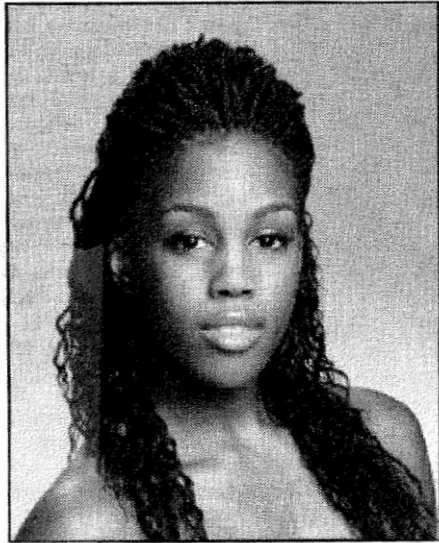


2012 New York Season At The Ailey Citigroup Theater

Ailey II, the youthful and gifted second company of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, will return to its home, The Ailey Citigroup Theater, from April 18-29 for a highly anticipated two-week season – the last led by 38-year Artistic Director Sylvia Waters. The 14 exciting performances experienced through two dynamic programs come on the heels of a successful North American tour to over 35 cities and an array of critically-acclaimed performances in Bermuda, Germany and Greece.



Paige Fraser

"Mr. Ailey gave me the greatest gift imaginable when he created a second company and asked me to direct it. Each year is filled with so much excitement, watching the dancers blossom and grow and perform their hearts out," Sylvia Waters stated. "This season's beautiful bouquet of dynamic dancers and stunning premieres will not disappoint - they are making my final season a memorable one!"

Paige Fraser is a Bronx-bred dancer who is making her New York City premiere performing with Ailey II April 18-29, one of the most popular dance companies in the world. Fraser began her dance training at Ballet Atlantic Studio in Pelham Manor under the direction of Leslie and Alison Otto for 11 years. She attended school at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Pelham Manor. Fraser completed

her freshman year of College at the Dominican University of California as a dance major at Alonzo King's Lines Ballet. In 2009, she attended The Ailey School as a scholarship student and later transferred into the Ailey/Fordham BFA program where she is currently a senior. She was 1 of 12 dancers picked out of The Ailey School's 1,500 students to join Ailey II. She has also trained in summer programs at American Ballet Theatre, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Jacob's Pillow, Juilliard, and Complexions and has worked with Desmond Richardson, Darrell Grand Moultrie, and Camille A. Brown. In 2010, Ms. Fraser performed in Alvin Ailey's *Memoria* as a special production of *Revelations*, in celebration of its 50th year during the Company's New York City season. This is her first year with Ailey II.

Premiering on opening night, April 18th, The Modern Moves program begins with *Echoes* by Thang Dao. This work depicts the echoes of memories of his family escaping Vietnam and debuted on Ailey II in 2010. Next on the program will be

the company premiere of Mina Yoo's *Boulevard*, an athletic piece that references a neighborhood "on the boulevard," where young people of various cultures and backgrounds interact. Originally created as an all-male work in 2006, *Boulevard* has been reconceived for Ailey II's cast of nine dancers and blends contemporary dance with the percussive sounds of Michel Macias, Hugues Le Bars, René Aubry, and Greetje Bijma. The program will close with Artistic Director Designate Troy Powell's seventh world premiere work for Ailey II, *Reference Point*. The cutting-edge full ensemble piece combines ballet, jazz, and contemporary dance and is set to music by Mio Morales.

The alternating Contemporary Choices program pairs two critically acclaimed works that debuted last season with a world premiere by emerging choreographer Stefanie Batten Bland. Batten Bland's *The Legacy of Inheritance* fuses European and American styles into a passionate post-modern dance. *Moving through and around an enormous white*

fabric, which takes on the form of several elements, the dancers are propelled forward by the music of Zoe Keating and Stars of the Lid. A fan and critic favorite from last year, *The Corner*, Kyle Abraham's full ensemble work combining contemporary hip hop vernacular with post modern movement, makes its encore appearance as well as Donald Byrd's 1988 *Shards*, originally staged on Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, set to music by Mio Morales.

Tickets are now on sale at \$49. To purchase tickets, visit www.AlvinAiley.org/AileyII or www.ovationtix.com or call 866-811-4111. Tickets can be purchased at The Ailey Citigroup Theater box office located at 405 West 55th Street beginning April 10. Check website for hours of operation. If available, a limited number of student rush tickets can be purchased at the box office 30 minutes prior to curtain for \$10 (cash only). Groups of 10 or more receive a discount on tickets purchased. Visit AlvinAiley.org/GroupSales or call 212-405-9082 for more details.