



CULTURAL
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ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

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ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER RETURNS TO ATLANTA'S FABULOUS FOX THEATRE FEBRUARY 20-23, 2020 WITH "AILEY REVEALED" AS PART OF 21-CITY NORTH AMERICAN TOUR

Engagement Includes Topical World Premieres Shining a Spotlight on Social Issues from Esteemed
Choreographer Donald Byrd and Ailey Dancer and First Resident Choreographer Jamar Roberts

Alvin Ailey's American Masterpiece *Revelations* is the Inspiring Finale of All Performances

Tickets Now on Sale!

ATLANTA – November 1, 2019 – [Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater](http://www.alvinailey.org), beloved as one of the world's most popular dance companies, announces a return to the **Fabulous Fox Theatre, February 20 – 23** as part of a **21-city North American tour**, for their highly anticipated 2020 Atlanta engagement with six inspiring performances showcasing Ailey's 32 extraordinary dancers. Led by Artistic Director [Robert Battle](http://www.alvinailey.org), Atlantans will be mesmerized and moved with diverse works by preeminent choreographers, including world premieres that shine a spotlight on social issues by celebrated choreographer Donald Byrd and Ailey dancer and first-ever Resident Choreographer [Jamar Roberts](http://www.alvinailey.org). Full programming and details will be announced in January 2020.

TONY nominee (*The Color Purple*), Bessie Award-winner (*The Minstrel Show*) and **2019 Doris Duke Artist Award** recipient **Donald Byrd** is known for his creation of compelling characters and exploring complex societal issues through dance. For his fifth premiere for the Company, Byrd draws on the 1921 Tulsa riots as a main source for [Greenwood](http://www.alvinailey.org), a powerful ensemble work set to music by Israeli violist and composer Emmanuel Witzthum. Using dance to navigate through one of the worst incidents of racial violence in US history and explore the story through different lenses of those who were affected, builds upon Ailey's theatrical roots and legacy of shining a spotlight on social issues.

Ailey dancer and first-ever Resident Choreographer **Jamar Roberts' [Ode](http://www.alvinailey.org)** will grace the Fox Theatre stage. Like his critically-acclaimed *Members Don't Get Weary* (2017), this work for six dancers will feature a jazz score – Don Pullen's "Suite (Sweet) Malcolm (Part 1 Memories and Gunshots)." *Ode* offers a meditation on the beauty and fragility of life in a time of growing gun violence and will include Roberts' own costume designs. A member of the Company since 2002, Roberts has become renowned for his powerful performances on world stages, including at The White House and as a guest star with London's Royal Ballet, receiving the prestigious New York Dance and Performance "Bessie" award for Outstanding Performer.

In addition to the exciting premieres, the inspiring finale of all programs will be Alvin Ailey's American masterpiece [Revelations](http://www.alvinailey.org), known to send hearts soaring and lifting audiences to their feet. Since its debut in 1960, *Revelations* has

been seen by more people than any other modern dance work and has moved audiences around the world through 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, *Revelations* pays homage to the rich cultural heritage of the African-American and explores the emotional spectrum of the human condition.

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

Tickets starting at \$29, are now on sale at The Fox Theatre box office, 660 Peachtree Street NE, www.alvinailey.org, www.foxatltx.com or by calling 855-285-8499.

Destination Dance Ailey Atlanta

In addition to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's captivating live performances, the Ailey organization is also excited to continue [Destination Dance](#) in Atlanta through 2020. The upcoming year's activities include, [Revelations: A Interdisciplinary Approach](#) and innovative curriculum-based residency for public school students; a [student field trip performance](#) on Thursday, February 20 at 10:30 a.m. (\$10 tickets can be purchased by contacting Fox Group sales), [auditions](#) for [The Ailey School](#)'s 2020 Summer Intensive and the 2020-21 academic program on Saturday, February 22 at 6:15 p.m. (ages 11-15) and 8:00 p.m. (ages 16-25) at Atlanta Ballet; and Ailey Experience workshops – taught by [Ailey Extension](#) instructors and former Ailey dancers – that teach students the rich history of Ailey's signature style. Recent activities included, Atlanta Ballet [AileyCamp](#), a summer program that helps underserved youth reach their full potential, as well as community events in conjunction with [Ailey II](#)'s performance at Rialto Center for the Arts at Georgia University – an Ailey Extension workshop with AREA and preview performance at High Museum of Art surrounding Romare Bearden and Alvin Ailey decades-long friendship.

As the choreographer and cultural leader Alvin Ailey said, "Dance came from the people, and it should always be delivered back to the people." The goal of **Destination Dance Ailey Atlanta** is to engage Atlanta's vibrant cultural community through partnerships between Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater – which has been performing in the city since the 1970s – and Atlanta-based cultural, civic, and educational organizations. The pilot season of the program worked to deepen Ailey's connection and commitment to the city's cultural organizations through diverse year-round programming, and included dance classes, workshops, a panel event, and the first-ever Atlanta performances by Ailey II.

Using dance as the centerpiece for engagement, the partner organizations present performances, classes and workshops for the public, education programs in schools, conversations with artists and civic leaders, and more. Destination Dance "connects the dots" between these various activities, and promotes them through the press, email, social media, and a website. The initiative brings together all aspects of the organization (Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Ailey II, The Ailey School, Ailey Extension, and Ailey Arts In Education – including AileyCamp), and current partners include AREA (Atlanta's Resource for Entertainment & Arts), Cultural Experience Project / Atlanta's Office of Cultural Affairs, Dance Canvas, ELEVATE Public Art Festival / Atlanta's Office of Cultural Affairs, The Gathering Spot, The Fox Theatre, High Museum of Art, National Black Arts Festival, National Center for Civil and Human Rights, Reining Victory Dance Studio, Rialto Center for the Arts at Georgia State University and Atlanta public and private schools, including M. Agnes Jones Elementary School. For more information, visit [Destination.Dance](#).

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 National Tour Sponsor.

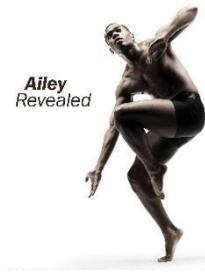
Georgia Power and Hope Depot are Platinum Circle Sponsors of Destination Dance Ailey Atlanta.

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The world premiere of Ode is supported by commissioning funds from New York City Center.

The 2020 National Tour is supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts.



(L to R); AAADT in Alvin Ailey's *Revelations*. Photo by Paul Kolnik; AAADT's Solomon Dumas. Photo by Andrew Eccles; AAADT's Jacqueline Green in Alvin Ailey's *Revelations*. Photo by Paul Kolnik. Please credit photos. [Ctrl+Click for high-res download.](#)

Calendar Listing Information

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's extraordinary dancers return to center stage at the Fox Theatre February 20-23 with world premieres, new productions and *Revelations* for six audience-captivating performances only. Tickets, starting at \$29, 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 2020 Atlanta Engagement Performance Dates and Times:

Thursday, Feb. 20 at 10:30 a.m. Student Performance; Thursday, Feb. 20 at 8 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 21 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 22 at 2 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 22 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 23 at 3 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets

[Tickets for Ailey's 2020 Atlanta engagement](#) from February 20 to 23 are on sale starting at \$29 at The Fox Theatre box office, 660 Peachtree Street NE, www.alvinailey.org, www.foxatltix.com or by calling 855-285-8499. Atlantans can take advantage of a variety of special offers:

- **A holiday special** offers 25 percent off tickets priced \$39 and higher through Dec. 24 with code HOLIDAY.
- **Student tickets** are available for all performances except Saturday, February 22 at 2 p.m. 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).
- **\$10 tickets are available for the student field trip performance** on Thursday, February 20 at 10:30 a.m. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Fox Group Sales.
- **Groups of 10 or more can receive up to 30% off by calling 404-881-2000** (discounts applied to tickets regularly priced \$39 or higher).
- **Buy one, get one 50% off tickets** are available for the Family Matinee on Saturday, February 22 at 2 p.m. (limit 8 tickets).

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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