

ELLE

Cushnie et Ochs Designs Outfits for Ballet Hispanico

By Lauren Levinson



Tonight, Latino dance company Ballet Hispanico will host its annual Junior Society Benefit at the Jane Ballroom in NYC, with its company modeling the works of Cushnie et Ochs in a dance presentation choreographed by artistic director Eduardo Vilaro. The \$100 tickets to the swanky event also includes an open bar, treats, a silent auction, and music by DJ Corey Kennedy. But besides the dancing, we're most excited about the fashion, so we chatted with [co-founder and designer Carly Cushnie](#) (her other half is Michelle Ochs), about what to expect. Plus, check out these exclusive sketches of their Ballet Hispanico costumes, below.

Photo: Carly Cushnie and Michelle Ochs; Getty Images

ELLE: What drew you to this project?

Carly Cushnie: We have always been big fans of the ballet. It's so incredible how they [the dancers] move and use their bodies. Once onstage, they can be completely mesmerizing. Being able to showcase our clothes through ballet will be so incredible and such a dynamic new way of seeing our clothes.

ELLE: How did you use your design aesthetic to make ballet costumes?

CC: A lot of our pieces from the R13 and SS13 collection worked really well for the performance and really allowed the dancers to move. So the dancers will be wearing pieces from these collections.

ELLE: Did you dance growing up? If so, how did it inspire your designs?

CC: I danced growing up and Michelle figure skated, but it has never been a focus of the collection. Our collection overall is inspired by the female body and highlights it in a way that is strikingly sexy yet elegant. We love bold shapes, lines and subtle details that stand out but have a classic minimal edginess to them.



Photos: Courtesy of Cushnie et Ochs