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Artistic Director

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Toby Lerner Ansin  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Miami City Ballet Previews 2022/23 Season of Dance Celebrates unprecedented completion of Transforming Lives Campaign**

New season features the John Cranko masterpiece, *Romeo and Juliet*  
Plus, the company's first presentation of a Martha Graham work, *Diversion of Angels*  
And three thrilling world premiere commissions



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**Subscriptions on Sale April 19, 2022**

**(Miami Beach, FL) – [Miami City Ballet](#) (MCB), one of the country's premier dance companies, proudly announces its 37<sup>th</sup> season as it celebrates a significant milestone: the successful completion of the *Transforming Lives Campaign*, the most extensive organizational fundraising campaign in the company's history.**

The new season, performed to live orchestra, is filled with some of ballet's most revered works, including John Cranko's *Romeo and Juliet*, Jerome Robbins's *West Side Story Suite*, *Afternoon of a Faun*, and the company premiere of *Antique Epigraphs*, plus the George Balanchine masterworks *Square Dance*, *Symphony in C*, and *Symphony in Three Movements*. Also ahead is Martha Graham's joyous *Diversion of Angels*, marking the first Graham work to enter MCB's repertory.

And in MCB's continued commitment to usher in diverse and ground-breaking voices, MCB will see three world premiere commissions by noteworthy choreographers. In her second commission for the company, **Amy Hall Garner** will explore the interplay between ballet and modern dance. Also by Garner, *Rita Finds Home*, a co-production with Joffrey Ballet, will be part of the company's community engagement programming. Swedish-born multimedia choreographer **Pontus Lidberg** will premiere an original work set to music by Philip Glass. Then, prodigies from the worlds of fashion and ballet collide when MCB School alumnus **Durante Verzola** and famed Colombian/Miamian designer **Esteban Cortázar** collaborate on a new work set to Cuban/American composer **Ernesto Lecuona**.

No season is complete without the magic of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® filled with "exquisite dancing, music, and costumes." (The Miami Herald)

The 2022/23 season opens **October 21, 2022**, with performances at the Arsht Center in Miami, Broward Center in Fort Lauderdale, and Kravis Center in West Palm Beach. [Subscriptions](#) start at just \$84 and go on sale **April 19, 2022**.

In addition to the company's South Florida season of dance, MCB will also be on tour. See them live as part of Jacob's Pillow in Becket, Massachusetts August 24 – 28; at Cal Performances in Berkeley, California September 22 – 25; and at Artis-Naples in Naples, Florida February 27 – 28 and April 25 – 26.

Following a triumphant 21/22 season that saw sold-out performances of both *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® at The Kennedy Center and Alexei Ratmansky's *Swan Lake* (MCB's largest production to date), the company also today announced the completion of the **Transforming Lives Campaign**. The campaign had an initial goal of raising an unprecedented amount for the company: \$55 million. MCB not only reached this goal but exceeded it, raising an estimated \$58 million. Funds raised support four pillars identified as crucial to delivering the company's mission: artistic expansion, community building, dance education, and organizational capacity. A formal announcement on the completion of the Transforming Lives Campaign is expected in the coming week.

Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez states, "Ballet has this wonderful ability to transport us to faraway places and cultures, to unleash the imagination, and to entertain us. This past season has been nothing short of extraordinary, having presented an uplifting season filled with programs that touched upon themes of love, betrayal, and the ultimate power of forgiveness. We again share stories that traverse time and emotion this season, reminding us that we are all connected. Beginning with one of the greatest love stories of all time, *Romeo and Juliet*."

Lopez continues, "And with the highly successful completion of the Transforming Lives Campaign, MCB's momentum is at an all-time high. We are excited to build upon this extraordinary moment for the organization and look forward to bringing our audiences performances that honor ballet's illustrious past while propelling the art form into the future as we continue to strengthen and grow the organization."

## 2022/23 Season Calendar

### [Romeo and Juliet](#)

The world's most recognized love story. Shakespeare's cautionary tale of star-crossed lovers is beautifully brought to life in this sweeping ballet that features opulent sets, costumes, breathtaking choreography, and Prokofiev's divine score as the Capulets and the Montagues battle in this heart-wrenching story centered around two young lovers.

This ballet "packs a powerfully seductive emotional punch." (The Miami Herald)

Arsht Center: October 21 - 23

Broward Center: November 5 - 6

Kravis Center: November 11 – 13

### [George Balanchine's The Nutcracker®](#)

Arsht Center: December 16 - 24

Kravis Center: December 28 - 30

### [Diversion of Angels](#)

*Diversion of Angels* (Graham/Dello Joio)

*The Moor's Pavane* (Limón/Purcell)

World Premiere (Lidberg/Glass)

World Premiere (Amy Hall Garner/TBD)

A thrilling mixed repertory bill of modern dance masters includes Martha Graham's joyous *Diversion of Angels* and José Limón's pivotal *The Moor's Pavane*, based on the Shakespeare tragedy, *Othello*. Plus, two of today's most inventive choreographers, Pontus Lidberg and Amy Hall Garner will stage innovative new works.

"We may be involved and lowly creatures crawling around here, but as long as we can see and understand Miss Graham's angels diverting themselves, it seems that not quite all is lost. *Diversion of Angels* moreover is fun." (The New York Times)

Arsht Center: February 10 - 12

West Palm Beach: February 17 - 19

Fort Lauderdale: March 4 - 5

### [West Side Story Suite](#)

*West Side Story Suite* (Robbins/Bernstein)

*Symphony in C* (Balanchine/Bizet)

World Premiere (Verzola/Lecuona)

This action-packed program will abuzz fashion lovers, fans of musicals, and dance aficionados alike. MCB's "fresh and fierce" production of Jerome Robbins's *West Side Story Suite* is the ever-popular

retelling of *Romeo and Juliet*. Set in 1950s New York City and performed to Bernstein's famed music, MCB dancers become a triple threat as Tony and Marie fall hopelessly in love while caught in the crosshairs of a bitter rivalry between street gangs, the Sharks and the Jets. (The Miami Herald)

George Balanchine's exhilarating *Symphony in C* set to Bizet's enchanting score features more than 50 dancers. And a new commission by Durante Verzola features the music of famed composer and pianist Ernesto Lecuona with costumes designed by Miami-based Colombian/American fashion icon Esteban Cortázar.

Arsht Center: April 14 - 16

Kravis Center: April 21 – 23

Broward Center: April 29 - 30

### Afternoon of a Faun

*Afternoon of a Faun* (Robbins/Debussy)

*Square Dance* (Balanchine/Vivaldi/Corelli)

*Antique Epigraphs* (Robbins/Debussy)

*Symphony in Three Movements* (Balanchine/Stravinsky)

Two titans of choreography highlight this program featuring beloved works by George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins. The famed Robbins ballet *Afternoon of a Faun*, an intimate, voyeuristic take on two dancers who encounter each other in a sun-drenched ballet studio is paired with the company premiere of *Antique Epigraphs*, also set to the music of Debussy and performed by eight women in earthy, light tunics in a work inspired by Greek mythology and poetry.

Described as "superb" by The New York Times, MCB's interpretation of *Symphony in Three Movements* set to Stravinsky's driving score is the perfect vehicle to demonstrate the dancers' artistic depth, technical attack, and fiery spirit. And in an unexpected twist, the long-forgotten role of The Caller from *Square Dance* will be included in the company's performance for the first time.

Kravis Center: May 12 – 14

Arsht Center: May 19 - 21

### **Ticket Information**

Premium Series (4-program) subscription packages start at \$84 and go on sale beginning Tuesday, April 19. 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 or four performance combinations at your choice of theater on any available date. Add on *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® for 25% off.

Current Miami City Ballet Subscribers may renew their preferred seats for the 2022/23 season at [miamicityballet.org/subscriptions](https://miamicityballet.org/subscriptions) or call 305.929.7010.

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

Online: [miamicityballet.org/subscriptions](http://miamicityballet.org/subscriptions)  
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*\* Programming and dates are subject to change.*

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## **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.

Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez leads 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](http://KF.org).

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 Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.

Performances and programming in Miami Beach provided by the City of Miami Beach Department of Tourism and Culture, Cultural Arts Council, and the Miami Beach Mayor and City 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 for Palm Beach County.

Broward County funding is provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners of Broward County, Florida, as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council.

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

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