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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**



**ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER RETURNS TO**

**PLAYHOUSE SQUARE**

**AS PART OF COAST-TO-COAST 2025 UNITED STATES TOUR CELEBRATING LIFE AND LEGACY OF JUDITH JAMISON**

**The Company’s Extraordinary Dancers to Inspire in Season World Premieres of
*Sacred Songs* by Matthew Rushing and *Many Angels* by Lar Lubovich as well as
25th Anniversary Staging of Ronald K. Brown’s Blockbuster *Grace***

**Alvin Ailey’s Must-See Masterpiece *Revelations* Culminates All Programs**

***Tickets Now on Sale at PlayhouseSquare.org!***

**Cleveland, OH** – [**Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**](http://pressroom.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater), one of the world’s most popular dance companies, will return to **Playhouse Square January 31- February 1 as part of a coast-to-coast 2025 United States tour** in a season celebrating the life and legacy of Artistic Director Emerita Judith Jamison (1943-2024). Led by Interim Artistic Director Matthew Rushing, the passionate spirit and extraordinary technique of Ailey’s dancers will be showcased in three exciting performances featuring two world premieres, a new production, and Alvin Ailey’s must-see masterpiece *Revelations*.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater’s 2024-25 season recently launched at New York City Center with a five-week holiday engagement. The 18-city [**United States tour**](https://www.alvinailey.org/performances-tickets/tour-schedules) kicks off on January 31 in Cleveland with stops in Washington, DC; Atlanta; Chicago; Los Angeles; Berkeley; Boston; and other cities before culminating in Newark, NJ, with a Mother’s Day performance on Sunday, May 11. The tour schedule is below (subject to change).

The programs on Friday, January 31 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, February 1 at 2:00 p.m. will include the premiere of Matthew Rushing’s [***Sacred Songs***](https://pressroom.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/repertory/sacred-songs), a work that reimagines several spirituals used in the original 1960 premiere of *Revelations* that were later omitted when the piece was edited into the current version, beloved for decades, along with Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrish’s dreamlike duet [***Me, Myself and You***](https://pressroom.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/repertory/me-myself-and-you).

The Saturday, February 1 at 7:30pm program will feature [***Many Angels***](https://pressroom.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/repertory/many-angels), the first premiere for the Company by Lar Lubovitch, and the 25th anniversary return of **Ronald K. Brown’s** spellbinding [***Grace***](https://pressroom.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/repertory/grace), a tour-de-force connecting African and American dance that depicts individuals on a journey to the promised land set to Duke Ellington's classic "Come Sunday," Peven Everett’s hit "Gabriel," and the irresistible pulse of Fela Kuti's Afro-Pop.

For the finale of every performance, Cleveland audiences will be inspired by the power of **Alvin Ailey’s must-see American masterpiece** [***Revelations***](http://pressroom.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/repertory/revelations), acclaimed around the world for sending hearts soaring and lifting viewers to their feet with its perfect blend of reverent grace and spiritual elation. Since its debut in 1960, *Revelations* has been moving audiences with its powerful storytelling and soul-stirring music, evoking timeless themes of determination, hope, and transcendence. An intimate reflection of Mr. Ailey’s childhood memories of growing up in the South and attending services at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Texas, *Revelations* pays homage to the rich cultural heritage of the African American community and explores the emotional spectrum of the human condition.

Ohio native [Kali Marie Oliver](https://pressroom.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/dancers/kali-marie-oliver) (Akron, OH) will be one of the renowned performers sharing their inspiring artistry at Playhouse Square during her inaugural season as a Company member. Previously Oliver performed around the world for three seasons with Ailey II, after graduating magna cum laude from the Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in Dance.

New York’s famed Whitney Museum of American Art, in collaboration with Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation, is presenting [***Edges of Ailey***](https://whitney.org/press/edges-of-ailey)—the first large-scale museum exhibition to celebrate the life, creativity, influence, and enduring legacy of Alvin Ailey. On view through February 9, 2025, the multi-faceted presentation features a multimedia display on the museum’s fifth floor, paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography, film, rehearsal footage, and archival materials that situate Mr. Ailey within a broad social, creative, and cultural context. Timed tickets for the in-gallery exhibition as well as related performance tickets are available on whitney.org.

The compelling story of the life, work, and legacy of Alvin Ailey is also the subject of [***Portrait of Ailey***](https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/portrait-of-ailey/), a new eight-part documentary series available for **free** on[**PBSLearning**](https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/search/?q=ailey). Created by Ailey II Artistic Director Emerita [**Sylvia Waters**](https://pressroom.alvinailey.org/ailey-ii/artistic-direction/sylvia-waters), *Portrait of Ailey*uses rare historical film and still images as well as contemporary footage to create a sweeping narrative of Mr. Ailey as a performer, choreographer, celebrity, teacher, social activist, arts advocate, and the creator of an enduring institution. All eight chapters are currently available online.

For **more information** on AILEY’s upcoming performances, visit [**www.ailey.org**](http://www.ailey.org).

For additional **press materials, including bios, b-roll, and photos**, members of the media may visit [**pressroom.alvinailey.org**](http://pressroom.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/).

**Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.**

**This new production of *Grace* is supported by Maury & Joseph Bohan.**

**The original production of Grace was made possible by Natasha Leibel Levine, M.D. & Harlan B. Levine, M.D., and Elizabeth Marsteller Gordon. The creation of this work was made possible, in part, by AT&T, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and The Harkness Foundation for Dance**

**The creation of *Many Angels* is made possible by The Ellen Jewett and Richard L. Kauffman New Works Endowment Fund.**

**All performances of *Revelations* are permanently endowed by a generous gift from Donald L. Jonas in celebration of the birthday of his wife, Barbara, and her deep commitment to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.**

**The creation of *Sacred Songs* is supported by The Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey - Sara & Bill Morgan New Works Endowment Fund, Tracy Elise Poole, Red Moose Charitable Trust, The Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn & Nicolas Rohatyn New Works Endowment Fund, Daria L. & Eric J. Wallach.**

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**Calendar Listing Information**

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater returns to center stage at Playhouse Square January 31- February 1, 2025. The highly anticipated 2025 Cleveland engagement showcases the passionate spirit and extraordinary technique of Ailey’s dancers in premieres, new productions, and repertory favorites, including the must-see masterpiece [*Revelations*](https://pressroom.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/repertory/revelations). Tickets, starting at $29.00 are available at [playhousesquare.org](https://www.playhousesquare.org) or by calling 216-241-6000.

**Cleveland 2025 Engagement Performance Dates and Times:**

Friday, January 31 at 7:30 p.m. – *Sacred Songs / Me, Myself and You, Revelations*

Saturday, February 1 at 2:00 p.m. - *Sacred Songs / Me, Myself and You, Revelations*

Saturday, February 1 at 7:30 p.m. – *Grace / Many Angels, Revelations*

**Tickets**

Tickets are available for purchase at [playhousesquare.org](https://www.playhousesquare.org) or by calling 216-241-6000.

**ABOUT ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER**

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, recognized by U.S. Congressional resolution as a vital American “Cultural Ambassador to the World,” grew from a now-fabled March 1958 performance in New York that changed forever the perception of American dance. Forged during a pivotal moment in the civil rights movement, the Company was established to uplift the African American experience while transcending boundaries of race, faith, and nationality with its universal humanity. Founded by Alvin Ailey, the posthumous recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom—the nation’s highest civilian honor. Before his untimely death in 1989, Mr. Ailey named Judith Jamison as his successor, and for 21 years she led the Company to unprecedented success. Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater has performed for an estimated 25 million people in 71 countries on 6 continents—as well as millions more through television broadcasts, film screenings, and online platforms—promoting the uniqueness of the African American cultural experience and the preservation and enrichment of the American modern dance tradition. In addition to being the Principal Dance Company of New York City Center, where its performances have become a year‐end tradition, the Ailey company performs annually at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts; the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC; the Auditorium Theatre in Chicago; The Fox Theatre in Atlanta; Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley, CA, and at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark where it is the Principal Resident Affiliate, and appears frequently in other major theaters throughout the United States and the world during extensive yearly tours. The Ailey organization also includes Ailey II (1974), a second performing company of emerging young dancers and innovative choreographers; The Ailey School (1969), one of the most extensive dance training programs in the world; Ailey Arts in Education & Community Programs, which brings dance into the classrooms, communities, and lives of people of all ages; and Ailey Extension (2005), a program offering dance and fitness classes to the general public, which began with the opening of Ailey’s permanent home—the largest building dedicated to dance in New York City, the dance capital of the world—named The Joan Weill Center for Dance, at 55th Street at 9th Avenue in New York City. For more information, visit [www.ailey.org](http://www.ailey.org/).

**2025 NORTH AMERICAN TOUR***as of Nov 20, 2024*

Cleveland, OH [Playhouse Square](https://www.playhousesquare.org/events/detail/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater-2)  Jan 31–Feb 1

Washington, D.C. [John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts](https://www.kennedy-center.org/whats-on/explore-by-genre/dance/2024-2025/alvin-ailey/) Feb 4–9

Atlanta, GA [The Fox Theatre](https://www.foxtheatre.org/events/detail/alvin-ailey-2025) Feb 12–16

Greenville, SC [Peace Center](https://www.peacecenter.org/events/detail/25-alvin-ailey) Feb 18–19

Charlotte, NC [Belk Theater at Blumenthal Arts Center](https://www.blumenthalarts.org/events/detail/alvin-ailey)  Feb 21–22

Charleston, SC [Charleston Gaillard Center](https://gaillardcenter.org/events/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater-3/)  Feb 25–26

Philadelphia, PA [Academy of Music](https://www.ensembleartsphilly.org/tickets-and-events/ensemble-arts-philly-presents/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater) Feb 28–Mar 2

Chicago, IL [Auditorium Theatre](https://auditoriumtheatre.org/events-details/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater-2/) Mar 7–9

Iowa City, IA [Hancher Auditorium](https://hancher.uiowa.edu/2024-25/alvin-ailey) Mar 11

Detroit, MI [Detroit Opera House](https://detroitopera.org/season-schedule/alvin-ailey-dance-theater/) Mar 14–16

Chapel Hill, NC [Univ. North Carolina Memorial Hall](https://carolinaperformingarts.org/events/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/) Mar 18–19

New Orleans, LA [Mahalia Jackson Theater for the Performing Arts](https://nobadance.com/performances/2024-2025-alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/) Mar 21–22

Los Angeles, CA [LA Music Center Dorothy Chandler Pavilion](https://www.musiccenter.org/tickets-free-events/tmc-arts/dance/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/) Apr 2–6

Berkeley, CA [UC Berkeley Zellerbach Hall](https://calperformances.org/events/2024-25/dance/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater-2425/) Apr 8–13

Santa Barbara, CA [UC Santa Barbara The Granada Theatre](https://artsandlectures.ucsb.edu/events-tickets/events/24-25/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater-4-16/) Apr 15–16

Mesa, AZ [Mesa Arts Center](https://www.mesaartscenter.com/index.php/shows/performing-live/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater) Apr 18–19

Boston, MA [Boch Center Wang Theatre](https://www.celebrityseries.org/productions/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/) Apr 24–27

Newark, NJ [New Jersey Performing Arts Center](https://www.njpac.org/event/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater-25/) May 9–11

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Playhouse Square, home to the largest Broadway season ticket holder community in North America, is Northeast Ohio's destination for entertainment. A not-for-profit performing arts center, Playhouse Square is a champion of arts education and downtown Cleveland, and proud to be the home of The City Club of Cleveland, Cleveland Ballet, Cleveland International Film Festival, Cleveland Play House, Cleveland State University Department of Theatre and Dance, DANCECleveland, Great Lakes Theater and Tri-C JazzFest.