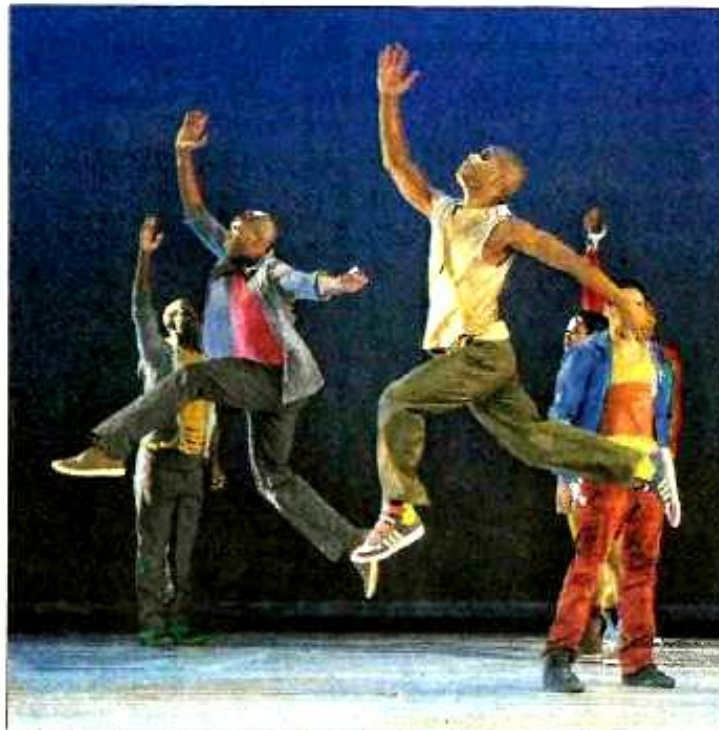


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A Dozen Delights To Look Forward To In 2012

The recession's smudgy fingerprints were easy to identify across Atlanta's cultural landscape last year, from Atlanta Opera's trimmed schedule to the canceling of Big Apple Circus' annual tour visit, from theater troupes specializing in small-cast productions to attractions affording fewer new temptations. As the new year dawns, though, you can sense the start of a recovery across Atlanta's arts, entertainment and attractions scene.



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater rehearses "Home," choreographed by Rennie Harris. Paul Kolnik

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's new moves

Always respectful of tradition, the Ailey troupe arrives for its annual Fox Theatre tour stop at a crossroads of change. Ailey legend Judith Jamison has retired as artistic director, and her successor, choreographer Robert Battle, is piloting his first tour.

The five programs, Feb. 16-19, bring some fresh moves along with the classic closer, the Ailey-choreographed "Revelations." Rennie Harris' recent world premiere, "Home" – commemorating World AIDS Day and in memory of Ailey, who died of the disease in 1989 – "builds off the choreographer's deep knowledge of hip-hop dancing (especially house) to create a piece that is both propulsive and moody," The New York Times' review said. Other highlights will include Battle's "Takademe" (1999) and Paul Taylor's "Arden Court" (1981).

Info: 1-800-745-3000, www.ticketmaster.com