

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

MATTHEW RUSHING (Los Angeles, CA) Matthew Rushing was born in Los Angeles, CA. He began his dance training with Kashmir Blake in Inglewood, CA and later continued his training at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. He is the recipient of a Spotlight Award and Dance Magazine Award and was named a Presidential Scholar in the Arts. He was a scholarship student at The Ailey School and later became a member of Ailey II, where he danced for a year. During his career, Mr. Rushing has performed as a guest artist for galas in Vail, Colorado, as well as in France, Russia, Canada, Austria, and Italy. He has performed for presidents George H. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama, as well as at the 2010 White House tribute to Judith Jamison. During his time with the Company he has choreographed two ballets: *Acceptance In Surrender* (2005), a collaboration with Company members Hope Boykin and Abdur Rahim-Jackson, and *Uptown* (2009), a tribute to the Harlem Renaissance. Mr. Rushing joined the Company in 1992 and became Rehearsal Director in June 2010.

“Mesmerizing performer...The dynamic and precise articulation and thrust of every gesture are riveting... he's supple and lyrical...and he's smoldering.”

The New York Observer

“Matthew Rushing's liquid, marvelously detailed torso (his shoulders seem to sing) and serene air were particularly compelling”

Miami Herald

“A superb technician...the surging excitement of modern dance and the polish and fine-scaled classicism of ballet.”

The New York Times

“Inevitably draws the eye whenever he appears onstage...he performs with scrupulous integrity, always getting to the heart of a choreographer's intentions.”

Los Angeles Times

“ One of this country's greatest dancers. There seems to be nothing Rushing can't do.”

The New Yorker

“... one of the great dancers of the time.”

The New York Times

Photo by Andrew Eccles