

Bringing Stories to Life through Dance



White Bird Brings the Legendary Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater to Portland's Keller Auditorium for Two Stunning 65th Anniversary Season

A Breathtaking Experience

As part of its 65th anniversary season, the world-renowned Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater returns to the Keller Auditorium in Portland, OR, for two distinct programs presented by White Bird on March 12 and 13. This marks the company's sixth appearance with White Bird, and each has left audiences moved by the profound artistry and emotional depth showcased on stage. Starting at 7:30 PM, each performance showcases the Company's diverse repertoire and culminates with Alvin Ailey's signature masterpiece Revelations, acclaimed a must-see for all. Since its premiere in 1960, this timeless classic has consistently enraptured audiences all over the world with its perfect blend of reverent grace and spiritual elation. One of the most widely seen pieces in modern dance, Revelations pays homage to and reflects the cultural heritage of the African American experience.

On Tuesday, March 12, the program begins with Following the Subtle Current Upstream, a captivating piece by Alonzo King that mirrors life's tumultuous waves, symbolizing the natural inclination of all things to return to their origins. The evening continues with an all-female production of Ode, a profound and introspective work by former Ailey dancer Jamar Roberts which reflects on the fragility and preciousness of life in a time of growing gun violence. The following evening, Wednesday, March 13, the company presents another mixed bill featuring a season world premiere and two new productions of beloved works. Audiences will be treated to Ronald K. Brown's Dancing Spirit - vibrant tribute to Ailey Artistic Director Emerita Judith Jamison, capturing her enduring influence and spirit. Me, Myself and You, a dreamlike duet created for this season by former Ailey dancer Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrish, explores themes of love and passion with a haunting reminiscence. The dynamic tour

de force Solo by Hans van Manen, showcases the Ailey men's remarkable agility and grace in an exhilarating whirlwind of movement and musicality.

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, 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 then led by Robert Battle from 2011 to 2023. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater has performed for an estimated 25 million people in 71 countries on six continents, promoting the uniqueness of the African American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of the American modern dance tradition. For more information, visit www.alvinailey.org.

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