



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21st, 2023



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ABOUT

Ballet Hispánico is the largest Latine/Latinx/Hispanic cultural organization in the United States and one of America's Cultural Treasures. Ballet Hispánico's three main programs, the Company, School of Dance, and Community Arts Partnerships, bring communities together to celebrate the multifaceted Latinx diasporas. Ballet Hispánico's New York City headquarters provides the physical home and cultural heart for Latine dance in the United States. It is a space that initiates new cultural conversations and explores the intersectionality of Latine cultures. No matter their background or identity – Latine, Latinx, Hispanic – Ballet Hispánico welcomes and serves all, breaking stereotypes and celebrating the beauty and diversity of Hispanic cultures through dance.

Dance visionary and National Medal of Arts recipient Tina Ramirez founded Ballet Hispánico in 1970, at the height of the post-war civil rights movements. From its inception Ballet Hispánico focused on providing a haven for Black and Brown families seeking place and artistic sanctuary. By creating the space for Latine dance and dancers to flourish, Ballet Hispánico uplifted marginalized artists and youth, which combined with the training, cultural pride, and the power of representation, fueled the organization's roots and trajectory. Eduardo Vilaro joined Ballet Hispánico as a Company dancer in 1985 and became the organization's second Artistic Director in 2009 and CEO in 2015. Vilaro is building on Ramirez's impact; expanding, and deepening the legacy of visibilizing Latine cultures, and exposing the intersectionality and depth of diversity found in them.

Through its exemplary artistry, distinguished training program, and deep-rooted community engagement, Ballet Hispánico champions and amplifies Latinx voices in the field. For over fifty years Ballet Hispánico has provided a place of honor for the omitted, overlooked, and othered. As it looks to the future, Ballet Hispánico is pushing the culture forward on issues of dance and Hispanic creative expression.

PROGRAM

18+1

World Premiere: 2012

Choreography by Gustavo Ramírez Sansano

Music by Pérez Prado

Stage Design, Lighting, and Costume Design by Ghabriello Fernando Performed by The Company

GUSTAVO RAMÍREZ SANSANO was Artistic Director of Luna Negra Dance Theater (2009-2013), and now he combines his work as a freelance choreographer with the direction of Titoyaya Dansa, the company he founded in Spain with Veronica Garcia Moscardo in 2006. Sansano has received numerous awards for his choreography, including first prize at the Ricard Moragas Competition in Barcelona (1997), Prix Dom Perignon Choreographic Competition in Hamburg (2001), and Premio de Las Artes Escénicas de la Comunidad Valenciana (2005). Sansano has been commissioned to create works for many companies such as Nederlands Dans Theater, Compañía Nacional de Danza, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Luzerner tanz Theater, Ballet BC, The Hamburg Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Ballet Hispánico, and Luna Negra Dance Theater, among others.

-INTERMISSION-

LÍNEA RECTA

World Premiere: November 18, 2016 at the Apollo Theater

Choreography by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa

Music by Eric Vaarzon Morel

Costume Design by Danielle Truss

Lighting Design by Michael Mazzola

Performed by Fatima Andere, Leonardo Brito, Antonio Cangiano, Amanda del Valle, Cori Lewis, Dylan Dias McIntyre, Omar Rivera, and Isabel Robles

Opening Amanda del Valle with Leonardo Brito, Antonio Cangiano, Dylan Dias McIntyre, and Omar Rivéra

Trio Fatima Andere with Antonio Cangiano and Omar Rivéra

Scorpion Dance Fatima Andere, Amanda del Valle, Cori Lewis, and Isabel Robles

Men's Dance Leonardo Brito, Antonio Cangiano, Dylan Dias McIntyre, and Omar Rivéra

> Finale All

Annabelle Lopez Ochoa has been choreographing since 2003 following a twelve-year dance career in various contemporary dance companies throughout Europe. She has created works for sixty dance companies worldwide including Ballet Hispánico, Atlanta Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Compañía Nacional de Danza, Dutch National Ballet, Finnish National Ballet, Royal Ballet of Flanders, Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève, Göteborg Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, BJM-Danse Montréal, New York City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, English National Ballet, San Francisco Ballet and Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, to name a few. In 2012, her first full length work, A Streetcar Named Desire, originally created for the Scottish Ballet, received the Critics' Circle National Dance Award for "Best Classical Choreography" and was nominated for the prestigious Olivier Award for Best New Dance Production the following year. Annabelle is the recipient of the Jacob's Pillow Dance Award 2019.

CLUB HAVANA

Choreography by Pedro Ruiz

Music by Israel Lopez, Rubén Gonzales, A.K. Salim, Perez Prado and Francisco Repilado

> Costume Design by Emilio Sosa

Costume Construction by Ghabriello Negron

Lighting Design by Donald Holder

Performed by

Fatima Andere, Amir Baldwin, Antonio Cangiano, Amanda del Valle, Daryn Diaz, Paulo Hernandez- Farella, Cori Lewis, Dylan Dias McIntyre, Omar Rivéra, and Isabel Robles

Opening Antonio Cangiano, Daryn Diaz, and Omar Rivéra with the Company

Caballo

Amanda del Valle and Paulo Hernandez-Farella, Cori Lewis and Amir Baldwin, Isabel Robles and Dylan Dias McIntyre

Cha Cha Cha Fatima Andere with Antonio Cangiano and Omar Rivéra

> Romanza Full Cast

Rumba, Conga Full Cast

Pedro Ruiz is a renowned choreographer and dancer who was born and trained in Cuba, as well as in Venezuela. In a 21-year career with Ballet Hispánico as its principal dancer, Ruiz also choreographed three critically acclaimed ballets for the company. Clive Barnes of the New York Post said of Guajira, "An especially fine work of form and structure." Jennifer Dunning of The New York Times gave kudos to Club Havana saying, "An explosion of sensuous pure dance." And Gia Kourlas of Time Out New York glowed, "Ruiz's Cecilia furthers the notion that his pieces exhibit a timelessness."

Mr. Ruiz has now set out on his own choreographing for other dance companies in the US and internationally. In November 2022, Pedro Ruiz premiered a new ballet *La Estancia*, which was commissioned for The New Jersey Philharmonic Orchestra's 100th Anniversary Gala. Ruiz's ballet was performed by The New Jersey Ballet along with two greats — cellist YoYo Ma and Wynton Marsalis playing at NJ PAC. Ruiz is the recipient of The

Bessie Award, the Choo-San Goh Award, The Cuban Artist's Fund Award and The Joyce Foundation Award. The FBI honored Ruiz for his Public Service during 2012's Hispanic Heritage Month. Mr. Ruiz has performed at the White House for several presidents. In 2010, Ruiz founded The Windows Project—a groundbreaking cultural exchange program celebrating the art of dance between the U.S. and Cuba. Ruiz has been the subject of two PBS documentaries: Pas de Deux (part of the "In The Life" series), and Coming Home, a PBS documentary nominated for a New York Emmy Award. Ruiz's highly successful ballet, Club Havana was featured in Lincoln Center at the Movies: Great American Dance. Ruiz's celebrated poetic duet, Lasting Embrace, premiered in the US in July 2016 at the Dancers Responding to AIDS Dance Festival on Fire Island. In 2019 under the auspices of the ¡Cuba Aquí! Festival, the Ballet Contemporáneo de Camagűey from Cuba made its American debut at Hunter College's Kaye Playhouse bringing a joyful, exuberant program of three dances by their Cuban-American artistic director Pedro Ruiz

Ruiz is on the dance faculty of Hunter College, Marymount College, The Ailey School, Pace University, and Ballet Hispánico. He teaches company class for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and is Resident Artist of the Arnhold Graduate Dance Education Program at Hunter. He has also taught master classes and performed throughout the United States, Europe, and Central and South America.



Founder Tina Ramirez

Artistic Director & CEO Eduardo Vilaro Artistic Associate & Rehearsal Director Johan Rivera

The Company

Fatima Andere, Amir Baldwin, Leonardo Brito, Antonio Cangiano, Amanda del Valle, Daryn Diaz, Ana Estrada, Paulo Hernandez-Farella, Cori Lewis, Dylan Dias McIntyre, Adam Dario Morales, Amanda Ostuni, Omar Rivéra, Isabel Robles, and Isabella Vergara

> Company Manager Lauren Evans

Wardrobe Supervisor Olivia Kirschbaum

Production Director Adrian White **Lighting Supervisor** Caitlin Brown

Director of Costumes Regina Rizzo Stage Manager Morgan Lemos

Audio Supervisor Brian McCorkle

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