



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 4, 2010

## CAPA PRESENTS THE MODERN BALLET MASTERY OF **AILEY II**

**“The entire company, directed by Sylvia Waters, looks terrific. Clearly, the future is theirs.”**  
*- The New York Times*

Ailey II is an exceptional modern ballet dance company that merges the spirit and energy of the country’s best young talent with the passion and creative vision of today’s most outstanding choreographers. The dancers are the most gifted of their generation, translating strength, agility, and grace of body and soul into stirring, powerful performances. Ailey II comes to the Columbus to perform an exhilarating and diverse repertoire that includes Alvin Ailey’s timeless classics as well as new works by both dance veterans and celebrated emerging choreographers.

In association with The King Arts Complex, CAPA presents **Ailey II** at the **Capitol Theatre** (77 S. High St.) on **Saturday, February 27, at 8 pm. Tickets** are \$35, \$25, and \$20 at the Ohio Theatre Ticket Office (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 469-0939 or (800) 745-3000. The Capitol Theatre Ticket Office will open two hours prior to the performance. Students between the ages of 13-19 may purchase \$5 High Five tickets while available. This performance is made possible through the generous support of **CAPA Spectrum Series** sponsors **David and Mo Meuse**.

Ailey II began in 1974 as the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble. Alvin Ailey initiated a workshop composed of the most promising scholarship students from The Ailey School and then handpicked the original company members from among that group. Ailey II embodies Ailey’s pioneering mission to establish an extended cultural community that provides dance performances, training, and community programs for all people. Today, it has become one of the most popular dance companies in the nation.

Under the artistic direction of Sylvia Waters, Ailey II invigorates the American dance scene by offering unique opportunities for artists. Company members refine their technique while gaining invaluable performing and teaching experience during their tenure with the company.

Throughout its history, many Ailey II company members have gone on to pursue successful

careers as dancers, teachers, and choreographers with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, other professional dance companies, on Broadway, and in schools.

In recent years, Ailey II's distinctive repertory has included works by dance masters Alvin Ailey, Talley Beatty, Ulysses Dove, Lar Lubovitch, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Artistic Director Judith Jamison, and such innovative choreographers as Robert Battle, Donald Byrd, Shapiro & Smith, Avila/Weeks, and Kevin Wynn.

Ailey II continues to win unmatched critical praise for its residencies at major colleges and universities, as well as its visits to elementary, middle, and high schools across the US. The critically acclaimed company has received numerous honors, awards, and proclamations in recognition of its innovative community outreach programs that showcase the talent of the country's best young dancers.

### **About Founder Alvin Ailey**

Born in Rogers, Texas, Alvin Ailey was introduced to dance through performances of the Katherine Dunham Dance Company and the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo. His formal dance training began with an introduction to Lester Horton's classes by his friend, Carmen de Lavallade.

When Ailey began creating dance, he drew upon his "blood memories" of Texas with the blues, spirituals and gospel as inspiration. This resulted in the creation of his most popular and critically acclaimed work, *Revelations*.

Although he created 79 ballets over his lifetime, Ailey maintained that his company was not exclusively a repository for his own work. Today, the company continues Ailey's mission by presenting important works of the past and commissioning new ones to add to the repertoire. In all, more than 200 works by over 70 choreographers have been performed by the company.

[www.alvinailey.org](http://www.alvinailey.org)

**CALENDAR LISTING**  
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**Saturday, February 27, 8 pm**  
**Capitol Theatre (77 S. High St.)**

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Owner/operator of downtown Columbus' magnificent, historic theatres (Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre, Southern Theatre) and manager of the Riffe Center Theatre Complex, Lincoln Theatre, Valentine Theatre (Toledo, OH), and Shubert Theater (New Haven, CT), CAPA is a not-for-profit, award-winning presenter of national and international performing arts and entertainment now celebrating 40 years of service. For more information, visit [www.capa.com](http://www.capa.com).

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