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MIAMI CITY BALLET ANNOUNCES COMPANY ROSTER FOR 2017-18 SEASON

Three Dancers Promoted and Seven New Dancers Added to the Roster

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. – (May 1, 2017) – Miami City Ballet (MCB) has announced its 53-member roster for the 2017-18 season, which opens on October 20 in Miami, including the promotions of **Jennifer Lauren** to principal, **Lauren Fadeley** to principal soloist and **Ashley Knox** to soloist, and the addition of seven new dancers: former longtime MCB dancer **Katia Carranza** will return as a principal dancer, **Alexander Peters** as a principal soloist and **Eric Beckham, Julia Cinquemani, Aaron Hilton, Harrison Monaco** and **Alyssa Schroeder** as corps de ballet dancers.

Jennifer Lauren has been promoted to principal dancer just two years after her promotion to principal soloist. Since being named as one of Dance Magazine’s “25 to Watch” in 2014, she has been featured in principal and soloist roles, including her debuts as Giselle and Odette in *Swan Lake*, and lead roles in *Who Cares?* and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. She joined Miami City Ballet in 2007 as a member of the corps de ballet, was promoted to soloist in 2011 and principal soloist in 2015. She is a native of Tuscaloosa, Ala., and danced for Alabama Ballet prior to joining MCB.

Lauren Fadeley has been promoted to principal soloist after joining MCB in 2016 as a soloist. During her first season she danced the role of Giselle and lead roles in *Walpurgisnacht Ballet* and *Serenade*. Fadeley previously spent nine seasons with Pennsylvania Ballet, four of them as a principal dancer, and two with New York City Ballet. She received her training at the School of American Ballet (SAB), Indiana University and the School of Performing Arts in Orlando, Fla., where she grew up.

Longtime MCB dancer **Ashley Knox** has been promoted to soloist. Last season alone, she danced featured roles in *Giselle*, *Serenade* and *Divertimento No. 15*. She joined MCB as an apprentice in 2002 and was promoted to the corps de ballet in 2003. Originally from Shelby Township, Mich., she trained at the Rochester School of Dance in Michigan and SAB.

Returning to the rank of principal dancer is **Katia Carranza**, who previously danced with MCB for nine seasons and then as a guest artist for six. Carranza graduated from the Escuela Superior de Musica y Danza de Monterrey in Mexico in 1996 and then joined Ballet de Monterrey as a soloist. She first joined MCB’s corps de ballet in 1998 and was promoted to principal dancer in 2004. In 2007 she rejoined Ballet de Monterrey as a principal dancer, yet continued to perform as a guest artist of MCB. The 2017-18 season will mark her comeback as a full company member.

Alexander Peters of State College, Pa., joins as a principal soloist and is formerly of Pennsylvania Ballet where he has been a principal since 2015, dancing many principal roles in ballets by Balanchine and

other leading choreographers. During his time as a student at SAB, he participated in the New York Choreographic Institute, an exchange program with the Royal Danish Ballet and the 2008 Jerome Robbins Celebration with New York City Ballet. Peters is a recipient of the 2008 Princess Grace Award and the 2010 Mae L. Wien Award for Outstanding Promise.

New to the corps de ballet, **Eric Beckham** joins from The National Ballet of Canada where he recently finished his second season as an apprentice. Originally from Columbia, S.C., Beckham was accepted into SAB at 15 and was awarded the Rudolf Nureyev Scholarship for three years during his training.

Julia Cinquemani joins from Los Angeles Ballet where she has been dancing since 2010, as a principal since 2014. She trained in her hometown at Dallas Ballet Center and Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, and spent summers at SAB. In 2008, she was named a Texas Young Master by The Texas Commission on the Arts and then spent two years in Pacific Northwest Ballet's Professional Division.

Aaron Hilton is currently a student at Princeton University and is taking a leave of absence in order to dance professionally with MCB. He received a scholarship to attend The Washington School of Ballet where he grew up in Washington, D.C., and later attended the Royal Swedish Ballet School in Stockholm, Sweden (2007-2009) and SAB (2013-2015) also under scholarship. Hilton was a member of Boston Ballet's second company for one season before heading to Princeton.

Also coming from Pennsylvania Ballet, **Harrison Monaco** of New Berlin, Wisc., began his training there from an early age before heading to SAB at 16 where he trained for two years as the recipient of the Rudolf Nureyev Dance Foundation Scholarship. Professionally he has danced with PAB for six seasons, performing numerous principal and featured roles.

Finally, **Alyssa Schroeder**, from Portland, Ore., began her early training at the School of Oregon Ballet Theatre and at 13 she moved to Carlisle, Pa., to continue her training at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet.

Also of note on the roster, principal dancer **Jeanette Delgado** and corps dancer **Rebecca King** will take leaves of absence from the company for the upcoming season. Both will return to their current ranks for the 2018-19 season.

Dancers' full bios are available at miamicityballet.org. The 2017-18 season opens this October with performances at MCB's home theaters in Miami, West Palm Beach, Ft. Lauderdale and Naples. Subscription packages are on sale now at miamicityballet.org or call 305.929.7010, toll-free 877.929.7010.

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About Miami City Ballet:

Miami City Ballet, entering its 32nd season, continues to build upon its growing national presence as what The New York Times calls "an exceptional troupe, by Balanchine standards, anywhere in the world." Led by Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez since 2012, MCB was founded in 1985 by Miami philanthropist Toby Lerner Ansin and Founding Artistic Director Edward Villella. The Company has 53 dancers and a repertoire of more than 100 ballets. MCB performs for nearly 100,000 patrons annually during its South Florida season not only in Miami, but also proudly presenting each of its repertory

programs at its home theaters in West Palm Beach, Ft. Lauderdale and Naples. MCB is frequently invited to tour to top theaters in the U.S. and abroad.

Miami City Ballet School, the official school of Miami City Ballet, is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2018. One of the most respected ballet training academies in America, the School's renowned faculty, challenging syllabus and affiliation with Miami City Ballet make it a place where all students – from children to adults – can receive comprehensive dance training. The School trains approximately 400 students, ages 3-18, in its year-round program, and 400 during its summer programs, granting nearly \$500,000 in scholarships annually. More than 500 adults participate in a vibrant community division.

MCB's 'Share the Dance' Community Outreach and Educational Programs reach deep into the community, touching nearly 23,000 young people, seniors and other traditionally underserved community members annually through a wide array of programming. The diverse programs introduce new and underserved audiences to the art form of classical ballet while building strong community relationships and engagement with the arts.

Miami City Ballet is headquartered in Miami Beach, Fla., at the Ophelia & Juan Js. Roca Center, a facility designed by renowned architectural firm Arquitectonica.

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2017-18 DANCER ROSTER

Principals

Tricia Albertson
Katia Carranza
Renan Cerdeiro
Jeanette Delgado*
Rainer Krenstetter
Jennifer Lauren
Simone Messmer
Renato Penteadó
Kleber Rebello
Reyneris Reyes

Principal Soloists

Nathalia Arja
Didier Bramaz
Lauren Fadeley
Callie Manning
Alexander Peters

Soloists

Emily Bromberg
Jovani Furlan
Shimon Ito
Ashley Knox
Jordan-Elizabeth Long
Chase Swatosh

Corps de Ballet

Alaina Andersen
Eric Beckham
Adrienne Carter
Andrei Chagas
Julia Cinquemani
Maya Collins
Bradley Dunlap
Mayumi Enokibara
Samantha Hope Galler
Ellen Grocki
Aaron Hilton
Rebecca King*
Suzette Logue
Alex Manning
Harrison Monaco
Lexie Overholt
Adriana Pierce
Leanna Rinaldi
Émilien Rivoire
Ariel Rose
Helen Ruiz
Alyssa Schroeder
Christie Scituro
Luiz Silva
Raechel Sparreo
Christina Spigner
Nicole Stalker
Ella Titus
Eric Trope
Ao Wang
Amir Yogev
Damian Zamorano

*Leave of absence