



NEWSLETTER

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Beyond "Perfect"

Dancing for Ballet Hispanico has given Kimberly Van Woesik the confidence to grow artistically.

Ballet Hispanico's [upcoming New York season](#) will showcase works by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Edwaard Liang and Nacho Duato, as well as a premiere, *El Beso*, by Gustavo Ramirez Sansano. It's a demanding menu that requires technique, flair and a high level of energy, but company member Kimberly Van Woesik is looking forward to it. Since joining BH three years ago, Van Woesik, who was featured in *Dance Magazine's* "[On the Rise](#)" column (November 2012), has discovered a new-found freedom in her dancing. "I don't feel afraid to fail, and that's made a big difference," she says, crediting the company's artistic director, Edward Vilario, with helping her overcome "the pressure to be perfect." *DM* recently interviewed Woesik about highlights of the upcoming season, and the new paths Ballet Hispanico has opened for her.



What are your favorite roles this season?

I love the duet that I perform in *El Beso*. It has a lot of quick, precise movement, and in some sections it's very raw. I play a girl who's mischievous and possessive--I want this guy who no longer wants me.

Are there any upcoming dance projects you're looking forward to?

In Miami this June, we'll be premiering a work by Rosie Herrera I'm really excited about. It's called *Show.Girl.*, and it's about Las Vegas dancers. In some ways it glorifies femininity, but it's also about the pressure to be perfect. The women in the company really connect to it because it was made on us, and we helped shape the gestures.

How have your long-term goals changed since you started dancing with BH?

The company does a lot of outreach, and it's got me thinking about working with children after I finish dancing. I've seen firsthand what a light dance can bring to them, the sense of empowerment and responsibility it can give.

What advice would you give a younger dancer?

Have confidence that you can do it. If you don't, you won't get through the challenges on the road to a professional career--the hours and hours of training and rehearsal, and the sacrifices you need to make to achieve your dream.