

MIAMI
CITY
BALLET

Lourdes Lopez
Artistic Director

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Tania Castroverde Moskalenko
Executive Director

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Toby Lerner Ansin
Founder

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Edward Villella
Founding Artistic Director

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Miami City Ballet presents *Prodigal Son*

Featuring the return of George Balanchine's riveting *Prodigal Son*

Two Company Premieres:

Christopher Wheeldon's *After the Rain* and

William Forsythe's *Herman Schmerman Duet*

Plus, the World Premiere of Claudia Schreier's *The Source*

April 29 - May 22, 2022

West Palm Beach, Miami, Fort Lauderdale



(Miami Beach, FL) – [Miami City Ballet \(MCB\)](http://MiamiCityBallet.com) will present its final program of the season, **Prodigal Son**. The mixed repertory bill features the return of George Balanchine's emotionally riveting *Prodigal Son* plus three thrilling works including a world premiere by rising choreographic voice **Claudia Schreier** entitled ***The Source*** and two company premieres: the intimate ***After the Rain Pas de Deux*** by Christopher Wheeldon and William Forsythe's delightfully risqué ***Herman Schmerman Duet***.

Performances begin April 29 – 30 at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach, May 6 – 8 at the Arsht Center in Miami, and May 21 – 22 at the Broward Center in Fort Lauderdale. Tickets start at \$30 and are on sale now at miamicityballet.org/prodigoal.

Prodigoal Son (Balanchine / Prokofiev)

In this revelatory ballet, George Balanchine borrowed from the worlds of gymnastics and circus. Daring acrobatics, soaring leaps and feats of strength punctuate *Prodigoal Son's* powerful themes.

A tale of sin and redemption, it tells the story of a young man's hunger for adventure. It features two legendary roles – the rebellious Son and the beautiful Siren. Their partnership culminates in one of the most sensual pas de deux ever to be seen on stage.

"Gauche and cruel, funny and naive, lascivious and tender... It moves with dramatic force through fantastically perceptive and daring episodes, to a conclusion of irresistible emotional conviction." (The New York Times)

Herman Schmerman Duet (Forsythe / Willems)

Herman Schmerman marks the first time the company has entered a work by renowned choreographer William Forsythe into its repertory. Forsythe perhaps says it best when he reminds us, "Isn't ballet delightful?" The playful romp features daring choreography that shows us just how much fun two dancers can have on stage. Described as a "gorgeous, edible piece" by The Guardian, dancers sizzle in sheer tops and miniskirts designed by Gianni Versace.

After the Rain Pas de Deux (Wheeldon / Pärt)

Wheeldon uses his gift of mesmerizing, geometrical lifts to create a work that is incredibly intimate, tender, and soft. It is as though you are peering into the window of a relationship filled with tenderness and love that The Standard UK describes as "one long, sweet exhalation."

The Source (Schreier / Mulherkar, Zappa, Still, Louie, Eastman)

Claudia Schreier's second world premiere for MCB after 2020s *Places*, *The Source* is an original, human story about relativity. Expect a rich and thoughtful journey from this collaboration between the "skilled and sophisticated" Schreier and pioneering director Adam Barish. (The New York Times)

A conscientious choreographer, Schreier and director Barish work to propel ballet into the future by using state-of-the-art technology and have enlisted an array of diverse composers from the past and present. The score is comprised of multiple noteworthy musicians and includes Riley Mulherkar, 2020 recipient of Lincoln Center's Emerging Artist Award; boundary-breaking,

virtuosic music maker and composer Frank Zappa; William Grant Still, the first African American to have a symphony performed by a professional orchestra in the U.S.; esteemed Canadian composer Alexina Louie; and Julius Eastman, the visionary late musician who NPR remarks, “To be proudly gay as a composer in the 1970s was brave enough; to be Black and gay in that world, even more so. But that confident self-awareness enabled Eastman to write music that was challenging, mischievously irreverent and sometimes ecstatic.”

ABOUT MIAMI CITY BALLET

Miami City Ballet has a diverse roster of 54 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, WestPalm 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.

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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