



BALLET HISPÁNICO

PHILADELPHIA PREMIERES

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CEO Eduardo Vilaro

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & REHEARSAL DIRECTOR Johan Rivera

CHOREOGRAPHERS Pedro Ruiz, Michelle Manzanales, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa

DANCERS Fatima Andere, Amir Baldwin, Chris Bloom, Antonio Cangiano, Amanda del Valle, Ana Estrada, Alex Haquía, Paulo Hernandez-Farella, Cori Lewis, Dylan McIntyre, Hugo Pizano, Omar Riviera, Isabel Robles, Gabrielle Sprauve, Dandara Veiga

FRIDAY, **NOVEMBER 4** @ 8 PM

SATURDAY, **NOVEMBER 5** @ 2 PM

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Annenberg Center, Zellerbach Theatre

There will be two intermissions.

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Media support provided by *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

PROGRAM NOTES

Club Havana

Latin dancing at its best. The intoxicating rhythms of the conga, rumba, mambo and cha cha are brought to life by choreographer Pedro Ruiz, himself a native of Cuba, as he imagined his very own *Club Havana*.

CHOREOGRAPHY Pedro Ruiz

MUSIC Israel Lopez, Rubén Gonzales, A.K. Salim, Perez Prado, Francisco Repilado

COSTUME DESIGN Emilio Sosa

COSTUME CONSTRUCTION Diana Ruettiger

LIGHTING DESIGN Donald Holder

INTERMISSION

Con Brazos Abiertos

With humility, nostalgia and humor, Michelle Manzanales explores the iconic Mexican symbols that she was reluctant to embrace as a Mexican-American child growing up in Texas. Intertwining folkloric details with a distinctly contemporary voice in dance, set to music that ranges from Julio Iglesias to rock en Español, *Con Brazos Abiertos* is a fun and frank look at a life caught between two cultures.

CHOREOGRAPHY Michelle Manzanales

ARTISTIC COLLABORATION WITH Ray Doñes

SOUNDSCAPE INCLUDES Carla Morrison, Cheech & Chong, Julio Iglesias, Edward James Olmos, Gustavo Santaolalla, Michelle Manzanales, Juan Carlos Marin Marin, Ember Island, Mexican Institute of Sound

POEM Maria Billini-Padilla

COSTUME DESIGN Diana Ruettiger

LIGHTING DESIGN Joshua Preston

INTERMISSION

Línea Recta

From one of today's most sought-after choreographers comes a powerful and resonant work that explores an intriguing aspect of flamenco dance: the conspicuous absence of physical partnering. While maintaining the integrity and hallmark passion of the genre, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa imagines an original and explosive movement language premised upon the theme of partnership and performed to flamenco guitar by Eric Vaarzon Morel.

World Premiere: November 18, 2016 at the Apollo Theater

CHOREOGRAPHY Annabelle Lopez Ochoa

MUSIC Eric Vaarzon Morel

COSTUME DESIGN Danielle Truss

LIGHTING DESIGN Michael Mazzola

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Ballet Hispánico

For fifty years, Ballet Hispánico has been the leading voice intersecting artistic excellence and advocacy and is now the largest Latinx cultural organization in the United States and one of America's Cultural Treasures. Ballet Hispánico brings communities together to celebrate and explore Latino cultures through innovative dance productions, transformative dance training and enduring community engagement experiences.

National Medal of Arts recipient Tina Ramirez founded Ballet Hispánico in 1970, at the height of the post-war civil rights movements. From its inception, Ballet Hispánico focused on providing a haven for Black and Brown Latinx youth and families seeking an artistic place and cultural sanctuary. By providing the space for Latinx dance and dancers to flourish, Ballet Hispánico uplifted marginalized emerging and working artists which combined with the training, authenticity of voice and power of representation, fueled the organization's roots and trajectory. In 2009, Ballet Hispánico welcomed Eduardo Vilaro as its Artistic Director, ushering in a new era by inserting fresh energy into the company's founding values and leading Ballet Hispánico into an artistically vibrant future. Today, Ballet Hispánico's New York City headquarters house a school of dance and state-of-the-art dance studios for its programs and the arts community. From its grassroots origins as a dance school and community-based performing arts troupe for fifty years, Ballet Hispánico has stood as a catalyst for social change.

Ballet Hispánico provides the physical home and cultural heart for Latinx dance in the United States. Ballet Hispánico has developed a robust public presence across its three main programs: its company, school of dance and community arts partnerships.

Through its exemplary artistry, distinguished training program and deep-rooted community engagement efforts, Ballet Hispánico champions and amplifies underrepresented voices in the field. For fifty years, Ballet Hispánico has provided a place of honor for the omitted, overlooked and oppressed. As it looks to the next fifty years and beyond, Ballet Hispánico seeks to empower and give agency to the Latinx experience and those individuals within it.

MetLife Foundation is an Official Tour Sponsor of Ballet Hispánico. The 2022-2023 Ballet Hispánico National Tour is also made possible by JP Morgan Chase, an Official Tour Sponsor. | Major support for Ballet Hispánico Community Arts Partnerships programming including CAP-on-tour is provided by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. Funding for the Ballet Hispánico Community Arts Partnerships is provided by the RBC Foundation USA, and the Goldie Anna Charitable Trust. | Transformational funding for Ballet Hispánico is provided by MacKenzie Scott, the Ford Foundation America's Cultural Treasures program, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Major support is provided by the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Miranda Family Fund, the Scherman Foundation, the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, the Robert and Mercedes Eichholz Foundation, the Tatiana Plankova Foundation, the Prospect Hill Foundation, and the Harkness Foundation for Dance.

Chris Bloom (Dancer)

Bloom is from Fredrick County, VA, where he began dancing at the Blue Ridge Studio for the Performing Arts and the Vostrikov Academy of Ballet. Bloom graduated summa cum laude from the Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in 2012. He has performed with numerous companies such as Parsons Dance, Lydia Johnson and the Peridance Contemporary Dance Company. Bloom joined Ballet Hispánico in 2013 and has originated roles in new works by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Edgar Zendejas, Miguel Mancillas, Fernando Melo, Michelle Manzanales, Gustavo Ramírez Sansano and Eduardo Vilaro. This is Bloom's eighth season with Ballet Hispánico.

Leonardo Brito (Dancer)

Brito is from Saquarema, Brazil and trained with Projeto Primeiro Passo before training at Escola Estadual de Danca Maria Olenewa, Center of Art Nós da Dança, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Miami City Ballet School and The Ailey School. Brito has performed with companies such as Mariinsky Ballet,

Municipal Theater of Rio de Janeiro, Emotions Physical Theater, Dance Theater of Florida, Alvin Ailey and Ailey II. In 2016, Brito was awarded the III Brazilian Modern Dance Congress and he has performed works by Robert Battle, Jennifer Archibald, Troy Powell, Jae Man Joo, Darrell Grand Moultrie, Amy Hall Garner, Melanie Futorian, Ray Mercer and Bradley Shelver. He has also made appearances in the Tommy Hilfiger Pride Campaign 2019, *Out Magazine* May 2019 Issue and second season of the *Pose* television series on FX. This is Brito's second season with the company.

Antonio Cangiano (Dancer)

Cangiano was born in Naples, Italy. He began his dance training at sixteen and was awarded scholarships from Ateneo Danza (Forli), Accademia Normanna (Naples) and the Martha Graham Dance School (New York City.) Cangiano has danced for the Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, Dardo Galletto Dance, Acsi Ballet and Graham 2. In 2014, he made his first appearance at the Italian International Dance Festival dancing in a homage to Luigi, the "master of jazz," by Dianna Folio, and received the Festival's Rising Star Award in 2017. In 2016, he was selected to dance at the Martha Graham Dance Company's 90th anniversary season at New York City Center. This is Cangiano's third season with Ballet Hispánico.

Amanda Lauren del Valle (Dancer)

Amanda Lauren del Valle was born and raised in Miami, FL, where she began her early training with Miami Youth Ballet under the direction of Marielena Mencia and Yanis Pikieris. She continued her training at the New World School of the Arts with Mary Lisa Burns as the Dean of Dance. She graduated in 2016 with training in classical ballet, Horton, Limón and the Graham technique. She then continued her studies at Point Park University where she received her bachelor's in fine arts under the direction of Garfield Lemonius. There, she had the honor of working with Jennifer Archibald, Jessica Lang, Robert Priore, Christopher Huggins and Yin Yue. This is del Valle's first season with Ballet Hispánico.

Ana Estrada (Dancer)

Estrada was raised in Hermosillo, Son, México where she started training with Gabriela Estrada. She graduated from the University of Arizona with a BFA in dance and a BS in marketing. She has trained in companies including, Alonzo King Lines Ballet, Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Ballet Arizona and KEIGWIN + COMPANY. Estrada has been a part of various dance companies and projects in Mexico and the U.S., including BHdos, NYC Opera, Arch Contemporary Ballet, Numbus Dance Works, *Broadway Christmas Wonderland* national tour, Hope Boykin (Alvin Ailey), Moving Borders Dance Company, Laleget Danza, La Infinita Cía (dancer and rehearsal director), Oscar Ruvalcaba Cía, H Dance Group, Tania Perez Salas Cía, Oscar Carapia's *Aquí Estamos* TV show and *Sugar - The Musical* (swing). She has toured nationally and internationally with renowned singers Pepe Aguilar's Jarapeo Sin Fronteras (U.S. and Mexico tour) and Angela Aguilar (U.S. and Mexico). Estrada has also been a part of film and television projects such as Amazon Prime's *Ana* and Alejandro Gonzales Iñárritu's new film, *Bardo*. This is her first season with Ballet Hispánico.

Alexander Haquia (Dancer)

Haquia is of Cuban and Portuguese descent and grew up in Morris County, NJ. He began his dance training at Haquia's Broadway Dance Company at the age of 15, under the direction of Ashley Hosbach and the tutelage of choreographer Tracy Badini. After graduating high school, he went to the Fordham Ailey BFA program with a major in dance and a minor in Latin American and Latinx studies. As a college student, he has served on the faculties of Northeast Dance Project and Juntos while continuing his own dance training in intensive workshops at The Ailey School (2019), Jacob's Pillow (2020), Gibney (2020) and City Center with Twyla Tharp (2021). He has worked with a wide array of choreographers, including Francesca Harper, Matthew Rushing, Twyla Tharp, Ray Mercer, Yusha Marie Sorzano and Pedro Ruiz. He has performed at the Holland Dance Festival, as well as in *Memoria* with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. This is Haquia's first season with Ballet Hispánico.

Paulo Hernandez-Farella (Dancer)

Hernandez-Farella is a first-generation Salvadoran-American from Los Angeles, CA. After four years at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, they attended the University of Southern California on a full ride. In just four years, Hernandez-Farella graduated with both a BFA in dance from the USC Glorya

Kaufman School of Dance and a master's in public administration from the USC Price School of Public Policy. Hernandez-Farella has been a scholarship student for a multitude of renowned schools such as The Juilliard School Summer Intensive, the Joffrey Ballet's International Intensive and Alonzo King LINES Intensive. Hernandez-Farella is also one of seven 2016-2017 dance scholars with Nigel Lythgoe's Dizzyfeet Foundation. During their career, Hernandez-Farella has studied and performed the works of Forsythe, Kylián, Balanchine, Graham, Taylor, Petipa, Lopez Ochoa, Rhoden, Cerrudo, Andrea Miller and Aszure Barton and choreographed their own original work. This is Hernandez-Farella's second season with Ballet Hispánico.

Cori Lewis (Dancer)

Lewis was born and raised in New Orleans, LA. Her dance training began at Lusher Charter School and The New Orleans Ballet Association. She received her BFA in dance with a minor in mathematics/computer science from SUNY Purchase College in 2020. Lewis has performed works by choreographers such as José Limón, George Balanchine, Eduardo Vilaro, Ronald K. Brown, Dwight Rhoden, Martha Graham and David Parsons. She performed for children across the greater New York area with BHDos for the 2018 season. This is her first season with Ballet Hispánico.

Dylan McIntyre (Dancer)

McIntyre was born and raised in West Palm Beach, Florida. He started dancing at Palm Beach Ballet Center when he was eight years old. When he was 16, he moved to Tampa to be a trainee with Next Generation Ballet. After two years, he joined Richmond Ballet to complete his training and start his professional career with Richmond Ballet's second company. In 2019, he became a company dancer with Ballet Memphis where he danced for three seasons, and he participated in a season with Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance in the summer of 2022. This is McIntyre's first season dancing with Ballet Hispánico, and he is beyond eager to be part of this company.

Laura Lopez (Dancer)

Lopez is from Miami, FL, where she trained at Patricia Penenori Dance Center. She attended New World School of the Arts High School where she continued her dance training. Lopez was a 2013 Young Arts finalist and was nominated as a Presidential Scholar. In 2016, she graduated New World College, where she received her BFA in dance from the University of Florida. Lopez has danced professionally with Complexions Contemporary Ballet and Ballet Hispánico's BHDos. She has attended summer programs at Exploring Ballet with Suzanne Farrell, Miami City Ballet, Alonzo King LINES Ballet and Jacob's Pillow and has performed the works of Eduardo Vilaro, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Robert Moses and many more. This is Lopez's third season with Ballet Hispánico.

Hugo Pizano Orozco (Apprentice)

Born in Guanajuato, Mexico, Pizano Orozco moved to New Mexico at an early age where he began his training with NDI-NM. He attended the New Mexico School for the Arts under the direction of Garrett Anderson. Pizano Orozco is currently a fourth-year dancer at The Juilliard School, where he will graduate with a BFA in dance in 2022. During his time at Juilliard, he has had the pleasure of learning repertoire by Forsythe, Balanchine, Ratmansky, Taylor, Cunningham, Kylian and Donald McKayle. Additionally, he has been a part of new creations by Marcus Jarrell Willis, Jamar Roberts, Bobbi Jene Smith and Ohad Naharin. This is Pizano Orozco's first season with Ballet Hispánico.

Omar Rivéra (Dancer)

Rivéra is originally from Los Angeles, CA. After moving to Dallas, TX, Rivéra trained at Prodigy Dance & Performing Arts Centre under the direction of Camille Billelo. He graduated from the prestigious Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing & Visual Arts and was a part of HSPVA's dance ensembles Repertoire Dance Company I & II, where he performed a variety of works by choreographers such as Robert Battle and Desmond Richardson. Rivéra was a scholarship student at the University of Arizona-School of Dance and graduated with a BFA in dance in 2018. Rivéra was one of eight men selected to perform at the Joyce Theater for the José Limón International Dance Festival and danced in Christopher Wheeldon's *The American*, Darrell Grand Moultrie's *Boiling Point* and Bella Lewitzky's *Meta4*, among others. This is Rivéra's third season with Ballet Hispánico.

Isabel Robles (Dancer)

Robles was born in Arlington, VA, and was raised in Reston, VA. From a young age, Robles gravitated towards dance and began training in ballet at age four. While at the Classical Ballet Theatre, she gained experience in the styles of ballet, jazz, Horton, Graham, character dance, modern and contemporary. After attending a summer intensive at The Houston Ballet, Robles was offered a scholarship to join their year-round pre-professional program in 2013. Robles spent three years with the program performing reworks of Stanton Welsh, George Balanchine, David Lichine and John Neumeier ballets. Robles then returned home to Northern Virginia to finish high school while also attending the Washington Ballet pre-professional program. During her time at the Washington Ballet, Robles worked with Julie Kent and Xiomara Reyes and performed with their company in *The Nutcracker*. She furthered her modern and contemporary background at Joy of Motion Dance Center in Washington, D.C. for a year before attending James Madison University (JMU) to receive her BA in dance. During her time at JMU, she worked with Kyle Abraham, Christian Warner, Omar Román De Jesús, Julie Nakagawa and Ballet Hispánico. For the past three summers, she has attended DanceWorks Chicago's summer program under the direction of Julie Nakagawa and Sara Bibik. This is her first season with Ballet Hispánico.

Gabrielle Sprauve (Dancer)

Sprauve was born in Queens, NY, and raised in Savannah, GA, where she attended Savannah Arts Academy for the Performing Arts, studying at the Ailey School and the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance during the summers. She earned her BFA at Marymount Manhattan College in 2017. While at Marymount, Sprauve performed works by Larry Keigwin, Alexandra Damiani, Norbert De La Cruz, Paul Taylor, Darrell Grand Moultrie, Adam Barruch and Jo Strømgen. This is Sprauve's fourth season with Ballet Hispánico.

Dandara Veiga (Dancer)

Veiga is originally from Brazil, where she began her dance training at Projeto Social Primeiros Passos before training as a scholarship student at Escola de dança Ballerina. She also studied at Studio Margarita Fernandez in Argentina, Opus Ballet in Italy and Annarella Academia de Ballet e Danca in Portugal. Veiga continued her training as a scholarship student at The Ailey School in 2016/2017. She has participated in dance festivals around the world and received scholarships from San Francisco Ballet and Ballet West. She has performed for the Vibe Competition, Assamblé International, Harlem Arts Festival and the Ailey Spirit Gala. She has had the opportunity to work with artists Charla Gen, Robert Battle, Caridad Martínez, Claudia Zaccari, Jean Emille, Ray Mercer, Raul Candal and Melanie Futorian. This is Veiga's fourth season with Ballet Hispánico.

Mariano Zamora González (Apprentice)

González is a Costa Rican artist residing in New York City. He began dance training at Jazzgoba Dance Academy and later continued at CityDance School & Conservatory in Washington, D.C. He accepted a scholarship to pursue a BFA in dance from the University of Southern California under the direction of Jodie Gates. González strongly values family and aspires to be part of a dance company that is run as such as his passion to move emanates from human connection and physical contact. Being an aesthetically driven person, he enjoys visuals such as drawings, photography and film and is interested in gaining inspiration through other's specific visions. He aspires to continue traveling the world to engage with different cultures to better understand his creative mission. Additionally, González acquired a minor in architecture to combine his visual and kinesthetic talents with functionality of form and space. He is devoted to the improvement of arts education in Costa Rica to bring awareness of the advantageous benefits of stimulating creativity by leading a project to encourage youths to follow artistic avenues against predominant Latin American stereotypes later in his career. González has learned and performed works by William Forsythe, George Balanchine, Jiří Kylián, Crystal Pite, Barak Marshall, Jerome Robbins, Ohad Naharin, Francesca Harper, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Alejandro Cerrudo and Matthew Neenan, among others. This will be his first season with Ballet Hispánico.

Pedro Ruiz (Choreographer, Dancer)

Ruiz is a celebrated choreographer and dancer who was born and trained in Cuba, and later in Venezuela before coming to the U.S. During his 21-year career with Ballet Hispánico as a principal dancer, Ruiz choreographed three critically acclaimed ballets for the company — *Club Havana* (the company's signature piece), *Guajira* and *Cecilia*. Ruiz is on the dance faculty of Marymount College, the staff of The Ailey School, a master-class teacher of The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Pace University, Complexion Contemporary Ballet and Resident Artistic Director of the Arnhold Graduate Dance Education Program at Hunter. He has also taught master classes and performed throughout the United States, Europe, and Central and South America. His awards include the Bessie Award, the Choo-San Goh Award, The Cuban Artist's Fund, The Joyce Foundation Award and The American Friends of the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba.

Michelle Manzanales (Director, School of Dance)

Manzanales is a choreographer, dedicated dance educator of 30 years and co-founder of the Latinx Dance Educators Alliance. The Director of Ballet Hispánico's School of Dance since December 2016, Manzanales previously led the organization's professional company as Rehearsal Director & Artistic Associate for seven seasons. Manzanales has co-presented at the New York State Dance Educators Association, ARTs + Change and the National Dance Education Organization conferences. A current faculty member of the Ballet Hispánico School of Dance, she has also served on the faculties of the University of Houston, Rice University, Lou Conte Dance Studio (former home of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago) and the Houston Metropolitan Dance Center. She has been a guest artist for the Professional Work Sessions at STEPS on Broadway, the Joyce Master Class Series at Gibney, the Taylor School, New Orleans Ballet Association and the Puerto Rico Classical Dance Competition, along with numerous other dance studios, schools and college dance programs nationwide and internationally.