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# Miami City Ballet Announces 2021/22 Season of Dance: Sunshine in Motion

# Featuring the North American Premiere of Alexei Ratmansky's Swan Lake



(Miami Beach, FL) – Miami City Ballet (MCB) warmly welcomes back audiences with a spirited return to all three of its home theaters (Miami's Adrienne Arsht Center, Fort Lauderdale's Broward Center, and West Palm Beach's Kravis Center). Entering her 10<sup>th</sup> season, Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez has curated a season filled with blockbuster ballets, performed to live orchestra. The anticipated return to the stage is marked by what will be one of the most talked-about productions of the entire season – the North American premiere of Alexei Ratmansky's spellbinding Swan Lake. Subscriptions to the 2021/22 season start at \$84 and go on sale July 14, 2021.



On October 14, 2021, MCB will open its 36<sup>th</sup> season of dance with the online premiere of its underwater jewel, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by George Balanchine. Then, live performance returns in December with *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® and continues with three invigorating ballets: Ratmansky's *Swan Lake*, the Balanchine masterpiece *Jewels*, and a mixed-rep bill headlined by the return of Balanchine's *Prodigal Son*, which also features two company premieres: William Forsythe's delectably fun *Herman Schmerman Pas de Deux* and Christopher Wheeldon's intimate *After the Rain Pas de Deux*. Completing the season is an innovative ballet-meets-technology world premiere by rising choreographic star Claudia Schreier and pioneering filmmaker Adam Barish. This marks MCB's second commission for Schreier after 2020s critically acclaimed *Places*.

"We cannot wait to greet our audiences with a warm, sunshine-filled welcome back to our home theaters," says Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez. "It is so exciting to be back on stage, returning to the thrill of live, intheater performances and to once again feel the joy of performing for all of you, our most cherished Miami City Ballet community. Over the past 15 months we've faced challenges, but as we embark on our 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary and I step into my 10<sup>th</sup> season, we celebrate you, our beloved community for helping us not just survive, but thrive. We are thrilled to present a season for you that is filled with stories – stories of childhood dreams and fantasy, of transcendent love, hope and courage, of distant places and times and of complete human forgiveness. Stories that speak to our most human selves, all to re-connect with you, the only way we know how, thru dance. Performing is a shared experience that only exists in that unique moment in time, and we bring this season so you can revel in the joy of ballet and be transformed by it."

Executive Director Tania Castroverde Moskalenko reflects on the past season (MCB's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary), "Our South Florida home gave MCB many opportunities to stay connected to our communities over the past year, and digital offerings opened new pathways for us to share our distinctive style with a wider audience. But nothing is akin to performing in our theaters. The support and generosity of our audiences, donors, and Board of Trustees, coupled with deepened partnerships with our local civic and business leaders gave us the power to continue and even broadened our ability to bring the transformative power of dance to our communities. Our appreciation and dedication to our audiences is abundant and our return to the stage will undoubtedly be an emotional and poignant one."

The health and safety of MCB's patrons is a top priority. Therefore, MCB has implemented a new "Flexibility Guarantee." Subscribers can exchange tickets free of cost, and rest assured that should there be a need to cancel a subscription during the season, MCB guarantees subscribers the ability to credit a purchase towards any future Miami City Ballet performance, donate tickets, or receive a refund for the balance of unused tickets.

# **2021/22 Season**

### A Midsummer Night's Dream (Balanchine / Mendelssohn)

Online Premiere: October 14, 2021 Available until October 31, 2021

From the comfort of home, enjoy the digital world premiere of MCB's very own *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, reimagined in a dreamy, underwater seascape with sets and costumes by famed environmental



artist Michele Oka Doner. Balanchine's beloved ballet based on Shakespeare's delightfully mischievous, charm-filled tale of love is "a shimmery, shadowy, magical jewel box of a show." (The Miami Herald)

# George Balanchine's The Nutcracker® (Balanchine / Tchaikovsky)

Broward Center: December 10-12, 2021 Arsht Center: December 16-26, 2021 Kravis Center: December 29-30, 2021

Delight in the must-see holiday spectacular, *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*®. For audiences of all ages, guests will journey with Marie and her Prince through MCB's vivid, Miami-inspired production that The Miami Herald calls "jaw-dropping," "exceptional" and "a riot of colors."

# Swan Lake (Ratmansky / Tchaikovsky)

\*U.S. Premiere

Arsht Center: February 11-13, 2022 Kravis Center: February 19-20, 2022 Broward Center: February 26-27, 2022

The world's most famous ballet is an epic fairytale of love, magic, and betrayal is set to Tchaikovsky's achingly beautiful score and boasts a stage filled with more than 50 dancers, lavish costumes, and grand sets.

What was once forgotten is lovingly renewed. For this *Swan Lake*, Ratmansky dug deep within the history of the fabled ballet, reconstructing much of the original choreography through extensive research and notations dating back to the 1895 Marius Petipa/Lev Ivanov production.

Here you will discover why "this Swan Lake has become the one by which all others are judged," (The New York Times).

# Jewels (Balanchine / Fauré / Stravinsky / Tchaikovsky)

Kravis Center: March 18-20, 2022 Arsht Center: April 1-3, 2022 Broward Center: April 23-24, 2022

Balanchine's crowning *Jewels* was inspired by a visit to famed French jewelers Van Cleef & Arpels. Those mesmerizing, light-reflecting stones ultimately led to the creation of one of Balanchine's most revered ballets. A pure dance tryptic it features three distinct mini-ballets -- the mysterious and poetic *Emeralds* that recalls a verdant French countryside, the quintessentially American *Rubies*, and the opulent, Imperial Russian splendor of *Diamonds*.

## Prodigal Son (Balanchine / Prokofiev)

with Herman Schmerman Pas de Deux (Forsythe / Willems) \*Company Premiere



# After the Rain Pas de Deux (Wheeldon / Pärt) \* Company Premiere World Premiere (Schreier / Barish / TBD)

Kravis Center: April 29-May 1, 2022

Arsht Center: May 6-8, 2022 Broward Center: May 21-22, 2022

Balanchine premiered *Prodigal Son* at the age of 25 with Diaghilev's Ballets Russes in 1929. For nearly a century the soul-stirring biblical tale of sin and redemption has enraptured audiences through its gripping, powerful choreography that has long put the men of ballet on exquisite display.

Herman Schmerman is an irresistibly fun romp reminding us, as Forsythe puts it, "Isn't ballet delightful?" and Christopher Wheeldon's After the Rain is a melting duet that is like peering into the window of an intimate relationship filled with great tenderness.

Claudia Schreier's second world premiere for MCB, after 2020's *Places*, blends ballet with technology to explore a landscape of shifting perspectives. Expect a rich and thoughtful journey from this collaboration between the "skilled and sophisticated" Schreier (The New York Times) and innovative filmmaker Adam Barish.

#### **Ticket Information**

Full Series (3-program) subscription packages start at \$84 and go on sale beginning Wednesday, July 14, 2021. Subscriber benefits include pre-sale privileges, first access to the best seats, free ticket exchanges and savings of up to 30% off single ticket prices.

Flexible Create Your Own Series subscriptions are also available. Select from three performance combinations at your choice of theater on any available date. Save 25% on *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®* when you see four ballets.

Current Miami City Ballet Subscribers may renew their preferred seats for the 2021/22 Season at miamicityballet.org/subscriptions or call 305.929.7010.

Subscriptions may be purchased through the Miami City Ballet Box Office, Monday – Friday, 9am – 7pm, Saturday, 12 – 4pm.

Online: miamicityballet.org/subscribe

Phone or text: 305.929.7010 or Toll Free 877.929.7010

Mail: 2200 Liberty Avenue, Miami Beach, FL 33139

<sup>\*</sup> Programming and dates subject to change.



#### **ABOUT MIAMI CITY BALLET**

Miami City Ballet has a diverse roster of 53 dancers and a repertoire of more than 130 works. 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, serving more than 12,000 people annually in schools and communities; our free programs use the power of dance to uplift, teach and bring joy.

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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The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has been a generous supporter of Miami City Ballet with over \$11 million in cumulative giving since the company's founding. Knight Foundation is a national foundation with strong local roots. We invest in journalism, in the arts, and in the success of cities where brothers John S. and James L. Knight once published newspapers. Our goal is to foster informed and engaged communities, which we believe are essential for a healthy democracy. For more, visit KF.org.

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

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

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