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MIAMI CITY BALLET PREVIEWS THE 2014-2015 SEASON

29th SEASON HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE FOUR COMPANY PREMIERES:

***SWEET FIELDS* – TWYLA THARP**

***CARMEN* – U.S. PREMIERE BY RICHARD ALSTON**

***THE CONCERT (Or, the Perils of Everybody)* – JEROME ROBBINS**

& A WORLD PREMIERE BY JUSTIN PECK WITH DESIGN BY SHEPARD FAIREY

Miami Beach, FL – Miami City Ballet's 29th season promises to be as exciting as ever with programs sure to delight both avid ballet fans and newcomers to the art alike by presenting an impressive array of works -- including four Company premieres. Two of the premieres will be seen for the first time on American soil: ***Carmen*** as created by British choreographer **Richard Alston** and a new 35-minute work created especially for Miami City Ballet by burgeoning choreographer, **Justin Peck** that will feature original set design by iconic graphic artist **Shepard Fairey**. Combined, these two premieres are likely to be among the most buzzed about debuts of the ballet season.

Marking Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez's second season of programming, Miami City Ballet (MCB) opens at the Adrienne Arsht Center on October 17, 2014 in illustrious fashion with John Cranko's ***Romeo and Juliet*** (Program I) set to Prokofiev's prized score. Having been only performed once to sold-out crowds during the Company's 25th anniversary season, MCB proudly welcomes this timeless tale of love and tragedy beautifully brought to life in the grand tradition of classical ballet.

Hear the Dance (Program II) offers something for everyone in a musically inspired line-up celebrating the choreographic masters that are staples of the Company's repertoire: **Paul Taylor**, **Twyla Tharp**, and of course, **George Balanchine**. Here the breadth of MCB's artistic diversity is on display with three very different works by three of America's most cherished choreographers: Taylor's festive ***Mercuric Tidings***, set to the exuberant tunes of Schubert, showcases the great athleticism of MCB dancers; Broadway meets ballet in Tharp's ***Nine Sinatra Songs*** (a MCB fan favorite) featuring glamorous costuming by Oscar de la Renta; and Balanchine's ***Symphony in Three Movements***, set to Stravinsky, highlights some of the most dynamic dance patterns in the neoclassical paradigm.

Passion and Grace (Program III) further broadens the horizons of MCB's dancers with two Company premieres including Tharp's superbly sophisticated ***Sweet Fields*** – an uplifting piece performed to the music of American Shaker hymns sung *a cappella*. This emotionally evocative work may best be simply described as heavenly. The pendulum then swings with its second premiere, a first in the U.S. -- the sultry ***Carmen*** by Richard Alston. Alston is an acclaimed British contemporary dance choreographer and founder of Richard Alston Dance Company. While Alston is known for his modern choreography, this work is presented in the classical ballet vocabulary. It is a smoldering, flamenco-fueled, 50-minute, adaptation of the classic saga of passion and betrayal performed to the music of Rodion Shchedrin's ***Carmen Suite***. Opening this promising program is Balanchine's virtuosic ***Allegro Brillante*** – a work that beautifully accentuates both ballerina and the *corps de ballet*.

Points of Departure (Program IV) draws the 29th season to a close with the Company premiere of ***The Concert (Or, the Perils of Everybody)***, a delightful piece that so wonderfully captures the inner-thoughts of concertgoers, it is considered Jerome Robbins' comedic work-of-genius, all set to the lively music of Chopin. Also on the bill is a world premiere created

specifically for MCB dancers by the vibrant young choreographer **Justin Peck**. Peck, who recently debuted the critically acclaimed *Chutes and Ladders*, will create an original, large cast, 35-minute piece to Bohuslav Martinů's imaginative *Piano Concerto No. 1*. For the new work Peck is collaborating with **Shepard Fairey**, the celebrated street artist who garnered world-wide attention with his grassroots *Hope* poster. Opening the evening is Balanchine's ***Raymonda Variations***, a quintessential ballet that forgoes the original ballet's complicated plot by bringing the dance itself center stage through a marvelous display of solos culminating in one joyous celebration of dance.

For more information on Miami City Ballet or to purchase tickets, call 305-929-7010, toll-free 877-929-7010 or visit miamicityballet.org. Tickets start at \$20. ** Programs subject to change.

Performance Schedule

Romeo and Juliet (Program I)

Romeo and Juliet (Cranko/Prokofiev)

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Miami (Ziff Ballet Opera House)

October 2014

Friday, October 17 at 8 pm

Saturday, October 18 at 8 pm

Sunday, October 19 at 2 pm

Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Lauderdale (Au-Rene Theater)

October 2014

Friday, October 24 at 8 pm

Saturday, October 25 at 2 pm & 8 pm

Sunday, October 26 at 2 pm

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, West Palm Beach (Dreyfoos Hall)

November 2014

Friday, November 21 at 8 pm

Saturday, November 22 at 2 pm & 8 pm

Sunday, November 23 at 1 pm

Hear the Music (Program II)

Nine Sinatra Songs (Tharp/Arlen, Mercer, Cahn, Van Heusen, et al.)

Mercuric Tidings (Taylor/Schubert)

Symphony in Three Movements (Balanchine/Stravinsky)

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Miami (Ziff Ballet Opera House)

January 2015

Friday, January 9 at 8 pm

Saturday, January 10 at 8 pm

Sunday, January 11 at 2 pm

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, West Palm Beach (Dreyfoos Hall)

January 2015

Friday, January 23 at 8 pm

Saturday, January 24 at 2 pm & 8 pm

Sunday, January 25 at 1 pm

Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Lauderdale (Au-Rene Theater)

February 2015

Friday, February 6 at 8 pm

Saturday, February 7 at 2 pm & 8 pm

Sunday, February 8 at 2 pm

Passion & Grace

(Program III)

Allegro Brillante (Balanchine/Tchaikovsky)

Sweet Fields (Tharp/Billings, Walker, Wood, Ingalls) – **Company Premiere**

Carmen (Alston/Shchedrin's *Carmen Suite* adapted from Bizet) – **U.S. Premiere**

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Miami (Ziff Ballet Opera House)

February 2015

Friday, February 13 at 7 pm

Saturday, February 14 at 8 pm

Sunday, February 15 at 2 pm

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, West Palm Beach (Dreyfoos Hall)

February – March 2015

Friday, February 27 at 8pm

Saturday, February 28 at 2 pm & 8 pm

Sunday, March 1 at 1pm

Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Lauderdale (Au-Rene Theater)

March 2015

Friday, March 20 at 8 pm

Saturday, March 21 at 2 pm & 8 pm

Sunday, March 22 at 2 pm

Points of Departure

(Program IV)

Raymonda Variations (Balanchine/Glazounov)

New Work by Justin Peck (Peck/ Martinů) - **World Premiere**

The Concert (Or, the Perils of Everybody) (Robbins/Chopin) - **Company Premiere**

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, West Palm Beach (Dreyfoos Hall)

March 2015

Friday, March 27 at 8 pm

Saturday, March 28 at 2 pm & 8 pm

Sunday, March 29 at 1 pm

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Miami (Ziff Ballet Opera House)

April 2015

Friday, April 10 at 8 pm

Saturday, April 11 at 8 pm

Sunday, April 12 at 2 pm

Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Lauderdale (Au-Rene Theater)

April 2015

Friday, April 17 at 8 pm

Saturday, April 18 at 2 pm & 8 pm

Sunday, April 19 at 2 pm

George Balanchine's The Nutcracker™

Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Lauderdale (Au-Rene Theater)
December 12 – 14, 2014

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Miami (Ziff Ballet Opera House)
December 18 – 24, 2014

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, West Palm Beach (Dreyfoos Hall)
December 27 – 30, 2014

Miami City Ballet – Home Theater Addresses / Ticketing info:

Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County

Ziff Ballet Opera House
1300 Biscayne Blvd.
Miami, FL 33132

Box office: (305) 949-6722

Broward Center for the Performing Arts

Au-Rene Theater
201 S.W. Fifth Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312
Box office: (954) 462-0222

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts

Alexander W. Dreyfoos, Jr. Concert Hall
701 Okeechobee Boulevard
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
Box office: (561) 832-7469

About Miami City Ballet

Hailed by The New York Times as “one of America’s most beloved dance companies,” Miami City Ballet is led by Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez. The Company has more than 40 dancers and a repertoire of over 90 ballets. Among the Company’s notable achievements have been critically-acclaimed performances in Paris and New York City and the nationally televised PBS THIRTEEN special: *Great Performances - Dance In America: Miami City Ballet Dances Balanchine and Tharp*.

During its October to April season Miami City Ballet performs in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and Naples. Miami City Ballet maintains its headquarters in Miami Beach in a facility designed by renowned architectural firm Arquitectonica. The facility houses rehearsal studios and administrative offices as well as the Miami City Ballet School, home to one of the nation’s leading pre-professional ballet training programs.

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