Alvin Ailey originally created this stunning, masterful expression of Duke Ellington’s music as a strong yet serene solo for himself in 1962. Known to highlight the grace, artistry, and power of the male dancer, Judith Jamison calls the three-minute ballet “a tone poem, a quiet, sparking jewel.” It has been performed over the years by some of the most formidable of Ailey dancers, including Dudley Williams and Matthew Rushing.

“An enthralling display of modern dance technique... a moving combination of plastic beauty and passionate expression.”

_The Sunday Times_

“...fierce elegance...” _The New York Times_

“You have to have a certain amount of poetry to dance to Duke Ellington’s music,” _Artistic Director Judith Jamison_

“Reflections in D is a tone poem, a quiet, sparkling jewel.”

**Duke Ellington**

Born in Washington, D.C. in 1899, composer, pianist and band-leader Duke Ellington was one of the most influential figures in the history of music. In the early 1930’s his band established its fame at the Cotton Club in New York City, with a sound Ellington called “American Music” rather than jazz. In his fifty-year career, the “Duke” played over 20,000 performances in Europe, Latin America, the Middle East as well as Asia, and is best remembered for the over 3,000 songs that he composed before his death in 1974, including _It Don’t Mean a Thing if It Ain’t Got That Swing, Sophisticated Lady, Mood Indigo, Solitude_ and _Satin Doll_. Ellington’s popular compositions set the bar for generations of jazz, pop, theatre, and soundtrack composers to come.

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**Reflections in D Music Credit Information**

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