

# VANITY FAIR

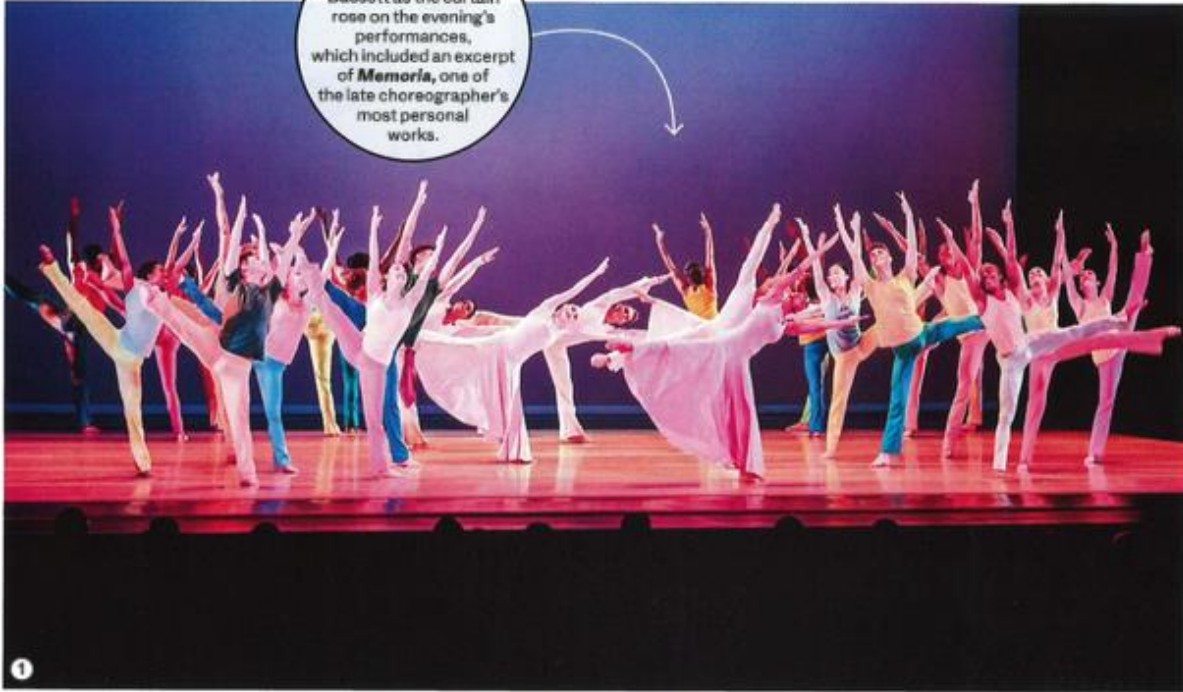
## Good Company

By: H.W. Vail

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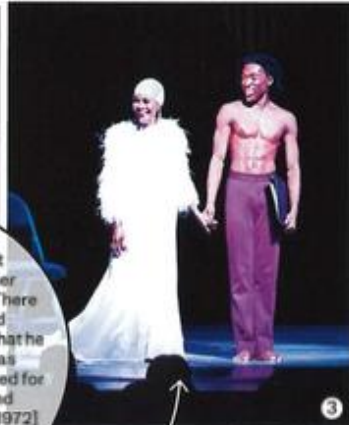
Vanities / Fairground

"Ailey lives!" announced Angela Bassett as the curtain rose on the evening's performances, which included an excerpt of *Memoria*, one of the late choreographer's most personal works.

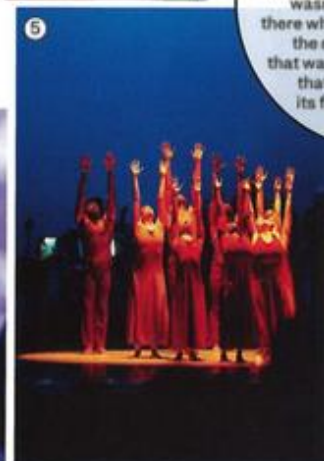


## GOOD COMPANY

A dinner-and-dance homage paid tribute to Alvin Ailey, as his company turns 60, at this season's opening gala in New York  
By H. W. Vail



"He was always with me," said recent honorary-Oscar winner Cicely Tyson of Ailey. "There was nothing that I did on film, television, stage that he wasn't there for. He was there when I was nominated for the movie *Sounder*, and that was the same year [1972] that the company had its first season here at City Center."



1. Ailey choreographed the *Memoria* ballet in 1979 as an elegy for a friend 2. Gala chairs Angela Bassett and Cicely Tyson catch up over dinner following the performance 3. Cicely Tyson onstage with Ailey dancer Chaivar Monteiro 4. Dance icon and actress Carmen de Lavallade 5. A scene from *Revelations*, Ailey's signature masterpiece and the most widely seen modern-dance piece in history 6. The troupe's dancers, patrons, and fans took to the dance floor after dinner to celebrate Ailey's legacy in the only way they could