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BALLET HISPANICO
Makes its first visit to Miami
under the artistic leadership of Eduardo Vilaro
for two performances at the Adrienne Arsht Center
for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County

Program features the World Premiere of *Show.Girl.*
by Miami-based choreographer Rosie Herrera
and live music by the GRAMMY[®] winning
Paquito D’Rivera Ensemble
June 6-7, 2014

New York, NY – May 12, 2014 – Ballet Hispanico, recognized as the nation’s leading Latino dance organization since 1970, makes its first visit to Miami under the artistic leadership of Eduardo Vilaro to perform at the Ziff Ballet Opera House at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County on June 6-7, 2014. Highlights of the program include the world premiere of *Show.Girl.* by Miami-based choreographer Rosie Herrera, live music by the GRAMMY[®] winning Paquito D’Rivera Ensemble, and acclaimed works by Cuban-American Vilaro and Spanish native Cayetano Soto. The Arsht Center is located at 1300 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, FL. Tickets are \$30-90 and are available at 305-949-6722 or www.arshtcenter.org.

Since its inception, Ballet Hispanico’s contemporary repertory has reflected the ever-changing diversity of Latino culture, showcased masterfully by some of “the most technically accomplished and musical dancers you’ll find in the contemporary sphere” (*The Washington Post*). The Company’s visit to Miami will include **arts education offerings for the community**, including in-school performances at three Miami-Dade County schools with predominantly Hispanic and African-American student populations: the Hubert O. Sibley Elementary School, Mae M. Walters Elementary School, and St. Phillip’s Episcopal School. Ballet Hispanico will also teach a master class at the New World School of the Arts, the alma mater of Company dancers Joshua Winzeler and Johan Rivera Mendez.

Following the performance on Saturday, June 7, there will be a post-performance Q&A with Ballet Hispanico company dancers and Artistic Director in the Ziff Ballet Opera House.

Part of the Arsht Center's 2013-2014 Knight Masterworks – Ziff Signature Dance Series

The program at the Arsht Center includes:

***Show.Girl*, a World Premiere by Rosie Herrera**

Miami-based choreographer and 2013 Princess Grace Award winner Rosie Herrera debuts her first work for Ballet Hispanico, one that uses the Cuban cabaret aesthetic to explore the Latina female identity. *Show.Girl*. was commissioned by the Arsht Center and the prestigious American Dance Festival, where Herrera has been invited to show her work for three consecutive years.

***Sombrerísimo* by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa**

An absorbing exploration of identity, *Sombrerísimo* makes references to the surrealist world of the Belgian painter René Magritte, famous for his paintings of men in bowler hats. This athletic work for six male dancers was commissioned by New York City Center for the 10th anniversary of the *Fall for Dance Festival*.

***Sortijas* by Cayetano Soto to the music of Lhasa de Sela**

Cayetano Soto, one of the most dynamic and groundbreaking Spanish choreographers of his generation, is known for his musicality, attention to detailed technique, and expressive choreography. In *Sortijas*, a darkly lush duet full of emotional complexity, he ponders the unavoidable pull of fate in our lives. Costume design is by Munich-based fashion designers Talbot Runhof.

***Danzón* by Eduardo Vilaro with live music by the GRAMMY-winning Paquito D’Rivera Ensemble**

Artistic Director Eduardo Vilaro has taken this traditional and quintessentially Cuban dance form and reinvented it with contemporary movement riffs. The work plays on the fusion of jazz improvisation and Cuban rhythms, which propel the dancers into a joyous celebration of music and movement.

ABOUT BALLETHISPANICO

Celebrating 43 years of dance and culture, Ballet Hispanico is recognized as the nation’s premier Latino dance organization. Led by Artistic Director Eduardo Vilaro, the Company boasts a rich and diverse repertory of over 100 works by the foremost choreographers and emerging artists of our time. The works expand on founder Tina Ramirez’s legacy of exploring the diversity of Latino culture through a fusion of classical, Latin, and contemporary dance powered by theatricality and passion. The Company has performed for an **audience of nearly 3 million**, throughout **11 countries**, on **3 continents**. For more information, visit www.ballethispanico.org. Follow Ballet Hispanico on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

EDUARDO VILARO, a first generation Cuban-American, began as artistic director of Ballet Hispanico in August of 2009, becoming only the second person to head the company since it was founded in 1970. Mr. Vilaro has been part of the Ballet Hispanico family since 1985. As a dancer with the Ballet Hispanico Company, he performed throughout the U.S., Latin America and Europe and assisted founder Tina Ramirez with the development of dance education residencies. Mr. Vilaro is also an accomplished choreographer, having created works for the Ravinia Festival, the Chicago Sinfonietta, the Lexington Ballet, the Civic Ballet of Chicago, and

over 20 ballets for Luna Negra Dance Theater, the company he founded in Chicago. He received a B.F.A. in Dance from Adelphi University and an M.A. in Interdisciplinary Art from Columbia College Chicago, where he served as Artist-in-Residence at The Dance Center. Mr. Vilaro was a guest speaker at the Salzburg Global Forum for Young Cultural Leaders and the National Association for Latino Arts and Culture, and continues to speak to the growing need for cultural diversity and dance education.

PAQUITO D’RIVERA defies categorization. Born in Havana, Cuba, he began performing at an early age, and studied at the Havana Conservatory of Music. As solo clarinetist and saxophonist, he performed with many orchestras, including the London Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Warsaw Philharmonic, National Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony, Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, Costa Rica National Symphony, and the St. Luke’s Chamber Orchestra. Among his honors, are a 2007 Guggenheim Fellowship in Music Composition, and an appointment as the 2007-2008 Composer-in-Residence at Caramoor. He received his 10th and 11th GRAMMY® this year for *Panamericana Suite* as Best Latin Album and Best Classical Contemporary Composition, adding to his previously awarded 8th and 9th GRAMMY® for *Riberas* (Best Classical Recording) and *Funk Tango* (Best Latin Jazz Album 2008). A recipient of an NEA Jazz Masters award 2005 and the National Medal for the Arts 2005, Kennedy Center Living Jazz Legend 2007, Guggenheim Fellowship 2007, Frankfurt Musikpreis 2008, Nelson Rockefeller Honoree 2010. He also writes social commentary and has written three books.

ROSIE HERRERA first stepped onto the national dance stage at the Arsht Center in 2009 with a performance of her first evening-length dance theater work *Various Stage of Drowning: A Cabaret*, a commission by the Arsht Center, which earned her an invitation to the prestigious American Dance Festival that summer. This led to two additional ADF and Arsht commissions - *Dining Alone* and *Pity Party* - works that have earned Herrera praise as “one of the brightest, most original choreographic talents to emerge from Miami” (*The Miami Herald*). In 2013, the company made their New York City debut performing to a sold-out crowd performing at the invitation of the legendary Mikhail Baryshnikov. A Hialeah, Florida native of Cuban descent, Herrera is an Artistic Associate at the Arsht Center, where she has workshopped and performed all of her original works since 2008. Herrera began her performance career as a cabaret dancer working in nightclubs in Miami’s Little Havana, and as a hip-hop dancer in concerts and music videos for various hip-hop and Latin artists. While earning her B.F.A. in Dance Performance at the New World School of the Arts, Herrera performed with a hybrid cabaret performance group called Circ X and trained as a classical opera singer.

About the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County

Set in the heart of downtown Miami and designed by world-renowned architect Cesar Pelli, the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is one of the world’s leading performing arts organizations and venues. Spotlighting legends and serving as a launch pad for local artists to make their mark on the international stage, the Center presents nearly 500 events each year across its eight flexible, state-of-the-art performance spaces. The Center programs 12 signature series, including the largest jazz series in South Florida, the biggest flamenco festival on the East Coast, and a robust program of new theatrical works as well as free programming for the community and an arts education program that serves nearly 30,000 children each year. Since opening in 2006, the Arsht Center, a 501C3 non-profit organization, has emerged as a leader in presenting innovative programming that mirrors South Florida’s diversity as well as a catalyst for billions of dollars in new development in the downtown area.

Visit www.arshcenter.org for more information.

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