

Poetry In Motion

By: Keziah Weir

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Alvin Ailey's Courtney Celeste Spears and Jeroboam Bozeman, photographed in New York City.

Valentino gown, \$30,000. (Valentino boutiques nationwide)
MOUNSER earring, \$150. (mounser.com)

HAIR PRODUCTS BY BUNBLE AND BUMBLE; MAKEUP BY PAT McGRATH LABS; NAIL ENAMEL BY CHANEL; GROOMING PRODUCTS BY AUGUSTINUS BADER; HAIR BY CHIKA NISHIYAMA; MAKEUP AND GROOMING BY KIM WEBER; MANICURE BY MEGUMI YAMAMOTO; PHOTOGRAPHED AT PIER 39; FOR DETAILS, GO TO VFCOM/CREDITS

POETRY IN MOTION At Valentino, words, passion, and fashion collide *By Keziah Weir*

In an ode to freedom of expression, Valentino creative director Pierpaolo Piccioli commissioned poets Greta Bellamacina, Yrsa Daley-Ward, Robert Montgomery, and Mustafa the Poet for original work, which was collected in a slim volume

called *On Love*. Selections, like 23-year-old Grammy winner Mustafa's poignant line, pictured above, appear on the clothing itself. The gist: Love triumphs.

The notion resonates with Alvin Ailey dancer Courtney Celeste Spears, currently closing out an international

tour. Ailey's signature ballet, *Revelations*, is a bluesy, gospel-filled celebration of black American heritage; its exultant ending translates to audiences from New York to Copenhagen. "No matter what language barrier, race, ethnicity, religion," Spears says, "love is love." ■