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International Ballet Festival around the corner

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Havana's Grand Theater Alicia Alonso and the National and Mella Theaters are ready for the 25th International Ballet Festival set for Oct 28th through Nov 6th in the Cuban capital.

Dance Americana is coming from the United States to perform on October 29th and 30th at the National Theater. Artistically directed by New York City Ballet soloist dancer and choreographer in residence, Justin Peck, Dance America also includes other outstanding figures, such as New York City ballet principals Sara Mearns and Amar Ramasar. *In creases, Furiant, and Rodeo: four dance episodes* make up the company's repertoire for the important Havana dance extravaganza.

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens is also scheduled to perform at the National Theater on November 1st with the piece *Black Milk*, bringing some of its most important dancers, such as Marcin Kaczorowski, Jeremy Raia, Andrew Wright, Jeremy Rivera and Hervé Courtain.

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens was founded in Montreal, Canada, in 1957, by Ludmila Chiriaeff, one of the northern country's most relevant personalities with the aim of showing the audience a repertoire based on the different forms of classical dance. The Nov 1st recital at the National Theater also includes performances by dancers from the Royal Dutch Ballet, the New York City Ballet, the National Ballet of Mongolia, and Cuba is bringing representatives from the Cuban National Ballet, and the Irene Rodríguez Company and Acosta Danza.

Buenos Aires Ballet has also been invited to the National to dance on Nov 4/5 with *Sueños en fado, Rapsodia, Eclipse, Tangata and Bastones Dorados*, under the direction of Federico Fernández, and the performance of important Argentine dancers. Paris Opera Ballet dancers are also set to perform from Oct 28th/Nov 6th at the ballet festival. *Swan Lake, Giselle, Don Quixote and La fille mal gardée* are some of the classics scheduled to be staged at Mella and National Theater and Havana's Grand Theater Alicia Alonso.

Edited by Damian Donestevez

