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[Press Room](#)

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY'S
2022–23 SEASON OPENING WEEKEND**

**MIAMI CITY BALLET
PERFORMS
GEORGE BALANCHINE'S *JEWELS*
AT ZELLERBACH HALL, FRIDAY–SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23–25**

**DOVER QUARTET
MAKES CAL PERFORMANCES IN-PERSON DEBUT
AT HERTZ HALL, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

Berkeley, CA, August 24, 2022—Cal Performances opens its 2022–23 season September 23–25 with two engagements representing the very finest in ballet and classical music. Famed for its dedication to the repertoire, style, and technique of George Balanchine, **Miami City Ballet** returns to Zellerbach Hall for the first time in more than a decade to open the season with the choreographer's seminal ballet *Jewels*, accompanied by the Berkeley Symphony, Friday–Sunday, September 23–25. Also that weekend, the **Dover Quartet**—the Curtis Institute's quartet in residence—makes its in-person Cal Performances debut on Sunday, September 25 at Hertz Hall, performing Haydn's *Emperor* Quartet, Mendelssohn's third quartet from his Op. 44 set, and Amy Beach's 1929 quartet, a work built on Alaskan Inuit melodies.

Miami City Ballet

This season, Miami City Ballet embarks on its tenth year of programming under Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez, one of the ballet world's most prominent and accomplished figures. Until the San Francisco Ballet's recent appointment of incoming artistic director Tamara Rojas, Lopez was the only woman leading one of the 10 largest ballet companies in the US. *Dance Magazine* named her a 2018 recipient of its prestigious *Dance Magazine* Award, choosing Lopez for her "...admirable stewardship of Miami City Ballet, building upon the company's Balanchine legacy while also embracing the local culture and community of Miami," and as "...an exemplary leader, someone whom dancers look up to and are inspired by."

Lopez became Artistic Director of Miami City Ballet in 2012, bringing with her a nearly 40-year career in dance, television, teaching, and arts management. As a soloist and principal dancer with New York City Ballet, Lopez danced for two legends of the art form, George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins. According to the *New York Times*, “This troupe [is] at the forefront of all those dancing choreography by George Balanchine today.... Bold, light, immediate, intensely musical, the dancing of Miami City Ballet flies straight to the heart.”

Under the direction of Lopez, in its September 23–25 performances at Zellerbach Hall, Miami City Ballet will reprise Balanchine’s iconic 1967 work *Jewels*, a triptych of dances evoking French (“Emeralds”), American (“Rubies”), and Russian (“Diamonds”) ballet traditions; the work was inspired by the choreographer’s visit to the jeweler Van Cleef & Arpels. Music by Fauré, Stravinsky, and Tchaikovsky will be performed live by the Berkeley Symphony under the baton of Miami City Ballet music director and principal conductor, Gary Sheldon familiar to some Bay Area audiences from his time as the music director of the Marin Symphony from 1990-2000. “We are thrilled to return to Cal Performances to perform Balanchine’s sparkling *Jewels*—a work that so wonderfully demonstrates the entire company’s breadth of artistic and technical achievement,” says Lopez. “All of us are delighted to be back on tour to share our love of dance and a little bit of our signature warmth and artistic generosity with Berkeley audiences.”

Miami City Ballet performed the West Coast premiere of *Jewels* in Zellerbach Hall to open Cal Performances’ 1999–2000 season. The company last appeared in Berkeley in 2007, performing a mixed repertoire program of dances by Twyla Tharp and Balanchine.

Dover Quartet

The Dover Quartet appears at Cal Performances for its in-person debut following the group’s virtual performance during the 2020–21 *Cal Performances at Home* season. For this concert, Joel Link and Bryan Lee on violins, and Camden Shaw on cello, will be joined by Hezekiah Leung on viola. (Founding violist Milena Pajaro-von de Stadt stepped down from the quartet this summer.) Named “one of the greatest string quartets of the last 100 years” by *BBC Music Magazine*, the Grammy-nominated Dover Quartet has followed a “practically meteoric” (*Strings*) trajectory to become one of the most in-demand chamber ensembles in the world. In the *Chicago Tribune*, John Von Rhein wrote

that the players’ “expert musicianship, razor-sharp ensemble, deep musical feeling and a palpable commitment to communication made their performances satisfying on many levels,” while a *Montreal Gazette* reviewer opined that, “These young musicians play with remarkable attentiveness and an astonishingly even tone, as if they were four limbs of one instrument.” Artistic and executive director of Cal Performances Jeremy Geffen calls the Dover Quartet “one of the most exciting American string ensembles of our generation.” He explains that, “when these musicians first joined forces, they were students. From the start, their music has been visceral, staying true to a red-blooded American sound and yet unlocking infinite levels of nuance. I can think of no better way to start off a season!”

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, September 23, 8pm
Saturday, September 24, 8pm
Sunday, September 25, 3pm

Zellerbach Hall
Bancroft Way at Dana
UC Berkeley campus

Dance

Miami City Ballet
Berkeley Symphony
Gary Sheldon, *conductor*

Program:

Balanchine/*Jewels* (music: Fauré, Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky)

A favorite in the Balanchine canon, George Balanchine’s *Jewels* is a triptych of dances evoking French (“Emeralds”), American (“Rubies”), and Russian (“Diamonds”) ballet traditions; the work was inspired by the choreographer’s visit to the jeweler Van Cleef & Arpels. Miami City Ballet is famed for its dedication to Balanchine’s repertory, style, and technique, and returns for the first time in more than a decade to perform his seminal ballet, to music by Fauré, Stravinsky, and Tchaikovsky performed live by the Berkeley Symphony.

Tickets: Tickets: \$42–\$148 (prices subject to change). Tickets are available at calperformances.org, by phone at (510) 642-9988, or in person at the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, Tuesday–Friday, 12–5:30pm and Saturday–Sunday, 1–5 pm. UC Berkeley students can access exclusive discounts,

including half-price tickets in all sections of the theater and—new this year—\$10 tickets for the most desirable seats in the house, as part of Cal Performances’ Golden Bear Circle program. More information about student tickets and discounts is available at calperformances.org/ucb-students. For information about other discounts, visit calperformances.org/discounts.

COVID-19: Masking is required inside Zellerbach Hall auditorium, and is strongly recommended, though not required, for indoor lobby/waiting areas as well as outdoor spaces. Up-to-date vaccination is strongly recommended, though not required for entry. The latest information on Cal Performances’ COVID-19 safety policies is available at calperformances.org/safety.

Sunday, September 25, 3pm

Hertz Hall
Bancroft Way at College Avenue
UC Berkeley campus

Chamber Music

Dover Quartet

Program:

Haydn/String Quartet in C major, Op. 76, No. 3, *Emperor*
Amy Beach/Quartet for Strings (in one movement), Op. 89
Mendelssohn/String Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 44, No. 3

Following its online performance as part of the 2020–21 *Cal Performances at Home* season, the Dover Quartet visits for its in-person Cal Performances debut. Haydn’s *Emperor* Quartet and Mendelssohn’s third quartet from his Op. 44 set bookend Amy Beach’s 1929 quartet, a lyrical work built on Alaskan Inuit melodies.

Tickets: Tickets: \$72 (prices subject to change). Half-price for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available at calperformances.org, by phone at (510) 642-9988, or in person at the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, Tuesday–Friday, 12–5:30pm and Saturday–Sunday, 1–5 pm. More information about student tickets and discounts is available at calperformances.org/ucb-students. For information about other discounts, visit calperformances.org/discounts.

COVID-19: Masking is required inside Hertz Hall auditorium, and is strongly recommended, though not required, for indoor lobby/waiting areas as well as outdoor spaces. Up-to-date vaccination is strongly recommended, though not required for entry. The latest information on Cal Performances’ COVID-19 safety policies is available at calperformances.org/safety.

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