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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 18, 2014

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS
ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER
IN TWO BAY AREA PREMIERES AND FAVORITE CLASSICS AT
ZELLERBACH HALL, TUESDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 1-6

A one-hour SchoolTime performance will be given for Bay Area schoolchildren on Thursday and Friday, April 3 and 4 at 11:00 a.m.

BERKELEY, March 18, 2014—The annual [Cal Performances](#) residency of **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** (AAADT) will mix and match new works by top choreographers with timeless works made world-famous by the company. Led by Artistic Director **Robert Battle**, the Ailey company will perform three distinct programs covering eight works in its seven appearances in Zellerbach Hall from Tuesday, April 1 through Sunday April 6. Included in Berkeley’s programming are two Bay Area premieres: *LIFT*, choreographer Aszure Barton’s first work for AAADT, and *Four Corners*, choreographed by Ronald K. Brown. “The names and faces may change, the dances may vary, but a night at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater guarantees you a night of amazing dancing” (*San Francisco Chronicle*).

Program A, performed on Tuesday, April 1 and Friday, April 4 at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, April 6 at 3:00 p.m., opens with two new works. The Bay Area premiere of *LIFT* (2013), the company’s first commission by Canadian-born Aszure Barton, is set to a percussive score by saxophonist Curtis Macdonald. A second Bay Area premiere, *Four Corners* (2013), choreographed by Ronald K. Brown, uses West African and modern dance influences to depict the search for spiritual truth, and is set to “Lamentations” by Carl Hancock Rux. The program closes with Alvin Ailey’s 1960 gospel classic and spiritual masterpiece, *Revelations*.

Program B, performed on Wednesday, April 2 at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 5 at 2:00 p.m., begins with two 1970s works created by Alvin Ailey and is set to music by jazz great Duke Ellington. *Night Creature* (1974) is a large ensemble work that entices the audience with glimpses of the nocturnal world, while *Pas de Duke* (1976) is a modern-dance translation of a

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classical *pas de deux* originally created for Judith Jamison and Mikhail Baryshnikov. Next on the program, the emotionally charged *D-Man in the Waters (Part I)* (1989) was choreographed by Bill T. Jones and set to Felix Mendelssohn's 1825 Octet for Strings. The program concludes with Ailey's *Revelations*.

Program C, performed on Thursday, April 3 and Saturday, April 5 at 8:00 p.m., opens with another Ailey/Ellington pairing: *The River* (1970) is a sweeping full-company work that has been restaged by Masazumi Chaya, the company's associate artistic director and the foremost living expert on Ailey's repertory. It will be followed by *Minus 16* (1999), choreographed by Ohad Naharin of Israel's Batsheva Dance Company using music ranging from American pop and cha-cha to techno-pop and traditional Israeli music; the improvisational dancing is driven by Naharin's "Gaga" movement language. The program closes with Ailey's *Revelations*.

For the most current casting information, please contact the Cal Performances press office at (510) 642-9121. Casting is subject to change.

Two SchoolTime performances for Bay Area schoolchildren, on Thursday and Friday, April 3 and 4 at 11:00 a.m., will feature *D-Man in the Waters (Part I)* and *Revelations*. Tickets are available in advance only. More information is available at calperformances.org.

Founded in 1958 by its namesake, the [Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater](#) has performed around the world for millions of enthralled dance fans. Dancer, choreographer, and activist Alvin Ailey led the company for its first 30 years, during which time he created dozens of works that often drew on African-American music and themes. Former Ailey dancer Judith Jamison led the company from 1980 to 2011, introducing works by leading choreographers as well as adding her own creations to its repertory. The company's current artistic director, Robert Battle, took the reins in 2011 and has continued the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's tradition of impassioned, meaningful dance grounded in the African-American experience. The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater offers Bay Area children an opportunity to learn and perform in its annual AileyCamp in Berkeley, produced by Cal Performances.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater from Tuesday, April 1 through Sunday, April 6 in Zellerbach Hall range from \$30.00–\$92.00 and are subject to change. Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at <http://www.calperformances.org>, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to <http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php>.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their major support of the 2013—2014 Season.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Tuesday–Friday, April 1–4, at 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 5, at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 6 at 3:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Dana Street, Berkeley

Dance

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
Robert Battle, Artistic Director

Program A: Tuesday, April 1 and Friday, April 4 at 8:00 p.m., Sunday, April 6 at 3:00 p.m.:

LIFT (2013): music by Curtis Macdonald; choreography by Aszure Barton (Bay Area premiere)

Four Corners (2013): music by Carl Hancock Rux, Yacoub, and Rashaan Roland Kirk; choreography by Ronald K. Brown (Bay Area premiere)

Revelations (1960): traditional spirituals; choreography by Alvin Ailey

Program B: Wednesday, April 2 at 8:00 p.m., Saturday, April 5 at 2:00 p.m.:

Night Creature (1974): music by Duke Ellington; choreography by Alvin Ailey

Pas de Duke (1976): music by Duke Ellington; choreography by Alvin Ailey, restaged by Masazumi Chaya

D-Man in the Waters (Part I) (1989): music by Felix Mendelssohn; choreography by Bill T. Jones, restaged by Janet Wong

Revelations (1960): traditional spirituals; choreography by Alvin Ailey

Program C: Thursday, April 3 and Saturday, April 5 at 8:00 p.m.:

The River (1970): music by Duke Ellington; choreography by Alvin Ailey, restaged by Masazumi Chaya

Minus 16 (1999): music including American pop, cha-cha, techno-pop, and traditional Israeli music;
choreography by Ohad Naharin

Revelations (1960): traditional spirituals; choreography by Alvin Ailey

Tickets range from \$30.00–\$92.00 and are subject to change. They are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at calperformances.org, and at the door.

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Thursday & Friday, April 3 & 4, at 11:00 a.m.

SCHOOLTIME PERFORMANCE

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus

Bancroft Way at Dana Street, Berkeley

Dance

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

Robert Battle, Artistic Director

Program:

D-Man in the Waters (Part I) (1989): music by Felix Mendelssohn; choreography by Bill T. Jones,
restaged by Janet Wong

Revelations (1960): traditional spirituals; choreography by Alvin Ailey

Tickets are \$8.00 per student or adult chaperone, available in advance only through Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988. SchoolTime performances are open to students in kindergarten through grade 12 in Bay Area public and private schools. Supplemental study guides for the classroom are provided. For more information about the SchoolTime program, contact the SchoolTime coordinator at Cal Performances by email at eduprograms@calperformances.org or by phone at (510) 642-0212.

– Cal Performances –