MIAMI CITY BALLET
Ignites Winter and Spring 2026 With
INTO THE MAGIC CITY
Featuring a World Premiere by Alexei Ratmansky
Honoring MCB Founder Toby Lerner Ansin

Plus Upcoming Programs Throughout South Florida
***Across the River of Light*, *Jewels*, *Carmen*, and More**

Tickets and subscriptions available at
www.MiamiCityBallet.org

(**Miami Beach, FL — January 6, 2025**) — Miami City Ballet (MCB – Gonzalo Garcia, Artistic Director) ignites 2026 with ***Into the Magic City***, running **February 20–22 at the Adrienne Arsht Center in Miami** and **February 28–March 1 at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach**. Featuring **George Balanchine's** transcendent ***Serenade***, his exuberant ***Tarantella***, and a major new World Premiere by **Alexei Ratmansky** honoring MCB founder **Toby Lerner Ansin**, this program captures the expressive energy, joy, and artistic soul of the Magic City—rooted in history, alive in the present, and soaring into the future. *Into the Magic City* launches a vibrant season of winter and spring programming, including intimate duets at The Parker in Fort Lauderdale, the dazzling return of ***Jewels***, the heat of ***Carmen***, and a sunlit grand finale rep program featuring **Twyla Tharp** and more—together reflecting MCB's evolving voice and the dynamic spirit of its 40th Anniversary Season. Tickets are available at www.MiamiCityBallet.org or by calling 305.929.7010 / 877.929.7010.

Photos are available here.

INTO THE MAGIC CITY

February 20–22, 2026 | Adrienne Arsht Center, Miami
February 28–March 1, 2026 | Kravis Center, West Palm Beach

George Balanchine's timeless masterpiece *Serenade* opens the program with sweeping grace and emotional depth. Created in 1934 and set to Tchaikovsky's luminous score, the ballet marked a bold shift in the evolution of classical dance—moving away from narrative and toward pure, impassioned movement. Its moonlit tableaux, sculptural patterns, and dreamlike musicality have shaped MCB's artistic heart since the company's founding, making *Serenade* an audience favorite and a cornerstone of its Balanchine identity.

Balanchine's exuberant *Tarantella* follows, bursting with spirited charm, speed, and virtuosic flair. A joyful pas de deux performed to the lively rhythms of New Orleans–born composer Louis Moreau Gottschalk, *Tarantella* whirls with tambourines, dazzling footwork, and infectious bravado—an irresistible display of athleticism and classical precision.

At the center of the program is a powerful World Premiere by **Alexei Ratmansky**, titled *Roses from the South, Three Waltzes for Toby*, paying tribute to Miami City Ballet's visionary founder **Toby Lerner Ansin**. Set to music by Johann Strauss II, Ratmansky blends tradition with fresh creativity, crafting a work that honors Ansin's trailblazing spirit while reflecting the company's dynamic momentum under new leadership. Full of warmth, elegance, and forward-looking vitality, the premiere stands as both celebration and renewal—a reminder of the artistic courage that built MCB and the boundless possibilities ahead. *Roses from the South, Three Waltzes for Toby* is generously sponsored by The Ansin Family Foundation in honor of Toby Lerner Ansin's 85th Birthday.

Together, these three ballets create a vibrant portrait of Miami—its history, its heartbeat, and its ever-expanding artistic future.

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SERENADE (1934)
Choreography: George Balanchine
Music: Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Created in 1934, Balanchine's iconic Serenade is heralded for launching a new direction in classical ballet—one that embraced impassioned, plotless movement over narrative storytelling. Set to a spellbinding Tchaikovsky score, Serenade endures as a testament to beauty, musicality, and the expressive power of the ensemble.

ROSES FROM THE SOUTH, THREE WALTZES FOR TOBY (2026)
Choreography: Alexei Ratmansky
Music: Johann Strauss II
Alexei Ratmansky's World Premiere celebrates MCB founder Toby Lerner Ansin with a touching blend of history, tradition, and forward-thinking creativity. Elegant, warm, and inventive, the ballet honors Ansin's legacy while pointing boldly toward MCB's future.

TARANTELLA (1964)
Choreography: George Balanchine
Music: Louis Moreau Gottschalk
A whirlwind of speed, sparkle, and playful bravado. Set to the lively music of Gottschalk, this virtuosic pas de deux bursts with tambourines, technical fireworks, and irresistible charm.

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AHEAD ON THE HORIZON:
MIAMI CITY BALLET'S BOLD WINTER & SPRING PROGRAMS

ACROSS THE RIVER OF LIGHT
(March 7–8, 2026 | The Parker, Fort Lauderdale)
In an intimate evening of duets, MCB presents two works that highlight tenderness, sensuality, and emotional storytelling. **Christopher Wheeldon's** *This Bitter Earth* is a haunting meditation on love and memory, set to the soulful layering of Max Richter and Dinah Washington. **George Balanchine's** exuberant *Tarantella* follows, bursting with joy, speed, and virtuosic flair. *Nous Sommes* by **Jimmy Gamonet de los Heros** offers moments of elegant connection, while the vivid vignettes of **Durante Verzola's** *Sentimiento* pulse with Latin rhythm and heartfelt nostalgia.

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CARMEN
(March 26 & 28, 2026 | Adrienne Arsht Center, Miami; April 4–5, 2026 | Kravis Center, West Palm Beach)
Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's fiery *Carmen* returns with a reimagined score and live orchestra. Blending classical ballet with flamenco heat and theatrical bite, this vivid retelling presents its heroine as bold, magnetic, and utterly unapologetic. It is a work that pulses with danger, desire, and irresistible swagger.

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JEWELS
(March 27–29, 2026 | Adrienne Arsht Center, Miami; April 3, 2026 | Kravis Center, West Palm Beach)
George Balanchine's celebrated triptych returns in all its brilliance. *Emeralds* glows with French lyricism, *Rubies* crackles with Stravinsky's jazzy spark, and *Diamonds* ascends with regal grandeur. Together, these three ballets showcase the company's range—from sensual playfulness to crystalline precision.

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YOUR PERFECT GOLDEN HOUR
(April 11–12, 2026 | The Parker, Fort Lauderdale)
This spring program highlights the expressive spectrum of modern ballet through three signature voices: **Amy Hall Garner's** vibrant *Resplendent Fantasy*, **José Limón's** dramatic *Moor's Pavane* and his gorgeous *Chaconne*, and **Alonzo King's** meditative *Following the Subtle Current Upstream*. Each piece explores movement as memory, ritual, and revelation.

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¡VAMOS! TO THE BEACH
(May 1–3, 2026 | Adrienne Arsht Center, Miami; May 9–10, 2026 | Broward Center, Fort Lauderdale)
The season closes with a sun-soaked celebration.
Paul Taylor's Company B brings wartime swing to the stage; **Durante Verzola** unveils a Deco-flavored new premiere set to Gershwin; and **Twyla Tharp's** joyful *Deuce Coupe* infuses ballet with the breezy sound of The Beach Boys. A Miami-style finale: fresh, fun, and full of heart.

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PERFORMANCE DATES
Adrienne Arsht Center
Into the Magic City: February 20–22
Jewels: March 27–29
Carmen: March 26 & 28
¡Vamos! To the Beach: May 1–3

Kravis Center
Into the Magic City: February 28–March 1
Jewels: April 3

Carmen: April 4–5

Broward Center
¡Vamos! To the Beach: May 9–10

The Parker
Across the River of Light: March 7–8
Your Perfect Golden Hour: April 11–12

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TICKETING INFORMATION
Subscriptions for Miami City Ballet's 2025–26 40th Anniversary Season are available now. Subscribers enjoy exclusive benefits including priority seating and complimentary ticket exchanges. Tickets for all programs can be purchased at miamicityballet.org or by calling 305.929.7010 / 877.929.7010.

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ABOUT MIAMI CITY BALLET
Miami City Ballet (MCB) is one of America's premier ballet companies, recognized nationally and internationally for its artistic excellence, vibrant style, and innovative spirit. Founded in 1985 by Miami philanthropist Toby Lerner Ansin, MCB has earned its place as a leader in the field—nurturing new choreographic voices, forging bold collaborations, and championing greater inclusivity in classical ballet. Its artistic leadership has included Founding Artistic Director Edward Villella (1985–2012), Lourdes Lopez (2012–2025), and current Artistic Director Gonzalo Garcia. Rooted in the style, technique, and legacy of George Balanchine, the company's repertory has grown to include more than 100 ballets—ranging from treasured classical works to trailblazing contemporary choreography, including over a dozen world premieres. MCB performs for nearly 125,000 audience members annually across South Florida and on tour, with recent appearances in New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Paris. The Miami City Ballet School, one of the country's top training academies, serves nearly 400 students from Miami and around the world. The company's community engagement programs reach approximately 20,000 people annually, using the power of dance to uplift, educate, and inspire. MCB is based in Miami Beach at the Ophelia & Juan Js. Roca Center, designed by internationally acclaimed architecture firm Arquitectonica.

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