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**Miami City Ballet presents:**

**WHY WE DANCE**

The Dancers of Miami City Ballet's 30th Anniversary Season

A film by Ezra Hurwitz

Score by Aaron Roche and Brian Petuch

DP Carlos Reyes

***"Ballet is so hard. It's hard on your body, and it's hard on your mind... we're constantly pushing ourselves."***

For its 30th Anniversary Season, Miami City Ballet asked members from every rank of its international, 51-member company to tell their stories; what inspired them to dance, and what motivated them to devote their lives to this incredible physical and artistic discipline.

***"This career is really a race against time. It's such a fleeting moment, but there's nothing more beautiful or more euphoric."***

To dance in one of the world's top ballet companies is to perform on the knife's edge between athleticism and artistry: testing the boundaries of human performance, preserving and interpreting a centuries-old tradition, and incubating new choreographic visions while pushing the art form into the 21st century.

***"That's the challenge - hiding the pain behind the beauty. You have to maintain your body as an instrument; otherwise, everything starts to fall apart."***

*Why We Dance* captures private thoughts and moments from the lives of MCB dancers that audiences never see. Young artists at the peak of their physical and artistic abilities, preparing their minds and bodies for a burst of expression that exists only for a moment, and is gone.

***"Right before the curtain goes up, there's this moment of truth – you don't know what's going to happen. It's just you and the music and the audience, and it's just ... magic."***

Miami City Ballet's *Why We Dance* premieres online on **January 6, 2015** at **teenvogue.com**.

**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 51 dancers and a repertoire of nearly 100 ballets. The Company performs for 120,000 patrons annually during its South Florida home season in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and Naples, and tours to top theaters domestically and internationally. Among the Company’s notable achievements have been critically acclaimed seasons 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*.

Miami City Ballet School, the official school of Miami City Ballet, is an elite pre-professional ballet training academy with a vibrant community division serving 1,500 students and granting \$750,000 in scholarships annually.

Miami City Ballet is headquartered in Miami Beach, Fla., at the Ophelia & Juan Js. Roca Center, a facility designed by renowned architectural firm Arquitectonica.

[miamicityballet.org](http://miamicityballet.org)

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