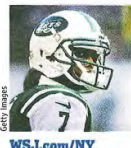


GREATER NEW YORK



Have a Seat, Please

Jets Bench Geno Smith in Ugly Loss to Miami **A27**

Alvin Ailey's
New Season
CULTURE COUNT A25



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Culture Count

Three New Pieces for Ailey

This year, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's season includes a world premiere, "LIFT," by Aszure Barton, and two company premieres, "Chroma," by Wayne McGregor, and "D-Man in the Waters," by Bill T. Jones.

This is Ms. Barton's first work for the company, but artistic director Robert Battle has known the choreographer since his days at Juilliard, where he studied with her sister, Cherice. "There's a kinship there. I remember when she first started making a place for herself."

Ms. Barton developed the work over five weeks with members of the Ailey company, drawing material from each particular dancer. Said Mr. Battle: "That gives it its authenticity."

Mr. McGregor's "Chroma," which features a score by Joby Talbot, orchestrated by Jack White of the White Stripes, first premiered with London's Royal Ballet in 2006. "I'm very excited because it's the first time a modern dance company is doing this work," he said. "What I love so much is the use of the torso and the speed. It has a very 'in your face' feel to it."



Andrew Eccles

Alvin Ailey dancer Belen Pereyra

The season also includes pieces Mr. Battle selected for their connection to founder Alvin Ailey. Bill T. Jones's "D-Man in the Waters" was created in December 1989 as a response to the AIDS epidemic, the same month and year that Mr. Ailey died from the syndrome. And on New Year's Eve the company will perform its classic 1960 work, "Revelations" with a mix of current and retired company members, including Dudley Williams.

The season begins Wednesday. "It's a real celebration of past, present and future."

—Lizzie Simon

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's new season kicks off Dec. 4 at New York City Center Stage. A look at the numbers:



Graphic by Alberto Cervantes/The Wall Street Journal