

Alvin Ailey's Jacqueline Green Ready for Stage at Atlanta's Fox Theatre

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By Yvette Caslin

When Jacqueline Green's mom encouraged her to audition for the dance program at Baltimore School for the Arts, she did — on a whim. By pure serendipity, she was accepted. "I didn't understand until the next year's audition how big of a deal it was when I saw how many people really want[ed] to attend BSA," offers Green, who had no prior dance experience.

Here, readers can learn a little more about Green, the newest addition to the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (AAADT) troupe.

Hometown: Baltimore

Experience: One year with AAADT

Education: Fordham University/Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's BFA Program.

Where have you traveled to?

The end of my senior year we went on tour in Europe for 10 weeks. It was really great.

Which ballet(s) do you like best?

Of course, "Revelations" is my favorite. I also like "Night Creature," "Home" and "Minus 16." I really enjoy Mr. Ailey's work and I like the direction Robert [Battle] is taking us in with the new works and choreographers.

What advice do you have for aspiring dancers who discover their passion for it later in life?

I started dancing late but when I came to Ailey, I realized Mr. Ailey didn't start until he was 16. Dance has brought me happiness ever since I discovered it.

How do you spend your spare time?

I enjoy ballroom dancing, movies and reading. I see a lot of Broadway performances. I recently saw "[The Gershwin's] Porgy and Bess" starring Audra McDonald. To see her on "Private Practice" and then on stage; oh my gosh, it's amazing.

Alvin Ailey will be at the Fabulous Fox Theatre in Atlanta Feb. 16-19, 2012.

