tickets

[Tickets for Ailey’s 2017 Atlanta engagement](#) from February 15 to 19 are on sale starting at \$25 at The Fox Theatre box office, 660 Peachtree Street NE, www.alvinailey.org, www.foxatltix.com or by calling 855-285-8499. Groups of 10 or more can save by calling 404-881-2000.

- **Student tickets** are available for Thursday, February 16 at 8 p.m. for \$10 with valid student ID. Tickets must be purchased at the Fox Theatre box office prior to 5:30 p.m. on February 16 (Limit two per ID, subject to availability).
- The **Ailey Fan** program tickets for Wednesday, February 15 at 8 p.m. are \$25 and \$39.
- Tickets for the 1-hour moderated **Student Performance** on February 16 at 10:30am, which features *The Winter in Lisbon* (excerpt) and Alvin Ailey’s *Revelations*, are available by calling group sales at (404) 881-2000.
- The Saturday, February 18 **Family Matinee** tickets are buy one, get one 50 percent off with a free post-performance Q&A with the dancers (limit 8 tickets per order).

Groups of 10 or more can receive up to 25% off by calling 404-881-2000.

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 is now led by Robert Battle, whom Judith Jamison chose to succeed her on July 1, 2011. 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 Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County in Miami, 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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