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MIAMI CITY BALLET Launches 40th Anniversary Season with PECK: MIAMI IN MOTION A Bold Celebration of Miami Energy

October 17–19 | Adrienne Arsht Center, Miami November 1–2 | Broward Center, Fort Lauderdale

Tickets now on sale at www.MiamiCityBallet.org

(Miami Beach, FL — September 15, 2025) — <u>Miami City Ballet</u> (Gonzalo Garcia, Artistic Director; Juan José Escalante, Executive Director) opens its milestone 40th Anniversary Season with <u>Pecks</u> <u>Miami in Motion</u>, an electrifying triple bill from Tony Award-winning choreographer **Justin Peck** October 17–19 in Miami and **November 1–2** in Fort Lauderdale. For tickets, please visit <u>www.MiamiCityBallet.org</u> or call 305.929.7010.

Photos are available here.

A bold, streetwise celebration of Miami's pulse and creative spirit, *Peck: Miami in Motion*, kicks off Miami City Ballet's 40th Anniversary Season with three of Tony Award-winning choreographer Justin Peck's most exhilarating works. At its center is *Heatscape*, a sun-drenched, open-air fever dream inspired by Miami's own Wynwood Walls, featuring graphic set pieces by legendary street artist Shepard Fairey and a propulsive score by Bohuslav Martinů. A ballet that feels like the city itself—hot, bold, unpredictable. Peck's breakout hit *Year of the Rabbit* opens the evening with sleek momentum and infectious musicality, translating Sufjan Stevens' indie-pop orchestrations into a rush of vibrant, interlocking movement. Rounding out the program is the emotionally charged *Chutes and Ladders*, a haunting duet set to Benjamin Britten's music for solo cello—both intimate and explosive in its choreographic range. Together, these works announce the season with swagger, soul, and a deeply Miami sense of rhythm.

"This program reflects the rhythm, urgency, and soul of Miami itself," says Artistic Director **Gonzalo Garcia**. "Justin's work captures something vital about who we are and where we're going. There's wit, fire, intimacy, and big visual sweep—it's an unforgettable way to launch our 40th."

To mark the launch of the season, MCB has released a vibrant new <u>short film</u> capturing the spirit of *Peck: Miami in Motion*—directed by **Ezra Hurwitz**, choreographed by **Justin Peck**, and performed by the dancers of **Miami City Ballet** to music by **Sufjan Stevens**. Produced in collaboration with **Paragraph Pictures**, the film features striking cinematography by **Maddy Talias** and original artwork by Miami-based muralist **Nate Dee**. Set against the city's sunlit walls and urban textures, it's a high-octane, cinematic invitation to experience ballet as only Miami can deliver.

TICKET INFORMATION

Miami: Adrienne Arsht Center | October 17–19 Fort Lauderdale: Broward Center | November 1–2

www.MiamiCityBallet.org or by phone: 305.929.7010 / 877.929.7010

LOOKING AHEAD: A SEASON BURSTING WITH HEAT AND HEART

The rest of the 40th Anniversary Season promises Miami at its boldest. Upcoming programs include:

- George Balanchine's The Nutcracker® (Dec 12–28)
- A new world premiere by **Alexei Ratmansky** in *Into the Magic City* (Feb 2026)
- The return of <u>Carmen</u>, full-length <u>Jewels</u>, a jazzy Deco-flavored finale, and <u>more</u>. From the high-gloss drama of <u>Twyla Tharp</u> to Latin-tinged world premieres by **Durante Verzola**, MCB's 40th is a season-long dance party—with edge, elegance, and no shortage of surprises. Full season info: <u>www.MiamiCityBallet.org</u>

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.