

For Immediate Release  
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**Alonzo King LINES Ballet presents its Spring Season featuring a stunning world premiere and iconic sections from three celebrated works**

**May 21-25, 2014  
Spring Gala, May 21, 2014**

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, San Francisco  
Tickets: \$30-\$65, [www.linesballet.org](http://www.linesballet.org), 415.978.2787



*Meredith Webster and David Harvey, photo by RJ Muna*

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—April 23, 2014—This Spring, Alonzo King LINES Ballet returns to Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater with a stunning world premiere. Breaking the mold of what ballet can be, King's provocative new work, set to music by contemporary composers John Oswald, Michael Jon Fink and Peter Garland, combines sophisticated modernist choreography with the physical elegance of the LINES Ballet dancers.

The Spring Season also features a trilogy of iconic sections from King's body of work. The retrospective includes a quintet from King's 2008 work, *The Radius of Convergence*

set to music by jazz legend Pharoah Sanders and bassist Edgar Meyer; excerpts from King's 1996 work, *Klang*, set to music by Miguel Frasconi; and excerpts from the 2002 work *Koto*, with music by Miya Masaoka.

Alonzo King LINES Ballet also bids farewell to three beloved company dancers this season. **Meredith Webster** retires from dancing to take on the role of Ballet Master at LINES Ballet. A recipient of the Princess Grace Award and Chris Hellman Dance Award, Webster has been dancing with the company since 2005. Also retiring is **Caroline Rocher**, a former principal dancer with Dance Theater of Harlem, who has been dancing with LINES Ballet since 2007. Leaving after this season is also **David Harvey**, a LINES Ballet Training Program alum and resident choreographer, who has been dancing with the company since 2008.

The Spring Season kicks off with a Spring Gala on March 21. Hosted by Alonzo King and Honorary Chair Linda Ronstadt, the evening begins with a sumptuous dinner and a live auction of unique experiences. Following the performance guests are invited to a dance party in the YBCA Forum, which includes desserts, libations and entertainment provided by DJ Masonic (aka visionary composer Mason Bates).

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup>-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:**

Wed, May 21, Gala: 5:30pm, Performance: 9pm, After-Party: 10pm

Thu, May 22, 7:30pm

Fri, May 23, 8pm

Sat, May 24, 2pm

Sat, May 24, 8pm

Sun, May 25, 5pm

#### **TICKETS:**

General Admission Tickets: \$30, \$40, \$55, \$65

Student Tickets: \$20 – May 22 evening performance and May 24 matinee performance only.

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### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **Spring Gala**

#### **Wed May 21, 5:30pm | Spring Gala**

Hosted by Alonzo King and Honorary Chair Linda Ronstadt, the evening begins with a sumptuous dinner and a live auction of unique experiences. Following the performance guests are invited to a dance party in the YBCA Forum, which includes desserts, libations and entertainment provided by DJ Masonic (aka visionary composer Mason Bates).

Gala tickets begin at \$600 for individuals, \$10,000 for tables.

Performance + After Party Tickets also available for \$150

#### **Thu May 22 | Post-Performance Talk with Alonzo King**

After the performance, join us in the theater orchestra for Q&A with Alonzo King. This event is open to all ticket holders.

**Fri May 23 | Post-Performance Book Signing Alonzo King**

Alonzo King will be on hand after the performance to personally sign copies of LINES Ballet's [photography book](#). Released this past fall, the book includes never before published photos of the Company created by photographer RJ Muna as well as several by Marty Sohl. Designed by Company Co-Founder and Creative Director Robert Rosenwasser, the book includes text by Alonzo King. The photography book will be available for purchase in the theater lobby before and after the performance.

**Sat May 24, Matinee | Post-Performance Talk with Alonzo King**

After the matinee performance, join us in the theater orchestra for Q&A with Alonzo King. This event is open to all ticket holders.