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We Recommend Dance, Dance

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the music of Otis Redding.

Says Sims of Suite Otis: "It's like being at a rock concert and seeing a ballet at the same time."

As a young boy, Glenn Allen Sims was more interested in singing than dancing. Then his school hired a new dance teacher.

"A couple of the other guys and I thought she was cute, so we joined the class," Sims says.

That decision would influence the rest of Sims' life. He's been with the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater — the internationally known African-American ballet troupe — for the past 13 years, after a stint at Juilliard and a gig performing for the king of Morocco. "We danced for the king's New Year's Eve gala," Sims explains. "It was my first time out of the country, and I was in the palace of Morocco."

From March 19th through the 21st, Sims will dance lead roles in three works during the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater's show at the Orpheum. *Night Creature* features the music of Duke Ellington, while *Revelations* draws upon company founder Ailey's experiences growing up in the Baptist church with choreography set to religious music and spirituals. *Suite Otis* features choreography juxtaposed with