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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT

Diana Delgado, WOW MKTG
diana@wowmktg.com | 305.273.8373 ext. 205

Amber Dorsky, Miami City Ballet
amber.dorsky@miamicityballet.org | 305.929.7000 ext. 7189



MIAMI CITY BALLET PREMIERES
JEROME ROBBINS' *I'M OLD FASHIONED*
Featuring FRED ASTAIRE AND RITA HAYWORTH
Plus, the company premiere of
Christopher Wheeldon's *This Bitter Earth*

Jan. 10 - 26, 2019

Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach

MIAMI – Miami City Ballet's second program of the season, [**I'm Old Fashioned**](#) promises to sweep audiences away when it opens at Miami's Arsht Center on Friday, January 10th. The program brims with four visually stunning ballets, including two highly anticipated company premieres – Jerome Robbins' brilliant cinematic tribute to Fred Astaire and Rita Hayworth, *I'm Old Fashioned* and Christopher Wheeldon's evocative *This Bitter Earth*. Rounding out the program is George Balanchine's fan favorite *Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux* and Alexei Ratmansky's breathtaking *Symphonic Dances*. Evening and matinee performances take place in Miami Jan. 10 - 12, West Palm Beach Jan. 17-19, and Fort Lauderdale Jan. 25-26.

The company's premiere of Jerome Robbins' *I'm Old Fashioned* headlines the first performance of 2020 and features a unique pairing -- bridging the Silver Screen with today's modern era. It premiered to standing ovations in 1983, with the *New York Times* calling the innovative piece, "a complex, brilliant idea." The ballet opens with a huge screen playing an excerpt from the Fred Astaire, Rita Hayworth film, *You Were Never Lovelier*. Set to Morton Gould's musical adaptation of a theme by Jerome Kern, Astaire and Hayworth engage in a sweeping ballroom waltz while MCB dancers join them on stage.

Audiences will also witness, for the first time, Christopher Wheeldon's riveting and deeply moving *This Bitter Earth*. The dance, an emotionally riveting pas de deux, features *This Bitter Earth's* stirring lyrics sung by the Queen of Blues, Dinah Washington remixed with [*On the Nature of Daylight*](#) by Max Richter, one of the most influential composers of our generation.

Balanchine's beautifully lyrical *Tschaikovsky Pas De Deux* bursts onto the stage in a joyful celebration of pure classical ballet virtuosity. Set to music originally composed for Swan Lake in 1877 but never used, the enchanting score was lost for 70 years, until it was discovered amongst the Bolshoi Theatre's archives and later acquired by Balanchine. This crowd-pleasing duet is now performed and beloved around the world.

The colorful, lightning-fast work in Alexei Ratmansky's *Symphonic Dances* closes the sensational program with three diverse and vibrant dream-like scenes. Each 'dream' swells with energy and emotion. Ballroom grandeur and romantic pas de deux morph into fast footwork and explosive leaps performed with fiery intensity.

Symphonic Dances was commissioned by Miami City Ballet and premiered in 2012. Ratmansky, one of the world's most sought-after, visionary choreographers, created the work with the MCB dancers at the company's studios on Miami Beach.

Miami City Ballet performs in three locations across South Florida: Miami-Dade, West Palm Beach, and Broward. **Program Two: *I'm Old Fashioned*** will be performed as follows:

Arsht Center:

Friday, January 10, 2020, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, January 11, 2020, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 12, 2020, 2 p.m.

Kravis Center:

Friday, January 17, 2020, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, January 18, 2020, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 19, 2020, 1 p.m.

Broward Center:

Saturday, January 25, 2020, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 26, 2020, 2 p.m.

TICKETS:

Tickets start at \$30 and are available for purchase at miamicityballet.org, by phone (Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.) at 305.929.7010 or 877.929.7010, or in person at 2200 Liberty Ave, Miami Beach FL, 33139.

Student Tickets

\$15 student tickets are available to buy online starting 14 days prior to the performance. Students can also buy \$15 tickets at the theater one hour before a performance. Tickets subject to availability. More information at miamicityballet.org/studentdiscount.

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ABOUT MIAMI CITY BALLET

Miami City Ballet (MCB), now in its 34th season, has grown this season to 53 dancers and a repertoire of more than 100 ballets. As one of the most renowned ballet companies in the country, Miami City Ballet performs for nearly 125,000 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, including recent visits to New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago, and Los Angeles.

Miami City Ballet School, the official school of Miami City Ballet, is one of the most respected ballet training academies in America. The School's faculty, challenging syllabus, and affiliation with Miami City Ballet make it a place where all students — from children to adults — receive comprehensive dance training. The School trains students, ages 3-18 year-round, granting more than \$600,000 in scholarships annually. More than 500 adults participate in a vibrant community division.

Executive Director Tania Castroverde Moskalenko and Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez lead the company. Lopez was recently awarded the prestigious Dance Magazine Award in 2018 and was named one of "The Most Influential People in Dance Today." She is on the Ford Foundation Board of Trustees.

Miami City Ballet was founded in 1985 by Miami philanthropist Toby Lerner Ansin and Founding Artistic Director Edward Villella. It is headquartered in Miami Beach, FL, at the Ophelia & Juan Js. Roca Center, a facility designed by renowned architectural firm, Arquitectonica.

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MIAMI CITY BALLET HOME THEATERS:**Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts**

Ziff Ballet Opera House
1300 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, FL 33132

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts

Alexander W. Dreyfoos, Jr. Concert Hall
701 Okeechobee Boulevard
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Broward Center for the Performing Arts

Au-Rene Theater
201 S.W. Fifth Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

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Major funding for Miami City Ballet is provided by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, a national foundation with strong local roots, investing in journalism, in the arts, and in the success of cities where brothers John S. and James L. Knight once published newspapers. The Foundation’s goal is to foster informed and engaged communities, which they believe are essential for a healthy democracy.

Miami-Dade County support is provided by the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council, the Mayor, and the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners.

Support for Miami City Ballet in the Palm Beaches is generously sponsored in part by the Board of County Commissioners, the Tourist Development Council and the Cultural Council of Palm Beach County.

Broward County funding is provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau.

The Company is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

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MEDIA CONTACTS

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