

Ballet Hispánico presents “CARMEN.maquia” at The Apollo Theater

October 25, 2018 – Keith Widyolar



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Theater

Ballet
Hispánico presents CARMEN.maquia b
y Gustavo Ramírez Sansano at The
Apollo Theater in Harlem, Manhattan
on Friday and Saturday, December 7
and 8, 2018 at 8pm.
Get tickets from \$13.50

ARMEN.maquia by Gustavo Ramirez
Sansano from Ballet Hispánico.

CARMEN.maquia is a Picasso-
inspired contemporary take on French composer Bizet’s famous
comic opera Carmen (1875). The choreography fuses contemporary dance with Spanish paso
doble and flamenco. Sansano first choreographed it for Luna Negra Dance Company.
“In 2012, the Spanish choreographer Gustavo Ramírez Sansano gave Bizet’s ‘Carmen’ a
dramatic and stylish contemporary dance makeover... Forget that flaming red dress — this
version of the Gypsy seducer’s tragic tale takes place in a bleak, modernist black-and-white
world, where contemporary ballet flirts with flamenco and paso doble.” – Brian Schaefer, The
New York Times

In this dance we find Spanish tradition mixed with Picasso’s modernity, Bizet’s fiery music, our
own dreams of fullest passion, and even a touch of Balanchine’s neoclassical ballet influence.

The Story of Carmen

The opera tells the story of Don José, a simple soldier who falls so madly in love for the fiery
gypsy Carmen that he abandons his childhood sweetheart and deserts from his job. When
Carmen moves on to Escamillo, the glamorous matador, Don José kills her in a jealous rage.

Staging the lives of common people who enjoy their bodies and showing a murder right on stage was shocking at the time. Later the opera came to be seen as an important transitional work from opéra comique to the realism of Italian opera verismo.

The Passion of Carmen

Some people are still shocked at how some of us live, but if you are poor and live in the country (or even the barrio), your body is all you may have.

Especially in places where the balance of power between men and women is out of balance, a woman's body is often the only tool she can use to survive.

You may look down on Carmen, but you'll come watch her on stage because even you dream of giving your life to enjoy yourself like she did.

Gustavo Ramírez Sansano

Sansano is an international choreographer who also directs Titoyaya Dansa in Spain.

He was born in San Fulgencio, Alicante, Spain, a small town near Murcia not far from the Mediterranean coast, in 1978.

When Ballet Hispánico Artistic Director left Luna Negra Dance Theater, the company he founded in Chicago, he left it to Sansano.

Sansano's first Ballet Hispánico commission was El Beso (The Kiss, 2014) set to music by 1900ish Spanish composers with costumes by Venezuelan designer Angel Sanchez.

The playful piece was Sansano's first work in New York City. He has been commissioned to choreograph works for Nederlands Dans Theater, Compania Nacional de Danza, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and many more of the world's leading dance companies.

The CARMEN.maquia Production

Choreography by Gustavo Ramírez Sansano

Music from various works by Georges Bizet, performed by the Slovak Philharmonic, Praha Philharmonic, New Zealand Symphony, and National Symphony Orchestras, and by the Arte Ensemble. Carmen Fantasy, by Pablo de Sarasate, performed by the Apollo Symphony Orchestra.

Set Design and Construction by Luis Crespo

Costume Design by David Delfín

Costume Construction by Travis Halsey, Diana Ruettiger

Lighting Design by Joshua Preston

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CARMEN.maquia Tickets

Ballet Hispánico, the Apollo Theater, GOYA Foods and the other sponsors work hard to make tickets affordable so you can take the entire family. ¡Vamos juntos! (Let's go together)

From \$13.50

Apollo Theater Box Office

Weekdays: 10am – 6pm

Saturday: 12noon – 5pm

Phone

Ticketmaster: (800) 745-3000

Online

apollotheater.org

Visit the Apollo Theater

You can go casual, but a lot of people dress nice.

Apollo Theater

253 West 125th St, New York, NY 10027

(between Frederick Douglass Blvd (Eighth Ave) & Adam Clayton Powell Jr Blvd (Seventh Ave))

Harlem, Manhattan

(212) 531-5300

Subway

•(A) (C) or (B) (D) to 125th St. Walk 1.25 blocks east.

•(2) (3) to 125th St. Walk 1.75 blocks west.

•(4) (5) (6) to 125th St. Walk, taxi or bus to Frederick Douglass Blvd (Eighth Ave) and walk .25 blocks east.

Train

Metro-North to Harlem – 125th St. Walk, taxi or bus to Frederick Douglass Blvd (Eighth Ave) and walk .25 blocks east.

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