ALVIN AILEY
AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Stack-Up
(1982 / New Production – 2017)

Choreography: Talley Beatty
Assistant to Choreographer: Ralph Paul Haze
Restaging: Masazumi Chaya
Music: Earth, Wind, & Fire, Grover Washington, Jr., Fearless Four, and Alphonze Mouzon
Costume Designer / Redesigner: Carol Vollet-Kingston / Barbara Forbes
Décor & Costumes: Adapted from a painting by Romare Bearden
Lighting Designer / Redesigner: Tom Skelton / Chenault Spence

Set to the background of a throbbing 1970s beat (including music by Earth, Wind & Fire, Grover Washington, Jr., Fearless Four, and Alphonze Mouzon) and a graffiti landscape, patrons in a crowded disco dance with attitude, sass, and fierce despair in this classic work by Talley Beatty. Inspired by Los Angeles' urban landscape and the lives of its disparate inhabitants, *Stack-Up* depicts the emotional "traffic" in a community that is stacked on top of each other. Tough, brutal yet poignant, the stage sizzles with street life, break dancing, and physical pyrotechnics as an aloof drug pusher and two displaced lovers are destined for collision. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater performed the work during its 25th anniversary season in 1983 at New York City Center, and is being restaged in advance of the upcoming centennial of Mr. Beatty's birth.

AAADT in Talley Beatty's *Stack-Up*.
Photo by Paul Kolnik.

"A dynamic metaphor for the urgency, danger, speed, sexuality and grit – in short, the feverish and risqué turmoil – of city streets… **Beatty's work is an exceptionally compelling statement by a sensitive and masterly theatrical craftsman."**
   The Washington Post

"Talley Beatty's **feel good** "Stack-Up" (1982) a centennial tribute this season, opened the program with a **colorful explosion of disco energy. It's a lively work filled with street sass**…"
   The Boston Globe

"**Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is phenomenal in Stack-Up**, Talley Beatty's concert-jazz rendering of a night at the disco … **Stack-Up turns on the drama** … filled with social commentary relevant to any era …"
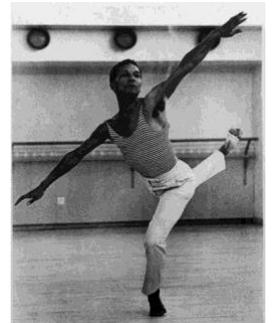   *Huffington Post,* (**The Best Dance Performances of 2017**)

"…**intriguing to watch**… Mr. Lebrun veers impressively between states of ecstasy and fear. Staged in honor of the coming centennial of Mr. Beatty's birth, "Stack-Up" … **fascinates as a kind of time capsule**."
   The New York Times

Talley Beatty

Born in 1918, Talley Beatty of Chicago, Illinois became a principal dancer with the Katherine Dunham Company at age 16. After touring with the Dunham Company for five years and appearing in a film and Broadway shows such as *Cabin in the Sky*, *Pins and Needles*, and *Blue Holiday*, Mr. Beatty formed his own company and toured throughout Europe, U.S., and Canada. As part of his choreographing for Broadway, he was nominated for a 1977 Tony Award as Best Choreographer for *Your Arm's Too Short to Box with God*. Dance companies around the world have mounted his ballets, including Dance Theatre of Harlem, Bat-Sheva Company, Koln Opera Ballet Company, Boston Ballet, Stockholm Dance Theatre, and Ballet Hispanico. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater has performed many of his major works, including *The Road of the Phoebe Snow* (1959), *Come and Get the Beauty of it Hot* (1960), *Stack-Up* (1982), and *Blueshift* (1984).

Stack-Up
Music Credit Information – *Listed as you hear them in ballet*

Song: "Faces"
Performed by Earth, Wind & Fire.
Written by Philip Bailey, Lorenzo Dunn, Verdine White, and Maurice White. Use by permission of EMI April Music Inc. All rights reserved. ASCAP (100%)

Song: "Aubrey"
Performed by Grover Washington, Jr.
Written by David Gates. Used with permission of Kipahulu Music.

Song: "Rockin' It"
Performed by Fearless Four.
Composed by Darryll Barksdale, Morgan Robinson, Karl Bartos, Ralf Huetter, and Bobby Robinson. Published by Spirit One Music, Inc. o/b/o Quoin Music. Used by permission of Kling Klang Musik Gmbh, and Bobby Robinson Sweet Soul Music, Inc. All rights reserved. © 2008 Positive Songs Edition (GEMA), Hanseatic Musikverlag Gmbh & Co. KG (GEMA). All rights on behalf of Positive Songs Edition and Hanseatic Musikverlag Gmbh & Co. KG, administered by WB Music Corp. (ASCAP) All rights reserved.

Song: "Get Up and Dance"
Written and performed by Alphonze Mouzon.
Controlled by Mouzon Music Publishing.