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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MIAMI CITY BALLET PRESENTS “FRIDAY NIGHT SPOTLIGHTS”**  
*Firebird, Heatscape, Nine Sinatra Songs, Symphonic Dances*



**Miami, FL – Miami City Ballet (MCB)** will bring the ballet straight into your home and heart with a new series – **Friday Night Spotlights** – beginning **Friday, May 29 at 8pm** with MCB’s stunning new production of George Balanchine’s and Jerome Robbins’ *Firebird*. Justin Peck’s Wynwood Walls inspired *Heatscape*, fan favorite *Nine Sinatra Songs* by Twyla Tharp, and Alexei Ratmansky’s sweeping, critically acclaimed *Symphonic Dances* complete the series. All performances will air via the company’s [Facebook](#) page.

**Friday Night Spotlights Calendar:**

**May 29 at 8pm: *Firebird***

“... a visual splendor. This production was the most successful and impressive re-design of an old ballet I have seen.” – Palm Beach Daily News

MCB presented the company premiere of George Balanchine’s and Jerome Robbins’ *Firebird* this past February to the delight of capacity filled theaters. The iconic Russian fairytale set to Stravinsky’s spellbinding score had never been seen outside New York City since its premiere in 1949. MCB triumphantly brought the folkloric ballet to life in a display of visually arresting monsters, knights and princesses, and of course the magnificent, otherworldly Firebird.

**June 12 at 8pm: *Heatscape***

“*Heatscape* proves one of Justin Peck’s most poetic and engaging creations.” – The New York Times

MCB commissioned Justin Peck, America’s leading choreographer and recent Tony Award winner, as part of MCB’s 2014/15 season. Peck, inspired by a visit to Miami’s vibrant Wynwood Walls teamed with famed “Obey” visual artist Shepard Fairey to create a ballet so distinctively “Miami” that it instantly became a signature repertory work. The ballet vividly demonstrates all the joy, athletic kineticism, and technical prowess that MCB dancers are known for.

**June 26 at 8pm: *Nine Sinatra Songs***

“... full of flair and sophistication” – The New York Times

Twyla Tharp’s ballroom inspired *Nine Sinatra Songs* is simply irresistible. Chill some bubbly, put on your favorite cocktail dress and escape into a romantic, glamorous world filled with the music of Ol’ Blue Eyes and intimate dances that sizzle, dazzle, and fill the heart with joy.

**July 10 at 8pm: *Symphonic Dances***

“You watch it with both delight in its passing detail and suspense about what will happen next.”

– The New York Times

Alexei Ratmansky’s *Symphonic Dances*, set to Rachmaninoff’s arousing score of the same name, was made especially for MCB. The plotless yet dramatic ballet is accentuated by bursts of exuberant dancing including a drama filled, warrior invoking sequence and a scintillating ensemble, tantalize the senses in a spectacular show of inventive choreography.

Follow MCB on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) for the latest online offerings and performances.

Media inquiries, please email [communications@miamicityballet.org](mailto:communications@miamicityballet.org) or call Amber Dorsky at 305.929.7000 ext. 7189.

**ABOUT MIAMI CITY BALLET**

Miami City Ballet, celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary season, has a diverse roster of 53 dancers and a repertoire of more than 130. 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 tours to major cities domestically and internationally, including recent visits to New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles and Paris.

Miami City Ballet School, the official school of Miami City Ballet, is one of the most respected ballet training academies in America. The School trains students, ages 3-18 year-round and grants more than \$650,000 in scholarships annually.

Miami City Ballet’s Community Engagement programs and initiatives touch the lives of more than 14,000 young people, seniors and community members, annually.

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, the first artist to ever serve on its Board.

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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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.

Major funding is also provided by the Ford Foundation, working with visionaries on the frontlines of social change worldwide.

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.

Performances and programming in Miami Beach is provided with the generous support of the City of Miami Beach and the Cultural Arts Council.

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 for Palm Beach County.

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