



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DBDT 42nd Season Finale Features Two Celebrity Choreographers And Guest Artist Ballet Hispánico

Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) ends its 42nd season featuring two celebrity choreographers **Jamal Story**, who currently works with **Cher** and **Darrell Grand Moultrie**, who has worked with **Beyoncé**. Internationally renowned **Ballet Hispánico** out of New York City is the guest artist for the series. *Spring Celebration* will be held May 17-19, 2019, at the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre, part of the AT&T Performing Arts Center located at 2400 Flora Street in Dallas, TX.

Highlighting the *Spring Celebration* series is the new work, *Execution of a Sentiment* choreographed by Harlem born and raised **Darrell Grand Moultrie**. Commissioned by DBDT, Moultrie describes the work as “exploring the beauty of both Classical Ballet technique and of Modern dance molded into one” by moving people in unexpected ways. Moultrie is known for his ability to choreograph in all genres including ballet, modern, theater, and commercial dance. Some of his credits include commissioned works for The Juilliard School, Colorado Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Ailey 2, and Smuin Ballet among others. Moultrie’s credits also include working with **Beyoncé**.

Also from New York City, guest artist internationally renowned **Ballet Hispánico**, America’s leading Latino dance organization has been bringing individuals and communities together to celebrate and explore Latino culture through dance for nearly 50 years through the lens of innovative contemporary modern dance. **Ballet Hispánico** brings part of its 2019 season to Dallas with the award-winning *Sombrerísimo*, choreographed by **Annabelle Lopez Ochoa**. Ochoa is the recipient of the prestigious Jacob’s Pillow Dance Award and was inspired by the paintings of **René Magritte** and the function of hats in different cultures.

Audience favorite aerial duet *What to Say? Notes on Echo and Narcissus* returns to the Wyly stage. Choreographed by Southern Methodist University alum and former DBDT dancer **Jamal Story**, the mesmerizing work featuring DBDT dancers **Claude Alexander III** and **Hana Delong**, revolves around a Greek myth. **Story** is currently **Cher's** dance and aerial supervisor.

For the second year in a row, DBDT nine-year veteran dancer **Claude Alexander III** showcases his choreographic skills in the world premiere of the full company work *A Tender Pardon*. Alexander describes the work saying, "Forgiveness is the understanding of unconditional love. Seeking healing includes accepting your experiences and forgiving along the way."

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

Friday and Saturday evening

May 17-18, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre

2400 Flora Street, Dallas, TX.

Sunday matinee

May 19, 2019, 2:30 p.m.

Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre

2400 Flora Street, Dallas, TX.

TICKETS

Performance ticket prices range from \$22 - \$58.

For single tickets visit www.attpac.org or call 214-880-0202.

Group tickets are available by calling 214-871-2376 ext. 413.

2018-2019 | Spring Celebration Choreography Sponsors

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2018 – 2019 | DBDT Season Supporters

Season Supporters: Texas Commission on the Arts, Lexus, OverseeMyIT, *The Dallas Examiner*, *The Dallas Post Tribune*, *Elite News*, AT&T Performing Arts Center, *Trendy Africa*, and *Arts+Culture*.



ABOUT DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE: Dallas Black Dance Theatre is an internationally recognized professional dance company that engages the cross-cultural community through contemporary modern dance presented from the African-American experience. Founded by **Ann Williams** in 1976, the company has been designated as an American Masterpiece Touring Artist by the **National Endowment for the Arts** in 2008 and received the **Texas Medal of Arts Award for Arts Education** in 2017. **Melissa M. Young** was named Artistic Director in 2018 after starting at the company as a dancer in 1994. **Zenetta S. Drew** has led the administrative side of the company since 1987 as Executive Director.

The mission of Dallas Black Dance Theatre is to create and produce contemporary modern dance at its highest level of artistic excellence through performances and educational programs that bridge cultures and reach diverse communities. The company is the 10th largest minority arts organization in America and the fourth largest black dance company in the nation. The virtuosic dancers of Dallas Black Dance Theatre have mesmerized 4.2 million arts patrons across 16 countries, including two Olympic Cultural events.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre is comprised of five performing companies and its training Academy. 2.7 million students, grades K-12, have experienced the dance company's performances and educational outreach programs.

Dallas Black Dance Academy, the official school of Dallas Black Dance Theatre celebrates 45 years of delivering dance instruction to a community of diverse backgrounds. More than 550 students participate weekly in 50 dance classes, which include ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and African. Classes are held at DBDT's studios and are

open to children starting at age four and adults. The academy has three performing ensembles: **Allegro Performing Ensemble**, DBDT's premier academy ensemble, **Senior Performing Ensemble**, and **Junior Performing Ensemble**.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre is located in the historic Moorland YMCA building in the Dallas Arts District, which serves as the primary home for its dance studios, training facilities, and administrative offices. Dallas Black Dance Theatre is a resident company of the **AT&T Performing Arts Center** and its performance home is the **Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre**.

For more details visit www.DBDT.com and www.dbdt.com/academy.



What to Say? Notes on Echo and Narcissus choreographed by Jamal Story as photographed by Amitava Sarkar.



Ballet Hispánico dancing Linea Recta by choreographer Annabelle Lopez Ochoa as photographed by Paula Lobo.



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