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## THE MORNING CALL

Ballet Hispánico presents ‘all-Latina’ program



Founded in 1970, Ballet Hispánico combines powerful ballet technique, colloquial form, and contemporary dance to deliver modern ideas with beauty and impact. (Williams Center for the Arts)

Coming to the conclusion of a month of artistry that celebrates Hispanic and Latinx culture, Williams Center for the Arts presents the New York-based Ballet Hispánico, which returns to Easton with a program of soulful dance by women choreographers at 7 p.m. Oct. 25.

Through the evolving Latinx lens, Ballet Hispánico serves a dazzling medley of dance and culture. Founded in 1970, the company combined powerful ballet technique, colloquial form, and contemporary dance to deliver modern ideas with beauty and impact.

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Under the visionary leadership of Eduardo Vilaro, Ballet Hispánico performs an eclectic repertory by choreographers who fuse Latin movement with classical and contemporary techniques, creating a new style of concert dance in which theatricality and passion propel every move.

This “all-Latina” program, features works by women choreographers, including Michelle Manzanales’ “Con Brazos Abiertos” (2017), a nostalgic, frank, and humorous take on growing up Mexican American in the United States, set to music that ranges from Julio Iglesias to rock en español; a “first look” at a new work that will receive its world premiere at the Apollo Theater in November entitled “Tiburones” by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa that reimagines the world of West Side Story’s street gang, The Sharks, through non–gender-specific roles and a modern prism of gender fluidity; and “3. Catorce Dieciséis” (2017) by Tania Pérez-Salas, set to music by the Baroque masters Antonio Vivaldi, Marin Marais, Girolamo Frescobaldi, Francois Couperin, and Giovanni Batista Pergolesi. Representing a multitude of nationalities, the racially diverse dancers of Ballet Hispánico hail from Cuba, Puerto Rico, Italy, Mexico, Spain, Brazil, and the United States, forming an assembly whose expression shows what it is to be Latino in the modern world.

Join the artists for a free pre-performance talk at 6 p.m. in Room 108.

**Ballet Hispánico**, 7 p.m. Oct. 25, Williams Center for the Arts, 317 Hamilton St. at High St. Easton. Tickets: \$27, \$6 students. 610-330-5009, [williamscenter.lafayette.edu](http://williamscenter.lafayette.edu).