



ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

AILEY II | THE AILEY SCHOOL | AILEY ARTS IN EDUCATION & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS | AILEY EXTENSION
The Joan Weill Center for Dance 405 West 55th St, New York NY 10019-4402 (212) 405-9000 AlvinAiley.org

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER 2024 UNITED STATES TOUR BRINGS CELEBRATORY 65TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON TO 21 CITIES, JANUARY 25 – MAY 12 WITH EXCITING NEW WORKS AND ALVIN AILEY'S TIMELESS *REVELATIONS*

Coast-to-Coast Performances Feature the Company's Extraordinary Dancers in the Season Premieres
CENTURY from Amy Hall Garner and *Me, Myself and You* by Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrish

Other Highlights Include New Productions of Ronald K. Brown's *Dancing Spirit*, Alonzo King's *Following the Subtle Current Upstream*, Jamar Roberts's *Ode*, Hans van Manen's *Solo* and a special Ailey Classics program



Photo Credits (L to R): Members of the Company in Alvin Ailey's *For 'Bird' - With Love*. Photo by Dario Calmese; 2023-2024 Season Image. Photo by Dario Calmese; Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Chalvar Monteiro and Jacquelin Harris in Amy Hall Garner's *CENTURY*. Photo by Paul Kolnik.

NEW YORK – January 24, 2024 — After an acclaimed [65th Anniversary season](#) launch in New York City, [Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater](#) – beloved as one of the world's most popular dance companies – will continue to grace stages during a **21-city United States tour starting January 25 in Atlanta** and continues coast-to-coast to cities like **Washington, D.C., Miami, Boston, Chicago, Houston and Los Angeles, before culminating with a Mother's Day performance in Newark on May 12.** The passionate spirit and extraordinary technique of Ailey's dancers will be showcased in a diverse repertoire of new works, repertoire favorites, and Ailey classics.

The tour will include two season premieres specially commissioned for Ailey, **Amy Hall Garner's** first work for the Company, [CENTURY](#), and former Ailey dancer **Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrish's** duet [Me, Myself and You](#). *CENTURY* is a deeply personal piece inspired by Hall Garner's grandfather on the eve of his 100th birthday. Taking a cue from his spirited essence and set to the music of Ray Charles, Count Basie, The Dirty Dozen Brass Band, and more, *CENTURY* is a celebration of life, resilience, and joy. *Me, Myself and You* is a dreamlike dance about reminiscence. Set to Damien Sneed and Brandie Sutton's rendition of "In A Sentimental Mood," it conjures the memories of love and passion of a woman who is asking herself if she should let go or forge ahead.

New productions this season include **Ronald K. Brown's** [Dancing Spirit](#), set to music by Duke Ellington, Wynton Marsalis, and War. A work that contributes to the 65th Anniversary theme of paying tribute to the women of Ailey, *Dancing Spirit* evokes the elegance, dignity, and generosity of legendary Artistic Director Emerita Judith Jamison. Other new productions are **Alonzo King's** [Following the Subtle Current Upstream](#), an audacious, non-stop piece with movement that is abstract but steeped in meaning that mirrors life's boisterous waves; **Jamar Roberts's** [Ode](#), a meditation on the beauty and fragility of life in a time of gun violence, set to Don Pullen's *Suite (Sweet) Malcolm (Part 1 Memories and Gunshots)* with an all-female cast; and the seven-minute tour-de-force [Solo](#) by **Hans van Manen**, the internationally celebrated choreographer long associated with the Dutch National Ballet.

This season's beloved [Ailey Classics](#) program highlights a selection of repertory spanning the breadth of Mr. Ailey's rich catalog, including excerpts of *Memoria*, *Night Creature* (sections 2&3), *Pas de Duke* (1st song), *Masekela Langage* (Morolo), *Opus McShann* (Gee Baby), *Opus McShann* (Doo Wah), *Love Songs* (A Song for You), *For 'Bird' – With Love* (A Night in Tunisia), *Hidden Rites* (Of Love), *For 'Bird' – With Love* (Bird Lives).

Performances of **Alvin Ailey's** must-see American masterpiece [Revelations](#) will inspire audiences in every city on the tour. Since its creation in 1960, *Revelations* has been seen by more people around the world than any other modern dance work, moving audiences with its powerful storytelling and soul-stirring music and evoking timeless themes of determination, hope, and transcendence. Springing from Ailey's childhood memories of growing up in the south and attending services at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Texas, *Revelations* pays homage to the rich cultural heritage of the African American community and explores the emotional spectrum of the human condition.

Additional Tour Activities

The Ailey Organization continues its mission of using dance to educate young people through special activities, including **master classes, student performances, lecture-demonstrations** throughout the tour, innovative **curriculum-based residencies** for public school students, and **AileyDance for Active Aging workshops for adults 50+**. The [Revelations: An Interdisciplinary Approach residency](#) uses Alvin Ailey's signature work as the inspirational framework for a comprehensive study of language arts, social studies, and dance. The innovative program actively engages participants in a process of reflecting, discussing, creating, performing, and assessing, while exploring the life story of Alvin Ailey and *Revelations*. In conjunction with the tour, residences are being implemented in **Atlanta, Auburn, Los Angeles and Miami**. In addition, students from [AileyCamp](#)— a free summer program that helps youth reach their full potential— will experience the magic of the Company's live performances. The award-winning program celebrating its 35th birthday is operating in 10 cities across the country: **Atlanta, Baltimore, Berkeley/Oakland, Chicago, Kansas City (KS and MO), Miami, New York City (Bronx), Newark, and Seattle**.

[The Ailey School](#), the official school of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater offering world-class dance training to students ages 3-25, **will conduct auditions for the 2024-2025 academic programs as well as the 2024 summer intensive** at tour cities including **Atlanta, Boston, Birmingham, Baltimore/DMV area, Miami, Los Angeles, and Houston**. The mission of The Ailey School is to make dance accessible to outstanding students through a curriculum of rigorous and diversified dance training. Nearly 80% of current Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater members received their pre-professional training from The Ailey School. For further information regarding the audition schedule, please click [here](#).

[Ailey II](#), the next generation of dance providing a bridge between The Ailey School and the professional dance world, will mark its 50th anniversary of bringing "off-the-charts energy" to the stage by **embarking on a world tour from January 20 – May 19**, inspiring audiences from Rotterdam, Netherlands to Kansas City, Missouri. Click [here](#) for 2024 tour schedule.

In conjunction with the tour, [Ailey Extension](#) will also step out of New York City and into select cities across the country to offer dance workshops to teens and adults of all backgrounds and levels. Designed to expand Alvin Ailey's life-long commitment of bringing dance to everyone, **Ailey Experience** workshops teach students the rich history of Ailey's signature style, which changed the perception of modern American dance around the world. From January through August, former Ailey dancers and world class instructors will lead Ailey Experience workshops in several cities, including **Atlanta, Chicago, Houston, Philadelphia, and Washington DC**. Click [here](#) for more information. Meanwhile, audiences around the world can get moving with Ailey Extension's daily "real classes for real people" in a variety of dance and fitness techniques **either online** or in-studio at the Joan Weill Center for Dance – New York's largest building dedicated to dance – please visit alvinailey.org/extension.

The capstone to the 65th anniversary season will be [Edges of Ailey](#), the first large-scale museum exhibition to reflect on the life, work, and legacy of visionary artist Alvin Ailey, in collaboration with Whitney Museum of American Art. Presented in the Museum's 18,000+ square-foot fifth-floor galleries, this multifaceted presentation encompasses a multimedia exhibition, daily performance program, and scholarly catalogue to offer a richly layered experience for understanding the artist anew.

In 1958, Alvin Ailey and a small group of dancers took the stage in New York and forever changed American dance and culture. One of the country's groundbreaking greats, his Company earned a reputation as one of the finest international ambassadors of American culture, promoting the uniqueness of the African American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of American modern dance.

For more **information** on Ailey's upcoming performances, visit www.alvinailey.org.

For additional **press materials, including bios, b-roll, and photos**, members of the media may visit pressroom.alvinailey.org.

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Calendar Listing Information

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, one of the world's most beloved dance companies, embarks on a national tour January 25 – May 12, 2024. Ailey's extraordinary dancers will move audiences with world premieres, new productions, repertory favorites, and classics like the American masterpiece *Revelations*, acclaimed as a must-see for all. For more information, visit www.alvinailey.org.

Bank of America is Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's North American Tour Sponsor.

The 2024 National Tour is supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The world premiere of *CENTURY* is made possible with support from Maury & Joseph Bohan, The Ellen Jewett & Richard L. Kaufman Endowment Fund, and the Pamela D. Zilly and John H. Schaefer Endowment Fund.

The creation of *Me, Myself and You* is supported by commissioning funds from New York City Center.

The world premiere of *Me, Myself and You* is made possible with support from Celestine & Howard Campbell, and The Fred Eychaner New Works Endowment Fund.

Generous support for this new production of *Dancing Spirit* was received from an Anonymous supporter, Judith McDonough Kaminski & Joseph Kaminski, Sara & Bill Morgan New Works Endowment Fund, Dr. Crawford Parker, and the Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey through the generosity of its donors.

***Ode* was made possible with generous support from Kathleen & Ernest Abrahamson, Simin N. Allison, Judith McDonough Kaminski & Joseph Kaminski, Denise Littlefield Sobel, Daria L. & Eric J. Wallach, Tracy Elise Poole, and The Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn & Nicolas Rohatyn New Works Endowment Fund.**

The creation of *Ode* was supported by commissioning funds from New York City Center.

This new production of *Solo* is made possible by the Red Moose Charitable Fund.

The creation of *Are You in Your Feelings?* was supported by commissioning funds from New York City Center. The world premiere of *Are You in Your Feelings?* was made possible with major support from Michele & Timothy Barakett, Melinda & Paul Pressler, Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn & Nicolas S. Rohatyn New Works Endowment Fund, and The Pamela D. Zilly & John H. Schaefer Endowment Fund.

Additional support was provided by an Anonymous Supporter, The Fred Eychaner New Works Endowment Fund and The Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey – Sara and Bill Morgan New Works Endowment Fund.

Generous support for *Reflections in D* was received from Laren and Jesse Brill.

All performances of *Revelations* are permanently endowed by a generous gift from Donald L. Jonas in celebration of the birthday of his wife, Barbara, and her deep commitment to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

Major support of this production of *Survivors* is made possible by Judith McDonough Kaminski & Joseph Kaminski, and Daria L. & Eric J. Wallach.

2024 Tour Dates and Venues (subject to change)

Jan 25-27	Atlanta, GA	<u>The Fox Theatre</u>
Jan 30-31	Orlando, FL	<u>Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts</u>
Feb 2-3	Miami, FL	<u>Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts</u>
Feb 6-11	Washington, DC	<u>Opera House, The John F. Kennedy Center</u>
Feb 17	Birmingham, AL	<u>BJCC Concert Hall, The University of Alabama Birmingham</u>
Feb 20-21	Auburn, AL	<u>Jay and Susie Gogue Performing Arts Center, Auburn University</u>
Feb 23-25	Philadelphia, PA	<u>Academy of Music, Kimmel Cultural Campus</u>
Feb 27-28	Chapel Hill, NC	<u>Memorial Hall, UNC Chapel Hill</u>
Mar 12-3	Austin, TX	<u>Bass Concert Hall, University of Texas Austin</u>
Mar 5	San Antonio, TX	<u>Tobin Center for the Performing Arts</u>
Mar 7-9	Houston, TX	<u>Jones Hall for the Performing Arts</u>
Mar 12-13	Portland, OR	<u>Keller Auditorium</u>
Mar 15-17	Seattle, WA	<u>Paramount Theatre</u>
Mar 20-24	Los Angeles, CA	<u>Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, LA Music Center</u>
Apr 2-7	Berkeley, CA	<u>Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley</u>
Apr 17-21	Chicago, IL	<u>Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University</u>
Apr 23 -24	Midland, MI	<u>Midland Center for the Arts</u>
Apr 26-28	Nashville, TN	<u>Tennessee Performing Arts Center</u>
Apr 30	Portland, ME	<u>Merrill Auditorium</u>
May 2-5	Boston, MA	<u>Boch Center Wang Theatre</u>
May 10-12	Newark, NJ	<u>Prudential Hall, New Jersey Performing Arts Center</u>

NEW WORKS

CENTURY

Choreography by Amy Hall Garner

Music: Various Artists

Amy Hall Garner's first work for Ailey is a deeply personal piece inspired by her grandfather on the eve of his 100th birthday. Taking a cue from his spirited essence and set to the music of Ray Charles, Count Basie, The Dirty Dozen Brass Band, and more, *CENTURY* is a pure dance work celebrating life, resilience, and joy.

Me, Myself and You

Choreography by Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrich

Music: Duke Ellington

A dreamlike duet by former Ailey dancer Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrich, *Me, Myself and You* is a dance about reminiscence. Set to Damien Sneed and Brandie Sutton's rendition of "In A Sentimental Mood," it conjures the memories of love and passion for a woman asking herself if she should let go or forge ahead.

NEW PRODUCTIONS

Dancing Spirit (2009)

Choreography by Ronald K. Brown

Music: Duke Ellington, Wynton Marsalis, Radiohead, War

Ronald K. Brown pays tribute to Judith Jamison's profound influence with a moving work that echoes the title of Jamison's autobiography. Set to music by Duke Ellington, Wynton Marsalis, and War, Brown's evocative choreography uses movement from Cuba, Brazil, and the United States to conjure dancing spirits who embody Jamison's elegance, dignity, and generosity.

Following the Subtle Current Upstream (2000)

Choreography by Alonzo King

Music: Zakir Hussain, Miguel Frascón, and Miriam Makeba

Alonzo King's work investigates deeply rooted affinities between Western and Eastern classical forms, elemental materials, the natural world, and the human spirit. Described by choreographer Alonzo King as "a piece about how to return to joy," *Following the Subtle Current Upstream* mirrors life's boisterous waves and reminds us that everything in nature seeks to return to its source. King's movement -- abstract but steeped in meaning -- sets the dancers in constant flow to an eclectic score by Zakir Hussain, Miguel Frascón, and Miriam Makeba.

Ode (2019)

Choreography by Jamar Roberts

Music: Don Pullen

Former Ailey dancer Jamar Roberts offers a meditation on the beauty and fragility of life in a time of growing gun violence. This tender, engrossing work will be staged with an all-female cast and features a jazz score—Don Pullen's "Suite (Sweet) Malcolm (Part 1 Memories and Gunshots)"—and Roberts's own costume designs.

Solo (1997)

Choreography by Hans van Manen

Music: Johann Sebastian Bach

Hans van Manen divides his dynamic *Solo* among three dancers in a tour-de-force that challenges the Ailey men's daring, agility, and grace. This explosive display of virtuosity and wit, set to a Bach violin suite, launches the performers into an exhilarating whirlwind of movement and musicality.

RETURNING FAVORITES

Are You in Your Feelings? (2022)

Choreography by Kyle Abraham

Music: Various Artists

Acclaimed choreographer Kyle Abraham's recent popular work is a celebration of Black culture, Black music, and the youthful spirit that perseveres in us all. Scored to a "mixtape" of soul, hip-hop, and R&B featuring beloved musical artists like Jhené Aiko, Drake, Lauryn Hill, Kendrick Lamar, Jazmine Sullivan, and Summer Walker, the critically applauded work resonates with the themes of love and relationships. "A lot of these songs are the songs that I play when I'm at my lowest and at my highest. I wanted to find a way to thank those artists for their music and thank our culture for their contributions to this world in which we live." -Kyle Abraham

Ailey Classics

Choreography by Alvin Ailey

Music: Various Artists

This season's beloved *Ailey Classics* program highlights a selection of repertory spanning the breadth of Mr. Ailey's rich catalog, including excerpts of *Memoria*, *Night Creature* (sections 2&3), *Pas de Duke* (1st song), *Masekela Langage* (Morolo), *Opus McShann* (Gee Baby), *Opus McShann* (Doo Wah), *Love Songs* (A Song for You), *For 'Bird' – With Love* (A Night in Tunisia), *Hidden Rites* (Of Love), *For 'Bird' – With Love* (Bird Lives).

***Survivors* (1986)**

Choreography by Alvin Ailey and Mary Barnett

Music: Max Roach, strings orchestrated by Peter Phillips

Alvin Ailey's impassioned tribute to the profound courage and terrible anguish of Nelson and Winnie Mandela is, more broadly, a portrait of people transformed by injustice. Max Roach's richly varied drumming and Abbey Lincoln's vocals set the emotional tone for this powerful work that lifts up those who resist oppression in any form.

SIGNATURE MASTERPIECE

***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 and acclaimed as a must-see for all. Alvin Ailey's signature masterpiece is a tribute to his heritage. 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. Audience's cheer, sing along, and dance 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."

****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 was led until 2023 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—as well as millions more through television broadcasts, film screenings, and online platforms—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 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 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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