

Alvin Ailey Dancers

Light Up the Stage in Miami

World renowned company comes to the Magic City, with plenty of homegrown talent

By [SHARON LAWSON](#)

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A World renowned dance company based in New York is taking center stage in the Magic City.

With dynamic moves, the [Alvin Ailey](#) American Dance Theater is captivating South Florida at the [Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts](#) of [Miami-Dade County](#).

The electrifying performances are paying tribute to Artistic Director Judith Jamison's 20 years of service. She is now passing the mantle to [Miami](#)'s own fast rising star, Robert Battle.

"For dance, that I was going to have a chance to have an impact coming from Liberty City,

Miami, to New York City and this is the company that I aspired to," said Battle. "What an honor, what an honor."

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At age 37, Battle will be the third person to head the company since it was founded by Alvin Ailey in 1958.

"My vision will be really to follow the footprints in a way because Mr. Ailey left us a rich legacy," he said. "What I want to express is the versatility and the fact that these dancers can do anything."

Another hometown star lighting up the stage is [Amos Machanic](#) from Opa-Locka.

"To be able to be back here in the company, on the stage, is amazing for me," Machanic said.

Machanic studied dance at the New World School of the Arts and continued his training at the Ailey School, where he was a fellowship recipient. He was a member of Ailey II and joined the Company in 1996. Dancers Jamar Roberts and Yusha-Marie Sorzano are also Miami natives.

Alvin Ailey American Dance theater in Miami runs May 20th through the 23rd at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County.