



Celebrity Series of Boston
Engaging • Entertaining • Enriching

Gary Dunning
President and Executive Director

Celebrity Series of Boston
20 Park Plaza, Suite 1032
Boston, MA 02116-4303

617.482.2595 [T]
617.482.3208 [F]
www.celebrityseries.org

For Immediate Release

Contact: Stephanie Janes, (617) 598-3240, sj@celebrityseries.org

High-resolution photos: http://www.celebrityseries.org/Photo_Galleries/1227-Ballet_Hispanico_Gallery.htm

Celebrity Series Press Room: http://www.celebrityseries.org/CS_aboutus/press.htm

Celebrity Series of Boston
Gary Dunning, President and Executive Director
Presents
Ballet Hispanico
March 9 - 11
at the Cutler Majestic Theatre

(Boston) Celebrity Series of Boston will present **Ballet Hispanico in three Boston premieres**, March 9 - 11, at the Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont Street, Boston, MA. The performances will take place on Friday, March 9 at 7:30pm, Saturday, March 10 at 8pm and Sunday, March 11 at 3pm.

Performance sponsor is Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated. Celebrity Series of Boston Dance Series is sponsored by The Little Family Foundation and The John S. and Cynthia Reed Foundation with additional support from the Celebrity Series Friends of Dance. Funded in part by NEFA. Media partner is WGBH.

Tickets for **Ballet Hispanico** are \$68, \$53, and \$43, and are available online at www.celebrityseries.org, by calling (617) 617-824-8000 Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., or at or at the Cutler Majestic Theatre Box Office, 219 Tremont Street, Boston.

This marks Ballet Hispanico's fourth performance with the **Celebrity Series of Boston**; their debut was in 1998 and their most recent performance was in 2007 with the Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra.

Since its inception in 1970, **Ballet Hispanico** has explored, preserved, and celebrated Latino cultures through dance. From its grassroots origins as a dance school and community-based performing arts troupe, Ballet Hispanico has grown to become a world-class cultural institution. Ballet Hispanico remains dedicated to continuing and deepening its mission through the artistic leadership of Eduardo Vilaro, a former Ballet Hispanico company member, as well as an educator and choreographer.

Artistic director Eduardo Vilaro is building on the work of founder Tina Ramirez, stretching and broadening the definitions of "Hispanico" to reflect the full depth of contemporary Hispanic people and cultures. Mr. Vilaro joined Ballet Hispanico as Artistic Director in August 2009, following a ten-year record of achievement as Founder and Artistic Director of Luna Negra Dance Theater in Chicago.

Mr. Vilaro is an accomplished choreographer, having created over 20 ballets for his own company in addition to the Ravinia Festival, the Chicago Sinfonietta, the Lexington Ballet, and the Civic Ballet of Chicago. He has worked in collaboration with major dance and design artists as well as musicians like Paquito D'Rivera, Susana Baca, Luciana Souza, Grant Park Orchestra, and Chicago Symphony Orchestra. In 2001 he was a recipient of a Ruth Page Award for choreography, and in 2003 he was honored at Panama's II International Festival of Ballet for his choreographic work. Mr. Vilaro came to New York City at

(more)

the age of six from his native Cuba. He began his dance training as a teenager on scholarship at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center and also studied at the Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance.

The program for Ballet Hispanico's performances is as follows:

Program:

Asuka (2011)

Boston premiere

Choreography by Eduardo Vilaro

Sound Score: Jesse Felluss and Eduardo Vilaro

Pa' la Paloma remix: Jesse Felluss

Synopsis: *Asuka* honors the life and music of Celia Cruz, known around the world as the "Queen of Salsa." Coming of age in the diverse musical climate of 1930's Cuba, Ms. Cruz personified the evolution of salsa, from its roots in African rhythms to its emergence as a contemporary genre in the US. She recorded 23 gold albums and received a Grammy Award in 1990. Her music inspired countless immigrants who sought shelter on foreign shores and turned to her music for comfort and solace.

Espiritu Vivo (2011)

Boston premiere

Choreography by Ronald K. Brown

Music by Susana Baca

Synopsis: *Espiritu Vivo*, an exciting collaboration between Ballet Hispanico and Brooklyn-based choreographer Ronald K. Brown, explores the intersection of the African and Latino Diasporas in the Caribbean and Latin America. Using narrative, tradition, and dance forms from these regions, the work explores the stages of grief after tragedy: the news, prayer, spring and new day.

Mad'moiselle (2010)

Boston premiere

Choreography by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa

Music by Bart Rijnink

Synopsis: *Mad'moiselle* creates a world that explores iconic male/female images and gender identity in Latin American cultures.

About Celebrity Series of Boston

The Celebrity Series of Boston is New England's leading presenter of music, dance and the performing arts from around the world. Now in its 73rd season, the Celebrity Series brings performances by instrumental and vocal soloists, orchestras and chamber ensembles, dance companies, jazz, folk and ethnic artists and ensembles to Boston's major concert halls. Through the Arts, Education and Community Program, the Celebrity Series reaches thousands of youngsters annually with opportunities to experience and participate in the performing arts through concerts, workshops, and the award-winning AileyCamp Boston, an intensive six-week summer dance program for Boston middle school students. For more information on Celebrity Series of Boston, call (617) 482-2595 or visit us online at www.celebrityseries.org.

The Celebrity Series receives generous support from Amy & Joshua Boger; The Little Family Foundation; Susanne Marcus Collins Foundation; The John S. and Cynthia Reed Foundation; Tufts Health Plan; Foley & Lardner LLP; Parametric Technology Corporation; Charlesbank Capital Partners; Susan Pravda & Gabor Garai, Honorary Consul General of Hungary, and the Hungarian Society of Massachusetts; Comcast; Massachusetts Cultural Council; New England Foundation for the Arts; and The D.L. Saunders Companies and The Boston Park Plaza Hotel, LLC.

###