



ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

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ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER *CELEBRATING REVELATIONS AT 50*

2010-2011 NEW YORK CITY CENTER SEASON COMMEMORATES ALVIN AILEY'S TIMELESS CLASSIC WITH SPECIAL PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS

Guest Appearances Featuring Grammy Award-Winning Vocal Ensemble *Sweet Honey In the Rock*

Artistic Director Judith Jamison Conducts Live Music with Full Choir

Cast of 50 Dancers for First Time with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Ailey II, The Ailey School

Documentary Short Film with Exclusive Footage Introduces All *Revelations* Performances

Target 1960 Night Offers All Seats at Special Price for Target Sponsored Performance

DECEMBER 1, 2010 – JANUARY 2, 2011

(New York) – September 8, 2010 – **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** will begin a celebration of **50 years of Alvin Ailey's *Revelations***, an American classic called a must-see for all people, with special performances, singular events and guest appearances at **New York City Center from December 1, 2010 – January 2, 2011**. Other related initiatives throughout the year will offer new perspectives on this masterpiece that has been seen by more people around the world than any other modern dance work, and that is a tribute to the resolve and determination of a people and the human spirit.

According to Alvin Ailey, *Revelations* began with the music. Set to a suite of traditional spirituals, *Revelations* explores the emotional spectrum of the human condition, from the deepest of grief, to the purest of joy. This season will pay homage to its musical roots with distinctive live music performances. The Grammy Award-Winning **Sweet Honey In The Rock** will bring their soulful harmonies and intricate rhythms to *Revelations* at the December 1st **Opening Night Gala** and **New Year's Eve performances**. Artistic Director **Judith Jamison** will have the conductors baton dancing while directing live musicians and a full choir, featuring the incomparable soloist **Ella Mitchell**, at not-to-be-missed performances on **Friday, December 3rd and Saturday, December 4th at 8pm**.

In a joyful nod to each year of *Revelations'* life, audiences will witness the ballet with a **cast of 50** for the first-time ever! Dancers will fill the stage and spill into the aisles as promising students from The Ailey School and talented young dancers from Ailey II enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to dance alongside members of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater during four performances (**Dec. 3, 11 mat, 12 mat, 18 mat**). Also, Target will sponsor **Target 1960 Night**, a performance with all tickets at a special price to help extend the accessibility and reach of this inspiring work to all audiences (Dec. 2).

A documentary short film will set the stage this year, beginning each performance with an introduction to the history, meaning and significance of *Revelations* over the last half century. **Directed by Judy Kinberg**, winner of seven primetime Emmy Awards, it will include exclusive footage of Alvin Ailey and interviews with Judith Jamison and others.

Alvin Ailey was only 29 years old when he was inspired to create this landmark ballet based on what he called his “blood memories,” and the work of African-American writers James Baldwin and Langston Hughes. To further explore the journey of *Revelations*, a **Celebrating Revelations at 50 roundtable panel discussion** and **AileyConnect**, an innovative on demand cell phone service, will offer unique opportunities for Judith Jamison, Ailey dancers, and other luminaries to share their insight.

Audience members can join in the exchange too, sharing their memories through **My Revelations Story**, via the blog of the **AlvinAiley.org** website that will also feature **Rediscovering Revelations**, a dedicated section with historical context, background, and interactive features. Also, a **commemorative souvenir program**, that includes historic *Revelations* photos and more, will be on sale for those interested in a keepsake to bring the enduring artistry home from the theater.

Throughout the year, *Revelations* will continue to influence younger generations, as an introduction to modern dance and as a catalyst to encourage them to reach their full potential on and off the stage. Inspired by the ballet and the life of Alvin Ailey, the innovative **Revelations Residency program** will offer public schools cross-curricular lessons in language, arts and history through dance, giving students tools to write their own stories. During **Revelations Day** at The Ailey School, students will study sections of *Revelations* and learn about the significance of this masterwork and the African-American cultural traditions featured in the piece.

First premiered in 1960, *Revelations* has been performed countless times across the world, was part of Opening Ceremonies of the 1968 Olympics, and has been presented on five separate occasions at the White House, including at the inaugurations of Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton and, most recently, The White House Dance Series: A Tribute to Judith Jamison presented by First Lady Michelle Obama. Hailed by *The New York Times* as “modern dance’s unquestionable greatest hit,” *Revelations* has brought audiences around the globe to their feet year after year. **Tickets are now on sale for the New York City Center season from December 1, 2010 – January 2, 2010**, where the extraordinary artists of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater will welcome audiences to experience Alvin Ailey’s genius at one of 28 performances of his beloved classic work, before they embark on a 24-city U.S. tour that continues **Celebrating Revelations at 50**. For further information, visit www.alvinailey.org.

See attached 2010-11 New York City Center schedule for performance details and times (subject to change).

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The Prudential Foundation is the sponsor of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater’s New York Season.

Target is the sponsor of Target 1960 Night.

Southwest Airlines is the Official Airline of Ailey.

The 2010-2011 season is sponsored, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

Simin & Herb Allison, American Express, BNY Mellon, Linda & Sandy Lindenbaum, and Prudential Financial, Inc., are Co-Sponsors of Ailey’s Opening Night Gala.

TICKETS

New York City Center is located at 131 West 55th Street, between Sixth and Seventh Avenues.

Tickets are available starting September 7th at the New York City Center Box Office, through CityTix® at (212) 581-1212 or online at www.alvinailey.org or www.nycitycenter.org. **Great seats are available in the orchestra and most sections of the theater starting at \$25.** Discount tickets are available when purchasing tickets for more than one performance, for the family matinee series, students with an appropriate ID and groups of 10 or more.

For group sales, call 212-405-9082 or e-mail groupsales@alvinailey.org.



AAADT in Alvin Ailey's *Revelations*. Photo by Andrew Eccles

Control + click on photo for high resolution download from pressroom.alvinailey.org

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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 1958 New York performance that changed American dance. Now led by Judith Jamison, joined by artistic director designate Robert Battle, the Company has performed for an estimated 23 million people in 71 countries on 6 continents, including two historic residencies in South Africa, celebrating the African-American cultural experience and the American modern dance tradition. The Ailey organization also includes; Ailey II (1974), a second company of young dancers and choreographers; The Ailey School (1969), extensive dance training programs; Ailey Arts in Education & Community Programs, bringing dance into classrooms and communities; and The Ailey Extension, dance and fitness classes for the general public at Ailey's home – The Joan Weill Center for Dance in New York City—the nation's largest building for dance.

For more information, visit www.alvinailey.org.

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER 2010-11 NEW YORK CITY CENTER SEASON as of September 7, 2010

TUESDAY at 7pm*	WEDNESDAY at 2pm Family Matinee	WEDNESDAY at 2pm	THURSDAY at 8pm	FRIDAY at 8pm	SATURDAY at 2pm Family Matinee	SATURDAY at 8pm	SUNDAY at 3pm	SUNDAY at 7:30pm
*PLEASE NOTE EARLIER CURTAIN CALL TIME ON TUESDAY	NO PERF	December 1 LIVE MUSIC OPENING NIGHT GALA The Hunt C Cry N Revelations with Sweet Honey in the Rock	December 2 TARGET 1960 NIGHT <i>In celebration of 50 years of Revelations all seats specially priced</i> Uptown Dancing Spirit Revelations	December 3 LIVE MUSIC Night Creature Cry N Anointed W Revelations Judith Jamison, conductor <i>Ella Mitchell, soloist</i> with cast of 50 dancers	December 4 Uptown Anointed W Revelations	December 4 LIVE MUSIC Festa Barocca In/Side Revelations Judith Jamison, conductor <i>Ella Mitchell, soloist</i>	December 5 ALL AILEY Night Creature Cry N Memoria Revelations	December 5 Anointed W Cry N The Hunt C Revelations
December 7 Uptown The Prodigal Prince N Revelations	NO PERF	December 8 Night Creature In/Side Mary Lou's Mass N Suite Otis	December 9 Anointed W The Prodigal Prince N Revelations	December 10 Dancing Spirit Forgotten Time N Revelations	December 11 ALL AILEY Memoria Mary Lou's Mass N Revelations with cast of 50 dancers	December 11 Night Creature In/Side Forgotten Time N Revelations	December 12 Memoria Suite Otis Revelations with cast of 50 dancers	December 12 Festa Barocca Suite Otis Revelations <i>Proceeds benefit Dancers Responding to AIDS</i>
December 14 Night Creature The Evolution of a Secured Feminine C Dancing Spirit Uptown	NO PERF	December 15 LIVE MUSIC AILEY/JAZZ Program A Three Black Kings N Episodes In/Side Winter in Lisbon N Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis	December 16 LIVE MUSIC AILEY/JAZZ Program B Three Black Kings N Solo Vespers Winter in Lisbon N Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis	December 17 LIVE MUSIC AILEY/JAZZ Program A Three Black Kings N Episodes In/Side Winter in Lisbon N Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis	December 18 AILEY/JAZZ Program B Love Stories Suite Otis Revelations with cast of 50 dancers	December 18 LIVE MUSIC Three Black Kings N Solo Vespers Winter in Lisbon N Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis	December 19 LIVE MUSIC AILEY/JAZZ Program A Three Black Kings N Episodes In/Side Winter in Lisbon N Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis	December 19 LIVE MUSIC AILEY/JAZZ Program B Three Black Kings N Solo Vespers Winter in Lisbon N Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis
December 21 ALL NEW WORKS Anointed W Forgotten Time N The Prodigal Prince N	December 22 Uptown Dancing Spirit Revelations	December 22 Dancing Spirit The Evolution of a Secured Feminine C The Hunt W Revelations <i>Proceeds benefit the Ailey Dancers' Resource Fund</i>	December 23 ALL NEW WORKS Mary Lou's Mass N The Evolution of a Secured Feminine C The Hunt C The Prodigal Prince N	December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE Love Stories Dancing Spirit Revelations	December 25 NO PERF	December 25 CHRISTMAS Uptown The Evolution of a Secured Feminine C The Hunt C Revelations	December 26 Night Creature Cry N Suite Otis Revelations	December 26 ALL NEW WORKS The Hunt C The Evolution of a Secured Feminine C Forgotten Time N The Prodigal Prince N
December 28 Love Stories Forgotten Time N Revelations	December 29 Anointed W The Evolution of a Secured Feminine C Solo Revelations	December 29 Festa Barocca In/Side Revelations	December 30 Mary Lou's Mass N The Hunt C Cry N Revelations	December 31 LIVE MUSIC NEW YEAR'S EVE "Season's Best" highlights program Revelations with Sweet Honey in the Rock	January 1 NO PERF	January 1 Suite Otis Forgotten Time N Revelations	January 2 Anointed W The Prodigal Prince N Revelations	January 2 Farewell JAMISON Special farewell program with guest artists Revelations

Programming Subject to Change

W= World Premiere C= Company Premiere N= New Production
Premiere= Red Title
1st Season Performance= Blue Title

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