



### **About the Company and Show**

MALEVO - the "South American Sensation" - was created by director, choreographer, and dancer, Matías Jaime. The Company has reenvisioned the Argentine dance of Malambo; taking what is a traditional Argentinian folkloric dance performed originally by Gauchos of the Pampas region and elevating it to a modern, avant-garde, and transgressive vision. While maintaining the great virility and dexterity of Malambo, the Company has elevated this traditional dance by fusing its classic technique with other styles such as Flamenco, and incorporating live percussion onstage. Set to a pulsating rhythm of drums, the choreography combines the use of boleadoras, a leather and stone hunting tool used by Gauchos, with fast leg movements, energetic zapateados (stomping), and quick cepillados ("brushing"/"scrubbing"). This exciting and dynamic troupe of men has created a performance that not only pushes the Malambo style beyond its limits but gives audiences an extraordinary visual and sensory experience unlike any other.

After being named "Cultural Ambassador of the National Identity of Argentina" and achieving numerous successes, including performances in Las Vegas, New York, Dubai, Paris, Qatar, Saint Petersburg, Canada, London, and Moscow, as well as special presentations with Latin pop star Ricky Martin, Cirque du Soleil, a year-long season of performances at Universal Studios Japan and reaching the semi-finalists on the hit television show America's Got Talent, MALEVO is pleased to present a new touring show created for proscenium theaters of performing arts centers and festivals.

### **What is Malambo?**

The Malambo is a traditional dance handed down from older South American Cowboys to their younger counterparts, and one might imagine these dances taking place around campfires after a long day on horseback. Customarily a solo form, Malambo has long been among the original competitive dances. Argentinian Guachos perfected their moves to wow, entertain and yes, beat out their fellow dancers.

In watching Malambo, what's evident is the beauty, fluidity, strength, and sheer bravado of the dancers. Chests are puffed and poised, and feet paw at the ground like those of horses, animals which are said to have inspired this dance. Like manes, long black hair trails behind as the men who comprise of Malambo face off, preparing for a battle of complex rhythm and footwork. As the performance progresses, one may observe influences from seemingly disparate dance traditions and distant countries. A quick look at Argentina's history and trade practices reveals that indeed the dance vocabularies that appear in the Malambo are no coincidence.