



# ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

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CULTURAL  
AMBASSADOR  
TO THE WORLD

Alvin Ailey, Founder Robert Battle, Artistic Director Masazumi Chaya, Associate Artistic Director  
Judith Jamison, Artistic Director Emerita Bennett Rink, Executive Director

## ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER ARTISTIC DIRECTOR ROBERT BATTLE ANNOUNCES TWO-WEEK LINCOLN CENTER ENGAGEMENT JUNE 10 - 21

AMERICA'S CULTURAL AMBASSADOR ALSO TO VISIT PARIS FOR LES ÉTÉS DE LA DANSE  
INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL JULY 7 – AUGUST 1 AND RETURN TO SOUTH AFRICA  
FOR PERFORMANCES IN JOHANNESBURG AND CAPE TOWN SEPTEMBER 3 - 20

Diverse Repertory for 15-Performance Engagement at David H. Koch Theater Features  
World Premiere *Exodus* by Rennie Harris, Company Premiere of Robert Battle's *No Longer Silent*,  
New Productions of Talley Beatty's *Toccata* and Judith Jamison's *A Case of You*

*Lincoln Center season tickets starting at \$25 are on sale.*

New York – UPDATED June 3, 2015 – Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, beloved as one of the world's most popular dance companies, will return to Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts for a two-week 15-performance engagement at the David H. Koch Theater June 10 – 21, 2015, led by Artistic Director [Robert Battle](#). Repertory for the season is highlighted by *Exodus*, a world premiere from bold hip-hop choreographer Rennie Harris, the company premiere of Battle's *No Longer Silent*, and new productions of Talley Beatty's *Toccata* and Artistic Director Emerita Judith Jamison's *A Case of You* duet from *Reminiscin'*.

Recognized by U.S. Congressional Resolution as a vital American "Cultural Ambassador to the World," the Ailey company also has major international appearances in 2015. A four-week engagement at Paris' Théâtre du Châtelet for Les Étés de la Danse International Dance Festival will take place July 7 – August 1. After 17 years, a historic return to South Africa has been scheduled from September 3 - 20 with performances in Johannesburg and Cape Town. Extensive educational activities in area schools, communities and townships will occur, similar to Ailey's historic 1997 residency in post-apartheid South Africa following the lifting of the international cultural boycott. Covered by [Time](#), the magazine proclaimed that "The Ailey company's tour leaves South Africa dancing in the aisles." The residency in South Africa is made possible by lead sponsor Bloomberg Philanthropies with major support from the Ford Foundation and Bank of America, as well as assistance from travel and freight partners South African Airways and South African Airways Cargo.

"Alvin Ailey was posthumously awarded the 2014 Presidential Medal of Freedom – the nation's highest civilian honor. 25 years after his passing, the power of his enduring legacy continues to extend from New York to far-reaching international tours and memorable visits to communities around the globe," stated [Robert Battle](#), Artistic Director since 2011. "Mr. Ailey said it so well; 'Dance came from the people and should always be delivered back to the people.' I'm proud to lead the Company back to South Africa for the first time this century and excited for audiences there and in New York and Paris to experience uplifting performances by the world's most amazing dancers."

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The 2015 Lincoln Center engagement opens on Wednesday, **June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** with **The Ailey Spirit Gala** benefit honoring the **Ford Foundation** and sponsored by **FedEx** Corporation. Supermodel and actor **Tyson Beckford** will serve as Honorary Chair for the one-night-only opening performance celebration, which will include the world-renowned Ailey dancers in excerpts of **Matthew Rushing's *ODETTA*** and in **Robert Battle's *Takademe***. The rising stars of **Ailey II** will perform an excerpt of **Manuel Vignoulle's *Breakthrough***, gifted young dancers from **The Ailey School** (ages 6 to 23) will showcase their talents and the breadth of the program's training in a work called **Synergy**, and talented students from **AileyCamp** will perform a work inspired by **Christopher Huggins' *Anointed***. An expanded cast of the present and future stars of Ailey will come together for a memorable finale of **Alvin Ailey's timeless *Revelations***. Following the performance, a dance party on the promenade will be driven by the musical stylings of deejay to the stars, **DJ M.O.S.**

"The Ailey Spirit Gala is the perfect New York night – a world class institution having a world class celebration for a great cause," said Honorary Chair Tyson Beckford. "Seeing Ailey is an unforgettable experience and I am honored and excited to be part of this very special evening."

Attended by prominent figures in the worlds of entertainment, business, philanthropy, and politics, expected guests include Gala Co-Chairs **Gina F. Adams, Ricki Lander, Almaz & Marc S. Strachan, Pamela Zilly & John Schaefer** and **Daria L. & Eric J. Wallach**; Gala Vice Chairs **Michele & Timothy Barakett, Dr. N. Anthony & Robyn Coles**, and **Leslie & Tom Maheras**; and celebrities **Tamron Hall, Naturi Naughton, Condola Rashad, Janet Mock** and **Tituss Burgess**. All guests will have the opportunity to witness the impact of their charitable giving firsthand as Ailey's talented young students take the stage. Gala proceeds support scholarships to The Ailey School and Ailey's Arts In Education & Community Programs—including AileyCamp, an innovative, full-scholarship summer program that uses the art of dance as a means to help young people stretch their minds, bodies and spirits. In all, these programs serve more than 100,000 young people annually. For more information on benefit tickets starting at \$500 call 212-405-9031.

On **Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**, a **Free House Dance Class** will take place on Lincoln Center's Josie Robertson Plaza at **6pm** in connection with Rennie Harris' world premiere, **Exodus**. With support provided by the General Motors Foundation, the class will be led by Ailey Extension House instructor Eddie Stockton, with live music by DJ Calvin Booker. **Exodus**, a world premiere by bold hip-hop choreographer **Rennie Harris** being created especially for the engagement, **will debut on Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**, along with a new production of **Talley Beatty's *Toccata***. The highly anticipated **Exodus**, set to gospel and house music along with poetic narration, explores the idea of "exodus" – from one's ignorance and conformity – as a necessary step toward enlightenment. The work underscores the crucial role of action and movement in effecting change. Exemplifying his view of hip hop as a "celebration of life," **Exodus** marks Harris' latest invitation to return to spiritual basics and affirm who we are. **Toccata**, crafted in 1960, is an episode from **Talley Beatty's** longer work ***Come and Get the Beauty of it Hot***. Described as "set in the streets of New York" and with music by Grammy Award-winner Lalo Schiffrin, the ballet incorporates nuances of classic and other dance styles in a jazz idiom. The June 11<sup>th</sup> performance is also dedicated in loving memory to long-time Ailey Company member **Dudley Williams** (1938-2015), and will include a special performance of "A Song for You," the solo from **Love Songs** that Alvin Ailey created for Mr. Williams in 1972.

The **Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>** program will feature **A Case of You**, an emotional and sensual duet performed to Diana Krall's version of Joni Mitchell's song by the same title from Artistic Director Emerita Judith Jamison's **Reminiscin'** (2005), and the company premiere of **Robert Battle's *No Longer Silent***. Powerful phrases stir the imagination with images of flight and fatigue, chaos and unity, and collectivity and individualism as dancers travel in military rows in **No Longer Silent**. Performed to Erwin Schulhoff's percussive score "Ogelala," Robert Battle created it in 2007 for his alma mater, The Juilliard School, for a concert of choreography that brought to life long-forgotten scores by composers whose work the Nazis had banned.

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Ailey's acclaimed dancers will perform a diverse repertory that includes encore performances of 2014-15 season premieres and new productions by Matthew Rushing, Christopher Wheeldon, Jacquelyn Buglisi, Hofesh Shechter, and Ulysses Dove. The Lincoln Center engagement marks the farewell performances for Ailey stars [Kirven Douthit-Boyd](#) and [Antonio Douthit-Boyd](#), who have become well-known to audiences for their standout performances since joining the Company in 2004, and who were joined in marriage in 2013. The celebrated [Alicia Graf Mack](#) will return to the stage to make her final appearance with the Company at Lincoln Center, in the iconic role carrying the umbrella in the "Wade in the Water" section at the heart of Alvin Ailey's American masterpiece *Revelations* (June 16, 18 & 21).

The *Associated Press* asserted that "...the timing could hardly be more apt for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's new civil rights-themed piece" [ODETTA](#), a 2014-15 season world premiere choreographed by renowned Ailey dancer **Matthew Rushing**. The tribute is set to the musical repertoire of celebrated singer and civil rights activist **Odetta Holmes**, who was known as "the voice of the Civil Rights Movement" and anointed "the queen of American folk music" by Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Christopher Wheeldon's** dreamlike [After the Rain Pas de Deux](#) – praised for its sublime simplicity and intricate partnering – was an instant hit at New York City Ballet in 2005. Set to music by the Estonian composer Arvo Pärt, the sensual male-female *pas de deux* is revealed in a fresh light as the Ailey dancers make it their own.

**Jacquelyn Buglisi's** [Suspended Women](#) is a mesmerizing ensemble piece created in 2000, illuminating the challenges and strength of women across the ages. Set to music by Maurice Ravel, with interpolations composed by Daniel Bernard Roumain, it is recognized as one of the signature works by this celebrated former Martha Graham dancer, choreographer and master teacher.

Created in 2006, **Hofesh Shechter's** acclaimed [Uprising](#) features seven men who bombard the stage with intensity in an exhilarating work set to a percussive score by the choreographer himself. Utilizing a movement style that is primal and imbued with high-tension energy, the 39-year-old Israeli-born Shechter has risen to become one of Europe's most sought-after dance creators since his move to London in 2002.

In a new production of **Ulysses Dove's** [Bad Blood](#), emotional passion and kinetic energy encapsulate the powerful yet extremely tender war between the sexes. The work features music by **Laurie Anderson** and **Peter Gabriel** and was originally staged on Ailey in 1986. It is the fourth of seven ballets mounted on the Company by Dove, who is hailed as one of the most exciting choreographers to emerge in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

In addition to Alvin Ailey's must-see American classic [Revelations](#), other works to be performed include repertory favorites [Night Creature](#), **Alvin Ailey's** homage to the musical genius of eminent American composer Duke Ellington; the spiritually-charged work [Grace](#) by celebrated choreographer **Ronald K. Brown**; [Chroma](#), a 2013 company premiere filled with layered, beautiful dancing and astonishing lifts by multi award-winning British choreographer **Wayne McGregor**; and **Battle's** own high-flying and humorous solo, [Takademe](#).

A free question-and-answer session with Ailey's much-admired dancers will follow the inspiring finale of *Revelations* on the **Family Matinee** performances scheduled for **Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.**

The Lincoln Center season welcomes the return of "Ticket to Dance," which invites audience members to try their first [Ailey Extension](#) class FREE with the presentation of a performance ticket stub (returning students receive a free class with the purchase of a 10-class card). The offer is valid for a year from the performance date. Now in its 10<sup>th</sup> year, The Ailey Extension has fulfilled Alvin Ailey's life-long commitment of bringing dance to everyone by offering "real classes for real people," with over 80 classes per week in more than 25 different dance and fitness techniques.

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Tickets starting at \$25 are on sale at the David H. Koch Box Office, by phone at 212-496-0600, and online at [www.alvinailey.org](http://www.alvinailey.org). For further information about discounts for groups, students, and Ailey's tour performances, please visit [www.alvinailey.org](http://www.alvinailey.org). *Program schedule for engagements in New York, Paris, Johannesburg and Cape Town is detailed below.*

*Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater gratefully acknowledges the support of Diageo*

*The 2014-2015 season is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.*

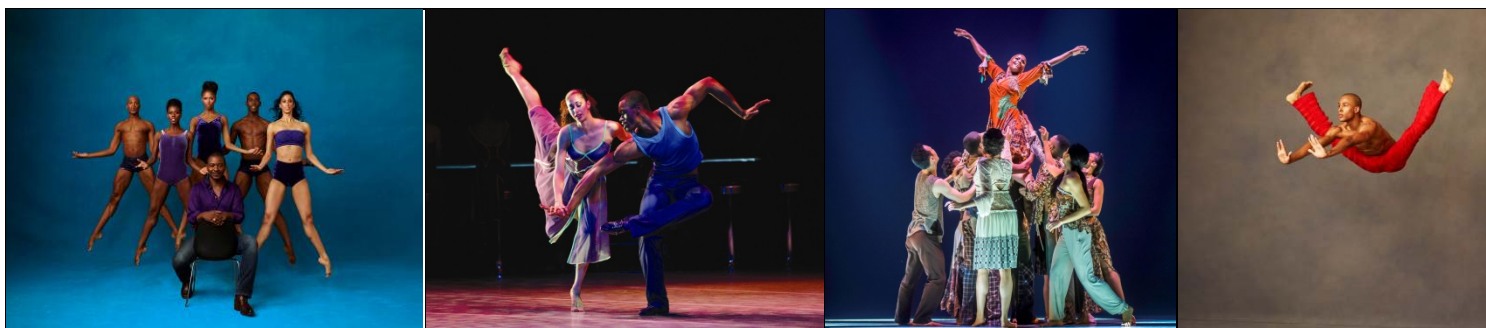
*The Ailey Spirit Gala is sponsored by FedEx Corporation.*

*Ailey's 2015 outreach activities are supported, in part, by the General Motors Foundation.*

*Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Lead Sponsor of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's 2015 South Africa Tour.*

*Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's South Africa Tour is supported by a grant from the Ford Foundation.*

*Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's travel and freight partners for the 2015 South Africa Tour are South African Airways and South African Airways Cargo.*



(L to R) Artistic Director Robert Battle with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater members. Photo by Andrew Eccles; AAADT in Judith Jamison's *A Case of You*. Photo by Paul Kolnik; AAADT in Matthew Rushing's *ODETTA*. Photo by Steve Wilson; AAADT's Yannick Lebrun in Robert Battle's *Takademe*. Photo by Andrew Eccles  
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### **CALENDAR LISTING INFORMATION**

**Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**, beloved as one of the world's most popular dance companies, **will present a two-week, 15-performance engagement at Lincoln Center's David H. Koch Theater June 10-21, 2015.** Led by Artistic Director Robert Battle, Ailey's acclaimed dancers will perform a diverse repertory featuring *Exodus*, a world premiere by bold hip-hop choreographer Rennie Harris, the company premiere of Robert Battle's *No Longer Silent* and new productions of Talley Beatty's *Toccata* and Judith Jamison's *A Case of You* duet from *Reminiscent*. Other highlights include encores of this season's premieres and repertory favorites, including Matthew Rushing's *ODETTA*, Ronald K. Brown's spiritually-charged *Grace* and Alvin Ailey's must-see American masterpiece *Revelations*. **Tickets starting at \$25 are on sale** and can be purchased at the David H. Koch Box Office, by phone at 212-496-0600, or online at [www.alvinailey.org](http://www.alvinailey.org). Student tickets *may* be available on the day of the performance for \$15 at the box office with a valid student ID (one per student – subject to availability). On Saturday afternoons, bring the whole family to enjoy the matinee and stay afterward for a free Q & A with the Ailey dancers in the theater. Additional discounts for groups of 10 or more are now available by phone 212-405-9082 or e-mail [groupsales@alvinailey.org](mailto:groupsales@alvinailey.org). For further information about Ailey's performances, please visit [www.alvinailey.org](http://www.alvinailey.org).

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**Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**  
**June 10 – 21, 2015 at Lincoln Center’s David H. Koch Theater**  
**20 Lincoln Center Plaza, New York, NY (Columbus Avenue at 63rd Street)**  
**(212) 496-0600 / [www.davidhkotheater.com](http://www.davidhkotheater.com)**

**Programming – Subject to Change**

Wednesday, 6/10 – 7:00pm – *The Ailey Spirit Gala* – performances by Ailey Camp, The Ailey School, Ailey II, and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, including *Revelations*

Thursday, 6/11 – 7:30pm *Toccata, After The Rain / Exodus / Revelations*

Friday, 6/12 – 8:00pm *ODETTA / Suspended Women, In/Side\* / Revelations*

\*Saturday, 6/13 – 2:00pm *Toccata, After The Rain / Exodus / Revelations*

\*Family Matinee - followed by a Post-Performance Q&A session with the dancers

Saturday, 6/13 – 8:00pm *Bad Blood / Uprising / ODETTA*

Sunday, 6/14 – 3:00pm *ODETTA / Bad Blood / Revelations*

Sunday, 6/14 – 7:30pm *Toccata, After The Rain / Exodus / Revelations*

Tuesday, 6/16 – 7:30pm *Chroma / Grace / Takademe, Revelations*

Wednesday, 6/17 – 7:30pm *Night Creature, A Case of You / No Longer Silent / Revelations*

Thursday, 6/18 – 7:30pm *Chroma / Grace / Takademe, Revelations*

Friday, 6/19 – 8:00pm *Exodus / Suspended Women, Takademe\* / Revelations*

\*Saturday, 6/20 – 2:00pm *Toccata, After The Rain / Exodus / Revelations*

\*Family Matinee - followed by a Post-Performance Q&A session with the dancers

Saturday, 6/20 – 8:00pm *Night Creature, A Case of You / No Longer Silent / Revelations*

Sunday, 6/21 – 3:00pm *Bad Blood / Uprising / ODETTA*

Sunday, 6/21 – 7:30pm *Exodus, Strange Humors\* / No Longer Silent / Revelations*

**PRESS:**

For additional press materials please visit the links below or [pressroom.alvinailey.org](http://pressroom.alvinailey.org)

[Season Images](#)

[Sizzle Reel For Broadcast](#)

[Electronic Press Kit](#)

**The 2015 Lincoln Center Engagement: Highlights**

Artistic Director Robert Battle and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater will present a two-week 15-performance engagement at Lincoln Center’s David H. Koch Theater from June 10<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015. Led by Artistic Director Robert Battle, Ailey’s acclaimed dancers will perform a diverse repertory featuring *Exodus*, a world premiere by bold hip-hop choreographer Rennie Harris, the company premiere of Robert Battle’s *No Longer Silent* and new productions of Talley Beatty’s *Toccata* and Judith Jamison’s *A Case of You* duet from *Reminiscin’*. Other highlights include encores of this season’s premieres and repertory favorites, including Matthew Rushing’s *ODETTA*, Ronald K. Brown’s spiritually-charged *Grace*, and Alvin Ailey’s must-see American masterpiece *Revelations*.

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## WORLD PREMIERES

### ***Exodus*** (World Premiere)

**Choreography by Rennie Harris**

**Music: Original compositions by Raphael Xavier. "A New Deal" by Ost & Kjex.**

Acclaimed hip-hop choreographer **Rennie (Lorenzo) Harris** creates a highly-anticipated world premiere that explores the idea of "exodus" – from one's ignorance and conformity – as a necessary step toward enlightenment. Set to gospel and house music along with spoken word, the work underscores the crucial role of action and movement in effecting change. Exemplifying his view of hip hop as a "celebration of life," *Exodus* marks Harris' latest invitation to return to spiritual basics and affirm who we are. His previous contributions to the Ailey repertory include *Home* (2011) and *Love Stories* (2004), an acclaimed collaboration with Judith Jamison and Robert Battle.

### ***ODETTA*** (2014)

**Choreography by Matthew Rushing**

**Music: Odetta Holmes**

**Odetta Holmes** – one of the most influential singers of the 20th century – is rediscovered as renowned Ailey dancer **Matthew Rushing** marries soul-stirring movement to songs by the artist anointed "the queen of American folk music" by Martin Luther King, Jr. Rushing's world premiere for Ailey, created with the support of commissioning funds from **New York City Center**, will pay tribute to Holmes's life as a singer, songwriter, actress, activist and "the voice of the Civil Rights Movement" in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil Rights Act. With a musical repertoire encompassing American folk music, blues, jazz, and spirituals, Odetta influenced many key figures of the 1960s folk-revival scene, including Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Mavis Staples, and Janis Joplin. Her song "Take This Hammer" was included on *TIME* magazine's list of the All-Time 100 Songs. *ODETTA* is Matthew Rushing's third ballet created for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater following *Acceptance In Surrender* (2005), a collaboration with Hope Boykin and Abdur Rahim-Jackson, and *Uptown* (2010), a celebration of the Harlem Renaissance. **Matthew Rushing comments:** "Last year, Robert Battle approached me about choreographing a ballet to the music of Odetta Holmes and I jumped at the chance! I created *ODETTA* to give homage to a musician, a vocal artist, a humanitarian, and a civil rights activist. After spending much time researching her work, listening to countless albums, and watching a great deal of interview footage, I decided on a selection of songs that became the building blocks of the ballet. I'm so excited to share Odetta's legacy through the art of dance. I want to introduce her to Ailey audiences around the world, so that she may continue to impact and change lives through Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater."

## COMPANY PREMIERES & NEW PRODUCTIONS

***A Case of You*** (excerpt from *Reminiscin'* – 2005 / New Production – 2015)

**Choreography by Judith Jamison**

**Music: Joni Mitchell, Performed by Diana Krall**

***A Case of You*** is an emotional and sensual duet by Judith Jamison, performed to Diana Krall's version of Joni Mitchell's song by the same title. The duet was originally created in 2004 as a birthday tribute to Chairman Emerita Joan Weill and premiered publicly the following year as part of Ms. Jamison's larger work, *Reminiscin'*, inspired by Edward Hopper's famous painting *Nighthawks* and great female jazz artists.

***No Longer Silent*** (2007 / Ailey Company Premiere 2015)

**Choreography: Robert Battle**

**Music: Erwin Schulhoff**

***No Longer Silent*** is a large ensemble work featuring the imaginative interplay of four groups of dancers evoking a complex and mysterious ritual to Erwin Schulhoff's percussive score "Ogelala." Originally created in 2007 for The Juilliard School, **Robert Battle's** alma mater, it was part of a concert of choreography that brought to life long-forgotten scores by composers whose work the Nazis had banned. Powerful phrases stir the imagination with images of flight and fatigue, chaos and unity, and collectivity and individualism as dancers travel in military rows. Created between 1922-1924, the music tells the story of a pre-Columbian Mexican warrior and its ever-shifting mechanical cadence is the backdrop against which the dancers, dressed in all black, dramatically build to the work's piercing conclusion. Lamentably, the composer was denied employment after the Germans occupied Czechoslovakia and, after being prevented from emigrating, died of tuberculosis in the Wülzburg concentration camp in 1942.

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**Toccata** (1960 / New Production 2015)

**Choreography by Talley Beatty**

**Music: Lalo Schiffrin (“Gillespiana”)**

An episode from **Talley Beatty’s** longer work *Come and Get the Beauty of it Hot*, *Toccata* is described as “set in streets of New York” and incorporates nuances of classic and other dance styles in a jazz idiom. Set to music by Grammy Award-winning Argentine composer **Lalo Schiffrin**, the piece contains a sequence of ensembles, duets and trios that are danced in an almost declamatory manner as the dancers project their movements toward the audience and seldom toward themselves. Talley Beatty (1918-1995) began his career as dancer with the Katherine Dunham Company and toured Europe, the US, and Canada with his own company. He appeared in films, Broadway shows, and was nominated for a 1977 Tony Award as Best Choreographer for *Your Arm’s Too Short to Box with God*. Dance companies that have mounted his ballets include: Dance Theatre of Harlem, Batsheva Dance Company, Koln Opera Ballet, Boston Ballet, Stockholm Dance Theatre and Ballet Hispanico. The Ailey company has staged a number of his major works, including *The Road of the Phoebe Snow* (1959), *Come and Get the Beauty of it Hot* (1960), *The Stack-Up* (1983), and *Blueshift* (1984).

**After the Rain Pas de Deux** (2005)

**Choreography by Christopher Wheeldon**

**Music: Arvo Pärt**

An instant hit at New York City Ballet in 2005, **Christopher Wheeldon’s** dreamlike duet – praised for its sublime simplicity and intricate partnering – is revealed in a fresh light as the Ailey dancers make it their own. Set to music by the Estonian composer Arvo Pärt, the sensual male-female *pas de deux* has resonated deeply with audiences and will be the first work by Christopher Wheeldon to enter the Ailey repertory. *Dance Magazine* described *After the Rain* as “an intelligently, masterfully choreographed ballet that strikes an emotional chord. The still point at the heart of the work lingers long after the curtain has descended.” **Robert Battle comments:** “Usually set on more classical companies, it has a very modern sensibility, in the way Wheeldon uses the torso and the shifting of weight. It’s minimal yet passionate, and every gesture is completely necessary to the way it captures the beauty, complexity and simplicity of relationships.”

**Suspended Women** (2000)

**Choreography by Jacquelyn Buglisi**

**Music: Maurice Ravel, Music interpolations by Daniel Bernard Roumain**

A mesmerizing ensemble work illuminating the challenges and strength of women across the ages, **Jacquelyn Buglisi’s** *Suspended Women* is set to music by Maurice Ravel, with interpolations composed by Daniel Bernard Roumain. Created in 2000 and now recognized as one of Buglisi’s signature works, it is the first piece by this celebrated former Martha Graham dancer, choreographer and master teacher to be performed by Ailey. Called a “...complicated delight...” by *New York* magazine, *Dance Magazine* described Buglisi’s choreography as a series of “images that seduce the eye as much as the imagination, with shapes, luminous textures, and stilled moments in time that offer an adventure in perception.” **Robert Battle comments:** “This piece shows archetypes of women throughout history—the challenges they’ve endured and continue to endure. It’s very virtuosic, but it also has a wonderful sense of drama, evoking strength, vulnerability and sisterhood. All of that makes it perfect for the women of Ailey.”

**Uprising** (2006)

**Choreography by Hofesh Shechter**

**Music: Hofesh Shechter, additional music by Vex’d**

Created in 2006, **Hofesh Shechter’s** critically-acclaimed *Uprising* features seven men who bombard the stage with intensity in an exhilarating work set to a percussive score by the choreographer himself. Utilizing a movement style that is primal and imbued with a certain high-tension energy, and a natural ability to deal with big themes, the 39-year-old Israeli-born Shechter has risen to become one of Europe’s most sought-after dance creators since his move to London in 2002. *Uprising* is the first work by Shechter to enter the Ailey repertory. **Robert Battle comments:** “Shechter’s work is very physical and almost primal. In *Uprising* he was inspired by the dynamics of urban unrest, so it explores the human instinct for aggression and how that manifests—how camaraderie and kids’ games can escalate into something more dangerous. I’m curious to see what the men in our company will bring to the piece, and what audiences will take away.”

**Bad Blood** (1986)

**Choreography by Ulysses Dove**

**Music: Laurie Anderson and Peter Gabriel**

In *Bad Blood*, emotional passion and kinetic, athletic energy encapsulate the powerful yet extremely tender war between the sexes, asking the question “can we be a duo and an individual at the same time?” With music by Laurie Anderson and Peter Gabriel, *Bad Blood* was the precursor to two other phenomenal **Ulysses Dove** ballets on the same theme, *Episodes* and *Urban Folk Dance*, and the fourth of what would eventually be seven Dove ballets performed by the Ailey dancers. Ulysses Dove has been hailed as one of the most exciting choreographers to emerge in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, renowned for a style that merged the influences of his choreographic mentors, Alvin Ailey and Merce Cunningham. **Robert Battle comments:** “Dove was a risk taker, and he was very urgent about what he had to say. He uses minimal language to make profound statements about relationships, both brutal and tender. I feel his life force in the work; every time I watch it I’m on the edge of my seat.”

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## **REPERTORY FAVORITES**

**Strange Humors** (1998/Ailey Company Premiere 2012)

**Choreography: Robert Battle**

**Music: John Mackey**

**Artistic Director Robert Battle's *Strange Humors*** is a thrillingly intense duet set to **John Mackey's** propulsive score for strings and African drum. This riveting company premiere pits two men against each other in surprising sequences that ignite with aggression and discord, mischievousness and humor, as the relationship between the two dancers builds to an exciting crescendo.

**In/Side** (2008/Ailey Company Premiere 2009)

**Choreography: Robert Battle**

**Music: Nina Simone**

The vivid emotions of **Nina Simone's** "Wild is the Wind" play out in **Robert Battle's** gripping solo. The bold, unrestrained style that has become his signature is evinced in this visceral cry of pure physicality.

**Chroma** (2006/Ailey Company Premiere 2013)

**Choreography: Wayne McGregor**

**Music: Jack White III**

Filled with layered, beautiful dancing and astonishing lifts, *Chroma* marks the first time a work by multi award-winning British choreographer **Wayne McGregor** appears in the Ailey repertory. Created in 2006 for The Royal Ballet, the piece has a driving score by **Joby Talbot** and orchestrations of music by **Jack White III of The White Stripes** and a luminous set by minimalist architect **John Pawson**.

**Takademe** (1999 / Ailey Company Premiere 2011)

**Choreography by Robert Battle**

**Music: Sheila Chandra**

The complex, tightly woven rhythms of Indian Kathak dance are deconstructed and abstracted in this percussive, fast-paced work, where clear shapes and propulsive jumps mimic the vocalized rhythmic syllables of Sheila Chandra's jazzy score.

**Grace** (1999 / New Production - 2012)

**Choreography by Ronald K. Brown**

**Music: Duke Ellington, Roy Davis Jr., Paul Johnson & Fela Anikulapo Kuti**

This landmark creation for Ailey returned to the Ailey repertory in a rapturous, spiritually-charged new production for the 2012-13 season. Infused with Brown's signature blend of modern dance and West African idioms, this moving journey acknowledging the grace that surrounds us all is set to Duke Ellington's classic "Come Sunday," Roy Davis' hit "Gabriel," and the powerful rhythms of Fela Kuti's Afro-Pop.

**Night Creature** (1975)

**Choreography by Alvin Ailey**

**Music: Duke Ellington**

A bubbly champagne cocktail of a dance, *Night Creature* perfectly fuses **Alvin Ailey's** buoyant choreography and **Duke Ellington's** sparkling music in a definitive homage to The Duke's jazz that remains one of Mr. Ailey's most popular works. Ellington said "night creatures, unlike stars, do not come OUT at night— they come ON, each thinking that, before the night is out, he or she will be the star." The large ensemble work is full of stars - strutting, leaping and slinking using modern dance, classical ballet and jazz.

**Revelations** (1960)

**Choreography by Alvin Ailey**

**Music: Traditional Spirituals**

More than just a popular dance work, *Revelations* has become a cultural treasure, beloved by generations of fans. An American classic acclaimed as a must-see for all, **Alvin Ailey's** signature masterpiece is a tribute to his heritage and genius. Using African-American spirituals, the work fervently explores the places of deepest grief and holiest joy in the soul. Seeing *Revelations* for the first time or the hundredth can be a transcendent experience, with audiences cheering, singing along and dancing in their seats from the opening notes of the plaintive "I Been 'Buked" to the rousing "Wade in the Water" and the triumphant finale, "Rocka My Soul in the Bosom of Abraham."

-more-



**Paris, France July 7-August 1 Théâtre du Châtelet (+33) 1 40 28 28 28 / [www.chatelet-theatre.com](http://www.chatelet-theatre.com)**

Tuesday, 7/7 – 8:00pm *LIFT / After the Rain Pas de Deux, Four Corners / Revelations*  
Wednesday, 7/8 – 2:00pm *D-Man in the Waters, Revelations*  
Wednesday, 7/8 – 8:00pm *Polish Pieces, Strange Humors / D-Man in the Waters, Takademe / Grace*  
Thursday, 7/9 – 8:00pm GALA: excerpts of *LIFT, Polish Pieces, Strange Humors, Four Corners, Bad Blood, After the Rain Pas de Deux, Awassa Astrige/Ostrich*, excerpts of *Grace / Revelations*  
Friday, 7/10 – 8:00pm *Home / After the Rain Pas de Deux, The Hunt / Minus 16*  
Saturday, 7/11 – 3:00pm *LIFT / Pas de Duke, Four Corners / Revelations*  
Saturday, 7/11 – 8:00pm *Polish Pieces, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Pas de Duke, The Hunt / Grace*  
Monday, 7/13 – 8:00pm *LIFT / Awassa Astrige/Ostrich, Bad Blood / Minus 16*  
Tuesday, 7/14 – 8:00pm *Night Creature, Pas de Duke / The River / Revelations*  
Wednesday, 7/15 – 8:00pm *Four Corners, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Bad Blood / Home*  
Thursday, 7/16 – 8:00pm *Exodus / Four Corners, Takademe / LIFT*  
Friday, 7/17 – 8:00pm *Polish Pieces, Strange Humors / D-Man in the Waters, Takademe / Home*  
Saturday, 7/18 – 3:00pm *Night Creature, Pas de Duke / The River / Revelations*  
Saturday, 7/18 – 8:00pm *Exodus / Grace / LIFT*  
Monday, 7/20 – 8:00pm *Bad Blood, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Grace / Revelations*  
Tuesday, 7/21 – 8:00pm *Polish Pieces, Strange Humors / After the Rain Pas de Deux, The Hunt / Home*  
Wednesday, 7/22 – 8:00pm *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Minus 16*  
Thursday, 7/23 – 8:00pm *Polish Pieces, Awassa Astrige/Ostrich / D-Man in the Waters, Takademe / Grace*  
Friday, 7/24 – 8:00pm *Night Creature, Pas de Duke / The River / Revelations*  
Saturday, 7/25 – 3:00pm *LIFT / Exodus / Revelations*  
Saturday, 7/25 – 8:00pm *Grace / After the Rain Pas de Deux, The Hunt / Minus 16*  
Monday, 7/27 – 8:00pm *Polish Pieces, Pas de Duke / Strange Humors, Four Corners / Home*  
Tuesday, 7/28 – 8:00pm *D-Man in the Waters, Takademe / Exodus / Minus 16*  
Wednesday, 7/29 – 8:00pm *Bad Blood / After the Rain Pas de Deux, The Hunt / LIFT*  
Thursday, 7/30 – 8:00pm *Night Creature, Pas de Duke / The River / Revelations*  
Friday, 7/31 – 8:00pm *Grace / After the Rain Pas de Deux, Bad Blood / Minus 16*  
Saturday, 8/1 – 3:00pm *Polish Pieces, Awassa Astrige/Ostrich / Takademe, Four Corners / Home*  
Saturday, 8/1 – 8:00pm *LIFT / Grace / After the Rain Pas de Deux, Revelations*

**Johannesburg, South Africa September 3-13 Teatro at Montecasino +27 11 510 7000 / [www.montecasino.co.za](http://www.montecasino.co.za)**

Thursday, 9/3 @ 8:00pm A: *Polish Pieces, Takademe / Grace / Revelations*  
Friday, 9/4 @ 8:00pm B: *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Revelations*  
Saturday, 9/5 @ 2:00pm A: *Polish Pieces, Takademe / Grace / Revelations*  
Saturday, 9/5 @ 8:00pm B: *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Revelations*  
Sunday, 9/6 @ 1:30pm A: *Polish Pieces, Takademe / Grace / Revelations*  
Sunday, 9/6 @ 6:30pm B: *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Revelations*  
Wednesday, 9/9 @ 8:00pm A: *Polish Pieces, Takademe / Grace / Revelations*  
Thursday, 9/10 @ 8:00pm B: *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Revelations*  
Friday, 9/11 @ 8:00pm A: *Polish Pieces, Takademe / Grace / Revelations*  
Saturday, 9/12 @ 2:00pm B: *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Revelations*  
Saturday, 9/12 @ 8:00pm A: *Polish Pieces, Takademe / Grace / Revelations*  
Sunday, 9/13 @ 1:30pm B: *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Revelations*  
Sunday, 9/13 @ 6:30pm A: *Polish Pieces, Takademe / Grace / Revelations*

**Cape Town, South Africa September 16 – September 20 - Opera House, Artscape +27 21 410-9800 / [www.artscape.co.za/venues/opera-house](http://www.artscape.co.za/venues/opera-house)**

Wednesday, 9/16 @ 8:00pm B: *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Revelations*  
Thursday, 9/17 @ 8:00pm A: *Polish Pieces, Takademe / Grace / Revelations*  
Friday, 9/18 @ 8:00pm B: *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Revelations*  
Saturday, 9/19 @ 2:00pm A: *Polish Pieces, Takademe / Grace / Revelations*  
Saturday, 9/19 @ 8:00pm B: *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Revelations*  
Sunday, 9/20 @ 1:30pm A: *Polish Pieces, Takademe / Grace / Revelations*  
Sunday, 9/20 @ 6:30pm B: *Night Creature, After the Rain Pas de Deux / Exodus / Revelations*

**All Programming – Subject to Change**

## **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, 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](http://www.alvinailey.org).

## **ABOUT BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES**

Bloomberg Philanthropies’ mission is to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organization focuses on five key areas for creating lasting change: Public Health, Environment, Education, Government Innovation and the Arts. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg’s charitable activities, including his foundation and his personal giving. In 2014, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed \$462 million. For more information on the philanthropy, please visit [bloomberg.org](http://bloomberg.org) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter @BloombergDotOrg](#).

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