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Ballet
Hispanico
New York

MUJERES: ***Women in Motion***

Friday, Oct. 2, 2026, 7 p.m.

1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, Va. 22101





MUJERES: Women in Motion

Friday, Oct. 2, 2026, 7 p.m.

MUJERES: Women in Motion celebrates the contributions of Latina women to contemporary dance through works by choreographers whose perspectives continue to shape the field. Rooted in ballet, contemporary dance, and movement traditions from Latin America and Spain, the program reflects the breadth of voices that define Ballet Hispanico's repertoire.

Through a programming of distinctive storytelling and compelling dance, *MUJERES: Women in Motion* honors the creativity, resilience, and imagination of women whose influence continues to move the art form forward, while deepening Ballet Hispanico's artistic legacy.

PROGRAM

To be performed in 90 minutes with two intermissions

Línea Recta

World Premiere: 2016, Ballet Hispánico

Choreography by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa

Music by Eric Vaarzon Morel

Costume Design by Danielle Truss

Lighting Design by Michael Mazzola

Lighting Reconstructed by Dominick Riches

Performed by:

Amanda Bacallao, Mia Bermudez, Thierry Blannchard, Antonio Cangiano, Matthew Mancuso, Dylan Dias McIntyre, Andrea Mish, Amanda Ostuni.

About *Línea Recta*

From one of today's most sought-after choreographers comes a powerful and resonant work that explores an intriguing aspect of flamenco dance: the conspicuous absence of physical partnering. While maintaining the integrity and hallmark passion of the genre, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa imagines an original and explosive movement language premised upon the theme of partnership and performed to flamenco guitar by Eric Vaarzon Morel.

◀ INTERMISSION ▶

Otra Vez, Otra Vez, Otra Vez

World Premiere: 2019, Amy Seiwert's Imagery

Company Premiere: 2026, Ballet Hispánico

Choreography by Stephanie Martinez

Music by Francisco Tarrega, Andrea Vettoretti, Zane Merritt, Chavela Vargas, Angel Canales, and Lang Lang

Costume Design by Holly Hynes

Set and Lighting Design by Julie Ballard

Performed by:

Amanda Bacallao, Thierry Blannchard, Antonio Cangiano, Francesca Levita, Dylan Dias McIntyre, Andrea Mish, Amanda Ostuni, Jerard Palazo.

About *Otra Vez, Otra Vez, Otra Vez*

Inspired by Picasso's *The Old Guitarist*, often considered an autobiographical painting, Stephanie Martinez explores the cyclical nature of human experience and the unseen complexity of individual lives in *Otra Vez, Otra Vez, Otra Vez*. Performed on pointe, the work blends classical and contemporary techniques to illuminate fleeting encounters, private histories, and the quiet ways people move through the world. In Ballet Hispánico's repertory, pointe becomes one of many choreographic languages through which stories are shaped, felt, and carried.

◀ **INTERMISSION** ▶

Trança (Braid)

World Premiere: 2026, Ballet Hispánico

Choreography by Cassi Abranches

Music by Beto Villares

Costume Design by Janaína Castro

Lighting Design by Clifton Taylor

Performed by:

Amanda Bacallao, Mia Bermudez, Thierry Blannchard, Antonio Cangiano, Arianna Carson, Taylor Garces, Francesca Levita, Matthew Mancuso, Dylan Dias McIntyre, Andrea Mish, Kevin Ortiz Lemus, Amanda Ostuni, Jerard Palazo.

About *Trança (Braid)*

Trança is a contemporary dance work that explores human connection through the physical logic of braiding: crossing, layering, separating, and returning. Choreographer Cassi Abranches draws from contemporary and modern dance techniques, as well as Brazilian movement traditions, to develop a movement language grounded in shifting formations, rhythmic articulation, and the tension between individual expression and collective structure. Acclaimed Brazilian composer Beto Villares, known for his award-winning work across film and music, weaves the rhythms and musical textures of Brazil throughout the work. The score features his original compositions alongside music by other Brazilian artists, bringing movement and music together in a vibrant reflection on connection.

Crediting and Cast Information **SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

The Company

Artistic Director & CEO

Eduardo Vilaro

Founder

Tina Ramirez

Company Artistic Associate

Rodney Hamilton

Ballet Mistress

Nicole Duffy Ponsa

Chief Managing Director

Patrick Muhlen

The Company

Amanda Bacallao, Mia Bermudez, Thierry Blannchard, Antonio Cangiano, Madison Carrion, Arianna Carson, Taylor Garces, Francesca Levita, Matthew Mancuso, Dylan Dias McIntyre, Andrea Mish, Amanda Ostuni, Jerard Palazo.

Company General Manager

Karl Rader Watson

Wardrobe Director

Natalie Scholl

Lighting Supervisor

Dominick Riches

Stage Manager

Chloe Marie Lupini

Eduardo Vilaro, Artistic Director & CEO



Eduardo Vilaro is the Artistic Director & CEO of Ballet Hispánico New York. He was named the Artistic Director in 2009, becoming only the second person to head the company since its founding in 1970. In 2015 was also named Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Vilaro has infused

Ballet Hispánico's legacy with a bold brand of contemporary dance that reflects America's changing cultural landscape.

Mr. Vilaro's philosophy of dance stems from a basic belief in the power of the arts to change lives, reflect and impact culture, and strengthen community. He considers dance to be a liberating, non-verbal language through which students, dancers, and audiences of all walks of life and diverse backgrounds can initiate ongoing conversations about the arts, expression, identity, and the meaning of community.

Born in Cuba and raised in New York from the age of six, Mr. Vilaro's own choreography is devoted to capturing the Latin American experience in its totality and diversity and through its intersectionality with other diasporas. His works are catalysts for new dialogues about what it means to be an American. He has created more than 50 ballets with commissions that include the

Ravinia Festival, the Chicago Sinfonietta, the Grant Park Festival, the Lexington Ballet, Chicago Symphony, Muse/ique, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

A Ballet Hispánico dancer and educator from 1988 to 1996, he earned a master's degree in interdisciplinary arts at Columbia College Chicago and then embarked on his own act of advocacy with a ten-year record of achievement as Founder and Artistic Director of Luna Negra Dance Theater in Chicago.

The recipient of numerous awards and accolades, Mr. Vilaro received the Ruth Page Award for choreography in 2001, was inducted into the Bronx Walk of Fame in 2016 and was awarded *HOMBRE Magazine's* 2017 Arts & Culture Trailblazer of the Year. In 2019, he received the West Side Spirit's WESTY Award, was honored by WNET for his contributions to the arts and was the recipient of the James W. Dodge Foreign Language Advocate Award. In August 2020, *City & State Magazine* included Mr. Vilaro in the inaugural Power of Diversity: Latin 100 list. In January 2021, Mr. Vilaro was recognized with a Compassionate Leaders Award, given to leaders who are courageous, contemplative, collaborative, and care about the world they will leave behind. In May of 2024 he was awarded an honorary Doctorate degree from his alma mater, Adelphi University, and been recognized by *Crain's New York Business* as a Notable Latino Leader and Notable Leader in Philanthropy.

2026-2027 DANCER BIOS



Amanda Bacallao—Dancer—Miami, Florida

Amanda Bacallao, of Cuban descent, is originally from Miami, Florida. She began dancing at the age of four and graduated from Miami Arts Charter School in 2022, where she studied dance under the direction of Diana Ford. Earlier in her career, Amanda also trained

at Armour Dance Theater with Rosario Suárez and Mariana Alvarez. Amanda is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Contemporary Dance at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee. During her time at the Boston Conservatory, she has performed works by Ken Ossola, Dwight Rhoden, Gustavo Ramirez Sansano, Cristina Chan, Lydia Zimmer, and Alyssa Cardon. She is also a 2024 alumna of The School at Jacob's Pillow. Additionally, Amanda has completed certification to teach Progressing Ballet Technique. This is Amanda's second season with Ballet Hispanico New York.

Instagram: [@amanda_bacallao](https://www.instagram.com/amanda_bacallao)



Amir J. Baldwin—Dancer—Montclair, New Jersey

Amir, originally from Trenton, NJ, received his BFA in Dance from Montclair State University with a minor in American Sign Language. His dance training consists of an eclectic mix which includes Ballet, Modern, Horton, Jazz,

Contemporary, Musical Theatre, and Capoeira. He has trained in educational facilities such as Ballet Hispánico, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and Complexions Contemporary Ballet among others. This is Amir's fifth season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@amirjblue](#)



Mia Bermudez—Dancer—Montclair, New Jersey

Mia, originally from Montclair, NJ, began her dance training at The Ballet Hispánico School's La Academia Pre-Professional Program on a full merit scholarship. While at Ballet Hispánico, Mia performed at the Macy's Thanksgiving

Parade and at the Ballet Hispánico Gala. She has trained at numerous intensive programs including the Debbie Allen Dance Academy, La Escuela Nacional de Ballet de Cuba, Canada National Ballet School, and Ballet Hispánico's ChoreoLaB. This is Mia's third season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@mia.bermudez](#)



Thierry Blannchard—Dancer—São Paulo, Brasil

Thierry Blannchard, originally from São Paulo, Brasil, began his dance training at the Elizandra Bellotto School. He studied contemporary and character dance, dance history, and pas de deux at the Bolshoi Theater School after being awarded a scholarship. During his time at the Bolshoi Theater School, he had the opportunity to work with the likes of Vladimir Vasiliev, Galina Kravchenko, Dennys Nevidommy, Pedro Carneiro and Rostlav Dzabaraev. In 2022, he was awarded a trainee program with Eglevsky Ballet in New York. He has worked with choreographers such as Amy Hall Garner, Cassi Abranches (Grupo Corpo), Kevin Jenkins, Maurice Brandon Curry, Gabrielle Lamb, Valentina Kozlova, among others. This is Thierry's second season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@thierryblannchard](https://www.instagram.com/thierryblannchard)



Antonio Cangiano—Dancer—Naples, Italy

Antonio trained on scholarship at the Ateneo Danza, Accademia Normanna and the Martha Graham Dance School in NYC. He has danced for the Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, Dardo Galletto Dance, Acsi Ballet, and the Martha Graham Dance Company for their 90th Anniversary Season. Antonio has danced works by world-renowned choreographers such as William Forsythe, Nacho Duato, Annabelle

Lopez Ochoa, and Gustavo Ramírez Sansano. This is Antonio's eighth season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@cangianoanto](#)



Madison Carrión—Guest Artist—New Brunswick, New Jersey

Madison Carrión is a New Jersey-born dancer of Dominican and Puerto Rican descent. She began her training at Inspira Performing Arts at the age of five and continued at Princeton Ballet School and Princeton Dance and Theater Studio.

During this time, she attended prestigious summer programs including the School of American Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and the International Ballet Masterclasses in Prague. Upon graduating high school, she danced with Philadelphia Ballet as a trainee for the 2023-2024 season. She then joined Indianapolis Ballet as an apprentice before returning to New York as a scholar of the The Ballet Hispánico School's Professional Studies Program. Madison has also completed her 200-hour Yoga Teacher Certification in Rishikesh, India. This is Madison's first season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@madisoncarrion](#)



Arianna Carson—Guest Artist—Los Angeles, California

Arianna Carson, a Los Angeles native, is a dancer of African-American and Mexican heritage. She received her BFA in Dance from SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Dance in 2024. Her training includes ballet and pointe work, along with modern and contemporary techniques, with a focus in Graham, Horton, and Cunningham. While at Purchase, she performed in works by faculty and guest choreographers, gaining experience across a range of styles and processes. Arianna has also trained at programs including Ballet Hispánico, where she further developed her versatility and performance quality. She was part of The Ballet Hispánico's School Professional Studies and their second company BH2 for two years. This is Arianna's first season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@_ariannacarson](https://www.instagram.com/ariannacarson)



Taylor Garcez—Dancer—Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Taylor, originally from Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, began his dance journey through a social dance project. Under the guidance of Kalyana Rodrigues, he participated in dance festivals across Brazil, receiving recognitions including Best Dancer at Universal Dance Brasil in Santa Catarina in 2023. That same year, he received a full scholarship to join Sanctuary of the Arts in Miami, coordinated by Alice Arja, where he

completed his professional training as a dancer. He then joined Atlantic City Ballet as a Company Member for the 2025/2026 season. This is Taylor's first season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

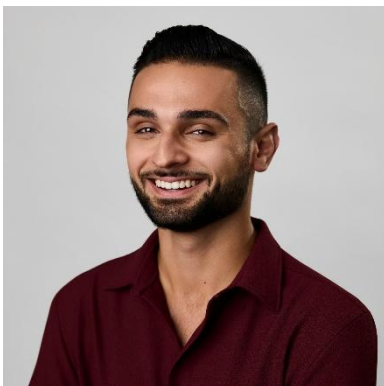
Instagram: [@tayloorgarcez](https://www.instagram.com/tayloorgarcez)



Francesca Levita—Dancer—Chicago, IL

Francesca, originally from Chicago, IL, began her training with Visceral Dance Center. She has attended numerous ballet intensives including BalletMet, American Ballet Theatre, and the Milwaukee Ballet. She also trained at The School at Jacob's Pillow Contemporary Summer Intensive, BODYTRAFFIC, and Arts Umbrella. In 2024, Francesca graduated with Honors Summa Cum Laude from Marymount Manhattan College receiving a BFA with a double concentration in Ballet and Modern dance. This is Francesca's third season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@frankielevita](https://www.instagram.com/frankielevita)



Matthew Mancuso—Dancer—East Haven, Connecticut

Matthew Mancuso is originally from East Haven, Connecticut. He began his dance training at the age of 8 at Gloria Jean's Studio of Dance under the direction of Stacy Eastman. He also studied at New Haven Ballet under various teachers and choreographers. Matthew went on to further

his education at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts where he earned a BFA in Dance and a Minor in Entertainment Business. While at school, Matthew got to learn and perform repertoire from Sidra Bell and Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. He also was chosen to study abroad in Prague, Czech Republic at The National Theatre. After graduation Matthew joined "Gaspard and Dancers", a contemporary dance company where he traveled to Romania, Armenia, and Tbilisi, Georgia. This is Matthew's second season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@matthew_mancuso](#)



Dylan Dias McIntyre—Dancer—North Palm Beach, FL

Dylan was born in Key West and raised in West Palm Beach, FL. Dylan started dancing at Palm Beach Ballet Center at the age of eight. At sixteen, he became a trainee with Next Generation Ballet and after two years, he joined the Richmond Ballet to complete his training and start his professional career with their second company. In 2019, Dylan joined Ballet Memphis as a company dancer for three seasons and participated in the 2022 season with the Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance. This is Dylan's fifth season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@d_mcintyre](#)



Andrea Mish—Dancer—West Palm Beach, Florida

Andrea Stephanie Mish was born and raised in South Florida. She began her training at Southern Dance Theater and later studied at Ballet East in West Palm Beach, Florida. She furthered her training at A.W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts and attended numerous summer intensives, including San Francisco Ballet, Boston Ballet, The Joffrey Ballet, Houston Ballet, among others. In 2023, Andrea graduated with Honors Cum Laude and high distinction with a Bachelor of Science in Dance Arts Administration and Psychology from Butler University. She is also the 2022 and 2023 recipient of the Outstanding Performance Award with Butler Ballet and was on the Dean's List at Butler University. Following graduation, Andrea accepted a position with Ballet Des Moines. This is Andrea's third season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@andreammish](https://www.instagram.com/andreammish)



Amanda Ostuni—Dancer—Patterson, New York

Amanda, originally from Patterson, NY, began dancing at the Seven Star School of Performing Arts. She trained in ballet, contemporary, jazz, tap, and hip hop for over fourteen years. She graduated from Butler University in 2023, where she received a BFA in Dance Performance. While there, Amanda worked with Jennifer Archibald and Deborah Wingert as well as

Susan McGuire, training in Cunningham and Graham technique. This is Amanda's fourth season with Ballet Hispánico New York.
Instagram: [@amanda_ostuni](#)



Jerard Palazo—Guest Artist—Philippines

Jerard Palazo, originally from Manila, the Philippines, began his formal dance training at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School Professional Division in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Jerard has worked with Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, Peridance Contemporary Dance Company, and danced with BalletX for four seasons. Most recently he performed the world-premiere of Takehiro Ueyama's pas de deux *The Story of Us* at the Vail Dance Festival. This is Jerard's first season with Ballet Hispánico New York.

Instagram: [@jerardpalazo](#)



Please join us in the lobby after the performance for a celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month and the opening of The Alden's 2026-2027 season.



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