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Adrienne Arsht Center

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND, INTERNATIONALLY CELEBRATED ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER RETURNS TO THE ADRIENNE ARSHT CENTER FOR ITS 2014 MIAMI ENGAGEMENT, FEBRUARY 20-23, LED BY MIAMI'S OWN ROBERT BATTLE

Five Inspiring Programs Showcase Choreographic Masterpieces Performed by Miami Native Jamar Roberts and 30 Virtuosic Dancers as part of a 23-City Tour

"The Ailey dancers are sleek, athletic masters of the universe!" - The New York Times

"... Alvin Ailey troupe shines ... Artistic Director Robert Battle has the troupe's

forward momentum well in hand." - The Washington Post

"Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's annual performances have become a highlight

for dance and performing arts lovers." - The Miami Herald

NEW YORK – November 5, 2013 — <u>Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater</u>, globally renowned for bringing African American cultural expression and the American modern dance tradition to the world's stages, returns by popular demand to the **Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County** from **Thursday, February 20th through Sunday, February 23rd, 2014**, including a Saturday Family Matinee Program. Led by Miami native and Ailey's Artistic Director <u>Robert Battle</u>, the highly-anticipated Miami performances are part of a 23-city North American tour that marks the 25th season since the passing of legendary founder Alvin Ailey. Building on last season's success, Ailey's sixth annual Miami engagement will newly reveal the power, passion and astonishing beauty that have become a hallmark of the company. This engagement is copresented by the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County as part of the Knight Masterworks Season – Sanford and Beatrice Ziff Signature Dance Series.

The programs will showcase Miami native Jamar Roberts and 30 other extraordinary dancers in a dynamic collection of premieres and new productions by major choreographers. Audiences will be enthralled by modern dance innovator Bill T. Jones' joyful tour-de-force <u>D-Man in the Waters (Part I)</u>, the South Florida premieres of multi-award-winning British choreographer Wayne McGregor's <u>Chroma</u>, and celebrated dance storyteller Ronald K. Brown's uplifting <u>Four Corners</u>, among other repertory favorites that capture the grace, beauty and athleticism of the company long-renowned as a transformational force in American dance. In addition to new choreographic treasures, **Alvin Ailey's** rousing masterpiece <u>Revelations</u>, -- an American classic acclaimed as a must-see and recognized by U.S. Senate resolution -- will provide the inspiring finale at each performance.

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The Company, recognized by U.S. Congress as a vital "American Cultural Ambassador to the World," has performed for an estimated 23 million people at theaters in 48 states and 71 countries on six continents, as well as millions more through television broadcasts. Having embarked on an exciting new era in Ailey history, Battle's vision continues to expand the Company's diverse repertory with a wide range of important choreographic voices and has been widely applauded by audiences and critics.

"Building upon a cherished 55-year legacy, we continue to surpass boundaries and reach towards new heights of artistic excellence," **said Artistic Director Robert Battle**. "Having the vision of great choreographers brought to life by the breathtaking Ailey dancers is something extraordinary to behold. I am excited to return to my hometown with a cornucopia of choreographic treasures, and the performances of inspiring Ailey artists like fellow Miamian Jamar Roberts."

Heralded as one of the Company's stars, Jamar Roberts' stellar performances in all of this season's exciting premieres and new productions continue to gain attention and praise. *Dance Magazine* declared that "He has movie star good looks and an Olympian physique, and he moves like fire..." Before becoming a fellowship student at The Ailey School and joining Ailey II, Jamar trained at the Dance Empire of Miami and the New World School of the Arts. During time off from Ailey's extensive national and international performance schedule, he often returns to teach classes and choreograph for local dancers in Miami.

The Arsht Center and Ailey have also collaborated to offer various arts education and community-friendly offerings. On Friday, February 21st at 11:00 am a special one-hour performance featuring *Revelations* will be offered free of charge to public school students in the Miami-Dade County area, including the Liberty City neighborhood where Robert Battle grew up. Moderated by one of the dancers, this hour-long educational performance gives students a taste of all the elements that compose an Ailey experience. The Saturday, February 22nd performance is a Family Matinee Program that will be followed by a free Q&A with the Ailey dancers for the enjoyment of the entire family. In addition, the performances will be attended by students from AileyCamp Miami, a nationally-acclaimed summer program hosted by the Arsht Center that uses dance as a vehicle for helping middle school students ages 11-14 to reach their full potential. Also, a free community master class is part of the educational offerings being planned to coincide with the Ailey engagement.

For further details on Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and the Ailey organization's performances, training programs and educational activities, visit www.alvinailey.org.

PRESS: For additional press materials or photos, members of the media may visit pressroom.alvinailey.org

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Miami engagement is made possible by Bank of America.

The 2014 U.S. Tour is supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The company premiere of *Chroma* is made possible in part by the generous support of New York City Center.

American Express is the lead funder of *D-Man in the Waters (Part I)*.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's engagement at the Adrienne Arsht Center is part of the Knight Masterworks Season – Sanford and Beatrice Ziff Signature Dance Series.

For further information, the public may visit www.alvinailey.org. For additional press materials or photos, members of the media may visit pressroom.alvinailey.org or Ctrl+Click Photos for High Resolution Download.



(L to R) AAADT's Jamar Roberts; Artistic Director Robert Battle & Associate Artistic Director Masazumi Chaya with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater; AAADT's Antonio Douthit-Boyd; AAADT's Rachael McLaren, Glenn Allen Sims, & Jacqueline Green. All photos by Andrew Eccles.

(CTRL+ CLICK ON PHOTOS FOR HI-RES DOWNLOAD) Please Credit Photos

CALENDAR LISTING INFORMATION:

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, one of the world's favorite dance companies, returns by popular demand to the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County from February 20-23, 2014. Led by Miami native Robert Battle in his third season as Artistic Director, Ailey's extraordinary dancers will move audiences with acclaimed premieres, including celebrated dance storyteller Ronald K. Brown's uplifting Four Corners, multi award-winning British choreographer Wayne McGregor's Chroma, and modern dance innovator Bill T. Jones' joyful tour-de-force D-Man in the Waters. Alvin Ailey's rousing masterpiece Revelations -- an American classic acclaimed as a must-see and recognized by U.S. Senate resolution -- will provide the inspiring finale at each of the five performances. Ailey's 2014 Miami engagement is part of the Company's 23-city North American Tour that marks the 25th season since the passing of legendary founder Alvin Ailey. For additional information about Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, please visit www.alvinailey.org.

TICKETS:

Tickets starting at \$25 **are now on sale** at <u>arshtcenter.org</u> or 305.949.6722. The Arsht Center Box office is open Monday - Friday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Saturday and Sunday noon until curtain time when there is a performance. Group discounts available by calling (786) 468-2326.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater – February 20 - 23, 2014
Ziff Ballet Opera House
Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County
1300 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, FL 33132
305.949.6722
www.arshtcenter.org

Engagement Dates:

Thursday, February 20, 2014 at 8:00pm
Friday, February 21, 2014 at 8:00pm
Saturday, February 22, 2014 at 2:00pm – Family Matinee
(followed by free post-performance Q & A with Ailey dancers)
Saturday, February 22, 2014 at 8:00pm
Sunday, February 23, 2014 at 2:00pm

Prices, artists, dates, times, and program are subject to change without notice.

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, 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 23 million people in 71 countries on 6 continents, 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 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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The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is made possible by the public support of the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council and the City of Miami Omni Community Redevelopment Agency, as well as the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. The Adrienne Arsht Center also receives generous support from individuals, corporations and local, state and national foundations.

About the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County

The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is one of the world's leading performing arts organizations and venues. Made possible by Miami-Dade County's largest ever public/private-sector partnership, the Center is home to the Florida Grand Opera, Miami City Ballet and New World Symphony, America's Orchestral Academy. In addition, numerous South Florida arts organizations perform in its theaters regularly.

Since opening in 2006, the Center has emerged as a leader in offering and presenting innovative programming that mirrors South Florida's diversity, as a catalyst for development in Miami, and as a host of impactful community outreach and education programs. Designed by world-renowned architect Cesar Pelli of Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, the venue is comprised of the 2,400-seat Ziff Ballet Opera House, the 2,200-seat John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall, the black box Carnival Studio Theater, a restored Carnival Tower, the Peacock Foundation, Inc. Studio, the Peacock Foundation, Inc. Education Center and the outdoor Parker and Vann Thomson Plaza for the Arts. Events impresario and restaurateur Barton G. Weiss brought his signature style to the Center in 2009 with PRELUDE BY BARTON G, a full-service upscale restaurant. Visit www.arshtcenter.org for more information.

About John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Knight Foundation supports transformational ideas that promote quality journalism, advance media innovation, engage communities and foster the arts. The foundation believes that democracy thrives when people and communities are informed and engaged. For more, visit KnightFoundation.org.