

For Immediate Release
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ALONZO KING LINES BALLET ANNOUNCES ITS 2016 SPRING HOME SEASON
Featuring SAND, a collaboration between Alonzo King and jazz greats Charles Lloyd and Jason Moran

April 21-30, 2016
Spring Gala, April 23, 2016

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, San Francisco
www.linesballet.org, 415.978.2787

“We’ve played around the world and people salivate when they see Charles walk onstage. He’s regal. He plays with a lot of romance. But then he also plays with a lot of earthworm--in--the--soil intensity, too. He’s always finding these pathways.” Jason Moran

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – January 24, 2016 – **Alonzo King LINES Ballet** is pleased to announce its Spring Season at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, April 21-30. The season pairs visionary choreographer **Alonzo King** with prolific jazz masters **Charles Lloyd** and **Jason Moran** for *SAND*, a world premiere ballet.

The premiere reunites King and Moran, who previously collaborated on LINES Ballet’s 2009 *Refraction*, pianist Moran’s first foray into composing for dance. Known as a risk-taker and innovator of new directions for jazz, Moran is a 2010 MacArthur fellow and was named Artistic Director for Jazz at The Kennedy Center in 2014.

For the new work they are joined by Moran’s musical partner, saxophone icon Charles Lloyd. A key figure in the development of jazz fusion and world music, Lloyd has worked with music giants such as Keith Jarrett, Jack DeJohnette and Cecil McBee, with whom he recorded *Forest Flower: Charles Lloyd at Monterey*, one of the first jazz recordings to sell one million copies. He currently leads the acclaimed New Charles Lloyd Quartet. Together Moran and Lloyd also recorded the acclaimed 2013 album together, *Hagar’s Song*.

The world-renowned musicians will perform live alongside the incomparable LINES Ballet dancers for the first four performances of the run. The remainder of the season will feature their music, but they won’t be performing live due to touring commitments.

“What Lloyd and Moran share is an unerring ability to get to the emotional heart of a song.” - Jazz Times

Also on the program is *Shostakovich*, Alonzo King’s 2014 work set to four Shostakovich string quartets.

Opening weekend includes the Spring Gala on Saturday, April 23. The evening begins with a cocktail hour followed by a lavish dinner, live auction and performance featuring LINES Ballet’s world premiere collaboration with jazz legends Charles Lloyd and Jason Moran.

About Alonzo King

Alonzo King is a visionary choreographer who collaborates with noted composers, musicians, and visual artists, creating works that draw on diverse sets of deeply rooted cultural traditions and imbue classical ballet with new expressive potential. King has been commissioned to create works for the repertoires of companies throughout the world including the Swedish Royal Ballet, Frankfurt Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Dance Theater of Harlem, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, North Carolina Dance Theatre, and Washington Ballet. He has worked extensively in opera, television, and film, and has choreographed works for prima ballerina Natalia Makarova and film star Patrick Swayze. Mr. King has also collaborated with artists such as actor Danny Glover, legendary jazz saxophonist Pharoah Sanders, and the Shaolin Monks of China. Renowned for his skill as a teacher, King has been the guest ballet master for National Ballet of Canada, Les Ballets de Monte Carlo, San Francisco Ballet, Ballet Rambert, Ballet West and others.

In 1982, King founded Alonzo King LINES Ballet, which has developed into a world renowned touring company. Seven years later, he inaugurated the San Francisco Dance Center, which has grown into one of the largest dance facilities on the West Coast. In 2001, King started the LINES Ballet School to nurture and develop the talents of young dancers. Expanding the scope of his educational visions to the college level in 2006, King and LINES Ballet embarked on a partnership with the Dominican University of California, creating the West Coast's first Joint BFA program in Dance. It is the only Joint BFA program in the country to be led by a living master choreographer.

Alonzo King is the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the Dance Masters of America, President Award, and the first ever Barney Choreographic Prize from White Bird Dance, which King received in July 2013 and April 2013 respectively. In October 2008 King was honored to receive the 2nd Annual Mayor's Arts Award by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom. In June 2008, King received the Jacob's Pillow Creativity Award, in recognition of his contribution to "moving ballet in a very 21st-century direction." In 2006, he was recognized as one of the fifty outstanding artists in America by the United States Artists organization, and in 2005, received the Bessie Award for Choreographer/ Creator. He is also the recipient of the NEA Choreographer's Fellowship, Irvine Fellowship in Dance, National Dance Project and the National Dance Residency Program, as well as five Isadora Duncan Awards. He has also received the Hero Award from Union Bank, the Lehman Award, and the Excellence Award from KGO, and was chosen as the recipient of the San Francisco Foundation's 2007 Community Leadership Award.

CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

WHAT:

Alonzo King LINES Ballet Spring Season

WHEN:

Thu, April 21 – with Charles Lloyd and Jason Moran performing live

Fri, April 22 – with Charles Lloyd and Jason Moran performing live

Sat, April 23 – Spring Gala with Charles Lloyd and Jason Moran performing live

Sun, April 24 – with Charles Lloyd and Jason Moran performing live, post-performance talk with Alonzo King and Jason Moran

Wed, April 27

Thu, April 28 – post-performance talk with Alonzo King

Fri, April 29

Sat, April 30

WHERE:

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, 700 Howard Street, San Francisco

TICKETS:

415.978.2787, www.linesballet.org