



Robert Battle

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, ALVIN AILEY
AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

➔ **AT THE AGE OF 12**, Battle saw Ailey's company perform *Revelations* for the first time. "I saw that work, and I never forgot it. It left an indelible impression on me that took me from Miami to now being artistic director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. I want to continue to bring Ailey to other young people so that they may live out their dreams because of what they are inspired by when they see the company." Personally selected by Judith Jamison, his predecessor, Battle understands the enormity of his role. "The fact that I am only the third artistic director of a dance company that has an over-50-year history and tours more than any other dance company in the world speaks to our beginning and to our founder, Alvin Ailey, and his genius and generosity to make it a repertory company that is about *many*, not *one*." A choreographer and artist-in-residence at Ailey since 1999, Battle has had numerous works performed by the main company, as well as by Ailey II and students of The Ailey School. "This season we'll be honoring the past, present and future, as we are a company that is as much about looking forward as we are about reaching back."