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[Alvin Ailey Celebrates Its 65th Season With Tribute to Ailey Women](#)

By: Rachel Sherman

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Revivals of works by [Ronald K. Brown](#) and [Jamar Roberts](#) and world premieres by [Amy Hall Garner](#) and [Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrish](#) will come to the City Center stage for Alvin Ailey Dance Company's winter season, the company announced Thursday.

The season — the company's 65th — runs from Nov. 29 to Dec. 31, and is dedicated to the women of Ailey, including a program on Dec. 19 that pays tribute to the choreographers and dance educators who helped shaped the organization: [Carmen de Lavallade](#), [Judith Jamison](#), [Denise Jefferson](#) and [Sylvia Waters](#).

"It's really about honoring the strength and vision and guidance of these strong women who have made it possible for us to still be here," said Robert Battle, the company's artistic director.

The full-length, five-week holiday season will begin with an opening night gala honoring Jamison, the company's artistic director emeritus, and will present a to-be-announced new work before closing with the Ailey classic "[Revelations](#)" (1960). The season continues with a world premiere of a ballet by Battle, drawing from folk and modern dance styles, with an original score by the composer John Mackey, a longtime collaborator. The company will also present the debuts of Garner's "Century," inspired by her grandfather's 100th birthday, set to music by Ray Charles, Count Basie and the Dirty Dozen Brass Band; and Roxas-Dobrish's "Me, Myself and You," a dreamlike duet about a woman asking herself if she should let go or forge ahead.

Also on the lineup are Brown's "Dancing Spirit" (2009), a tribute to Jamison's elegance, set to music by Duke Ellington, Wynton Marsalis and War; [Alonzo King's](#) neoclassical work, "Following the Subtle Current Upstream," which asks the question, "How do we return to joy?"; Twyla Tharp's "Roy's Joys," set to music by Roy Eldridge; the Dutch choreographer Hans van Manen's "Solo," for three dancers, set to a Bach violin suite; and Roberts's "Ode," a meditation on the fragility of life in a time of increased gun violence. The dance, set to a jazz score, will be staged with an all-female cast.

The season will also present Ailey classics, including "Cry" (1971), an early work dedicated to Black women and mothers; "Night Creature" (1975); and "Memoria" (1979); along with the return of more recent hits: Kyle Abraham's "[Are You in Your Feelings?](#)" (2022) and Roberts's "In a Sentimental Mood" (2022).

"Being with our audience in the same space, at the same time, is to me an expression of returning to joy," Battle said. "And that, to me, encapsulates what this season is all about."