

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Kayla Reed

404.460.1485

Kayla.Reed@Edelman.com

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Plans Historic Engagement at Atlanta's Fox Theatre to Launch a New Era Led by Artistic Director Robert Battle

Tickets On-Sale for February 2012 Performances that Extend Ailey's Vital Legacy in Exciting Directions

ATLANTA – (Nov. 22, 2011) – Led by **Robert Battle** in his inaugural season as Artistic Director, **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** returns to the **Fabulous Fox Theatre** from **Feb. 16 through Feb. 19**. The four-day engagement will showcase the brilliant artistry and passionate spirit of Ailey's extraordinary dancers in a series of premieres and new productions that extend the vital legacy of Alvin Ailey (1931-1989) in exciting new directions.

This season's much-anticipated performances launch an inspiring new era in Ailey history. "This is the beginning of a new adventure—for the company, for me and for our audiences in Atlanta," stated Robert Battle, who became Artistic Director on July 1, 2011.

Amplifying his plans for the Company, Mr. Battle emphasized, "We are going to reach back and try to touch some of the vital sources of Alvin Ailey's creativity, but also stretch forward into new possibilities that develop his legacy. For the millions of people who love Alvin Ailey's work and have been inspired by the great achievements of Judith Jamison and our unsurpassed dancers, I hope this historic Atlanta engagement will be just what the company has always delivered: a revelation."



Robert Battle, Artistic Director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and the Company. Photo by Andrew Eccles
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Honored by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in 2005 as one of the "Masters of African-American Choreography," Robert Battle is a fast-rising choreographer and visionary who, over the past decade, has created ballets for the Ailey Company and Ailey II.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater inspires all in a universal celebration of the human spirit, using the African-American cultural experience and the American modern dance tradition. Join with Ailey's incomparable dancers on a journey that will reveal once again why Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

-more-

has brought audiences around the globe to their feet night after night with an incomparable sense of freedom, spirit and joy.



*Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's
Kirven James Boyd.
Photo by Andrew Eccles*

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Tickets for the Atlanta Engagement are officially on sale now with prices starting at \$25. Mr. Ailey's beloved masterpiece Revelations, an American classic acclaimed as a must-see for all and recognized by a U.S. Senate resolution, will be featured at each performance in the engagement. To purchase tickets, call Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000 or visit www.alvinailey.org or www.foxtheatre.org. Groups of 10 or more may call (404) 881-2000 to receive special pricing on group tickets.

Performance dates and times: Thursday, Feb. 16, 2011, at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 17, 2011, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 18, 2011, at 2 and 8 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 19, 2011, at 3 p.m. Detailed programming information will be announced in January.

Press: Please visit the [Alvin Ailey Press Room](#) for photos, videos and further information.

Georgia Power and J.P. Morgan provide support for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Atlanta Season.

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, and guided by Judith Jamison beginning in 1989, the Company is now led by Robert Battle, whom Judith Jamison chose to succeed her on July 1, 2011. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater has performed for an estimated 23 million people in 71 countries on 6 continents, 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 the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, the Auditorium Theatre in Chicago, the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County in Miami, 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 The 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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