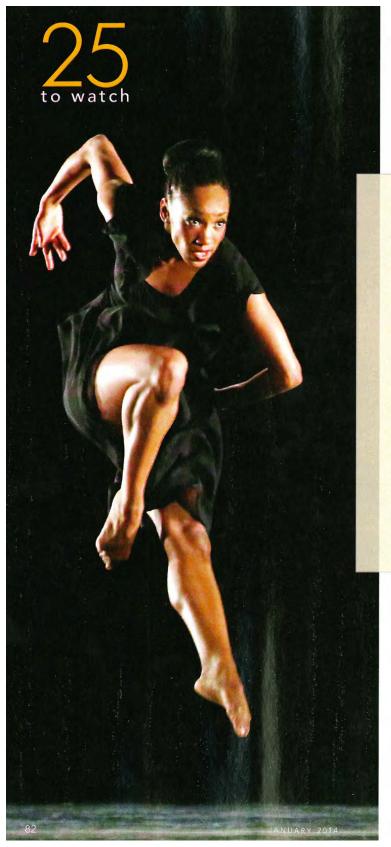


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DEMETIA HOPKINS

In a company full of established stars, it's not easy for an up-and-comer to grab the audience's focus. But Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Demetia Hopkins does just that. Whether she's showing off luscious extensions in Kylián's Petite Mort or a powerful lyricism in Ailey's Revelations, Hopkins' ability to embody a work seems second nature.

A former comp kid from Virginia, Hopkins started performing with Ailey II while still in the Ailey/Fordham BFA program. Just a year after graduating, she became a member of the first company. "I'm finding a love for musical theater and the characters of Mr. Ailey's ballets, like in Blues Suite," she says. Look for Hopkins this upcoming season during AAADT's 23-city tour, including stops in Washington, DC, next month, Houston in March and Seattle in April. —Jenny Dalzell