

Dance @ Detroit Opera



The 25/26 Dance @ Detroit Opera series is a salute to American dance by American dance companies. Three major forces of American dance include George Balanchine, the Father of American Ballet; Jack Cole, the Father of American Theatrical Jazz Dance; and Martha Graham, the Pioneer of American Modern Dance. They each created a new vocabulary for dance, uniquely their own, and uniquely American. Their works and influences will be seen throughout the season.

From ballet to contemporary to modern, the 25/26 Dance season is a celebration of what American dance has contributed to this important artform.

STARS OF AMERICAN BALLET

Daniel Ulbricht, Founder and Artistic Director

SAT / OCT 18 / 7:30 PM

SUN / OCT 19 / 2:30 PM

George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins, Gerald Arpino, and Twyla Tharp are influential choreographers who shaped American dance in the 20th century. Each choreographer contributed uniquely to the evolution of dance, expanding its artistic and expressive possibilities. This program explores the shaping of the American dance scene with Robbins' "In the Night," an excerpt from Arpino's "Light Rain," Tharp's "Brel," and Balanchine's "Who Cares" (concert version).

Dancers appearing courtesy of New York City Ballet and Houston Ballet.

DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM

Robert Garland, Artistic Director

SAT / NOV 15 / 7:30 PM

SUN / NOV 16 / 2:30 PM

Dance Theatre of Harlem is a Detroit favorite returning to the Detroit Opera House after their 2023 performances. Arthur Mitchell created the company in New York City after making history in 1955 as the first black principal dancer at New York City Ballet. He was also the famed protégé of George Balanchine, the “Father of American Ballet.” Their Detroit program will feature pieces created by George Balanchine, Robert Garland, and other iconic works.

HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO

Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell, Artistic Director

SAT / JAN 17 / 7:30 PM

SUN / JAN 18 / 2:30 PM

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, one of the most original forces in contemporary dance, was founded by Lou Conte in 1977 with deep roots in theatrical jazz dance - a uniquely American artform. The Detroit program will feature works from top contemporary choreographers plus two works from Tony Award-winning Broadway choreographer Bob Fosse.

PAUL TAYLOR DANCE COMPANY

Michael Novak, Artistic Director

SAT / APR 11 / 7:30 PM

SUN / APR 12 / 2:30 PM

Paul Taylor left the Martha Graham Dance Company to found his own company in 1954, transforming the landscape of modern dance. Many of his 147 works are considered modern masterpieces. The Detroit program will include two of his iconic works, *Company B* and *Esplanade* as well as new work by Robert Battle.