



"Philadanco is this brilliant melting pot of modern, contemporary, jazz, ballet and lyrical dance, and we're lucky Joan Myers Brown's company is [ours], too."

- PhillyNow

"A company that can do more than just anything. It can represent the possibilities of the human spirit through dance."

- Dance Magazine

# PHILADANCO!

**Celebrating Joan Myers Brown and her recent biography, *The Audacious Hope of the Black Ballerina***, PHILADANCO (The Philadelphia Dance Company) has never been more vibrant than in its 45th year! Brown, founder of PHILADANCO and recipient of the 2012 National Medal of Arts for her cultural contributions, couldn't be more proud of her company. They have represented the U.S., Pennsylvania and Philadelphia as artistic ambassadors around the world. 2016-17 touring repertory includes **the new work *Latched* by Christopher Huggins** from their Dec 2014 show *Risky Business*, along with Daniel Ezralow's *Pulse* and Ray Mercer's crowd-pleasing *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. The unique blend of dance styles of PHILADANCO, and its roster of 50-60 concert performances and 45 residencies annually has made them one of the most sought after modern companies in the United States.



## HAVING OUR SAY

*Full company*

This evening of dance selections exposes the power of the female choreographer. It opened to great acclaim in April 2015 at The Kimmel and is now available for touring to your venue! This new show exposes dance expression in a way only women can. Program includes original and revived choreography from Diane McIntyre, Bebe Miller, Dawn Marie Bazemore and Jawole Willa Jo Zollar.

## BLOOD, SWEAT, AND DANCE

*Full company*

Movement has never been so exhilarating! This program showcases the skill and versatility of PHILADANCO with an evening of PHILADANCO's most influential and unexpected works. Their most requested full-length program! Includes: *BAMM* by Donald Byrd, *Suite En Blue* by Gene Hill Sagan, *Bad Blood* by Ulysses Dove, and *Philadelphia Experiment* by Dr. Rennie Harris.

*Excerpts from the Apollo Theater's*

## **JAMES BROWN: GET ON THE GOOD FOOT, A CELEBRATION IN DANCE**

*Full company*

A selection of dances from the Apollo Theater's 2013 production honoring the "king of funk". It is fun, it is funky, and when the tunes get rolling, we dare you to stay in your seat. Includes remixes of hits "Think (About It)", "Get on the Good Foot", and "Down and Out in New York City". Choreography from Ronald K. Brown, Thang Dao and Abdel Salaam.

*An Audacious Hope Come True...*

## **Special 2016-17 Residency Option**

45 years of performance and 55 years of teaching means that Joan Myers Brown is responsible for a century of American dance. This option focuses on her biography, *The Audacious Hope of the Black Ballerina*, including special residency activities around the book and master classes to train the next generation.

## **UPCOMING PERFORMANCES**

**January 16, 2016**

PMG APAP Showcase  
City Center Studio 4  
New York, NY

**February 17, 2016**

Rose Lehrman Center  
Harrisburg Community College  
Harrisburg, PA

**February 27, 2016**

Montgomery County Community College  
Blue Bell, PA

# PHILADANCO Partial Repertory

The Philadelphia Dance Company (PHILADANCO) has over 40 years of repertory, choreographed by some of the greatest talent modern dance has seen. Works include:

## **BAD BLOOD**

7 dancers

Choreographer: Ulysses Dove

Music: Laurie Anderson & Peter Gabriel

Dancing at an extremely athletic and emotional visceral level, *Bad Blood* reveals the power and magnetic pull of courtship rites, ownership and sex. Brilliant and brutal at times, the seven dancers leapfrog over one another, hurl and fling themselves at each other, ending up in fierce and violent embraces. In this ballet, there is a desperate and futile search for connection through physical impact. The reconstruction of *Bad Blood* was made possible by permission from the Ulysses Dove Balletic Estate and its administrator.

## **A MOVEMENT FOR FIVE**

5 dancers

Choreographer: Dawn Marie Bazemore

Music: Public Enemy and others

Choreographed by Philadanco! alumna, Dawn Marie Bazemore, *A Movement for Five* opens with Public Enemy's anthem "Fight the Power" blaring out, depicting the social landscape of the events involving the arrest of the so-called Central Park 5, young black men accused of sexually assaulting a woman in New York in 1989. This poignant work grabs the audience's attention from start to finish in both social justice content and powerful dance expression.

## **ENEMY BEHIND THE GATE**

13 dancers

Choreographer: Christopher Huggins

Music: Steve Reich

*Enemy Behind the Gate* is a work that was inspired by enemies that live within our midst. THEY LOOK LIKE YOU... THEY ACT LIKE YOU...THEY LIVE LIKE YOU BUT, THEY ARE NOT ONE OF YOU. The Gate is not invincible but it's yours to secure. Set to the burning music of Steve Reich and danced by the explosive energy of PHILADANCO.

## **GATE KEEPERS**

6 dancers

Choreographer: Ronald K. Brown

Music/Original Score: Wunmi Olaiya

This ballet symbolizes the dancers as 'soldiers walking toward heaven, searching for the wounded and looking-out to make a safe haven for others to follow.' *Gate Keepers* is a story of homage, celebration and an acknowledgment of conscious continuity, interconnectedness, history, tradition and perseverance.

## **MOAN**

12 dancers

Choreographer: Matthew Rushing

Music: Nina Simone

Honoring the musical genius of Nina Simone, Matthew Rushing's new work *Moan* for PHILADANCO illustrates the prolonged lament heard in and through the passion and truth of her timeless vocal expressions.



## **PHILADELPHIA EXPERIMENT**

14 dancers

Choreographer: Rennie Harris

Music: 3 Generations Walking, Body & Soul, Darrin Ross

Hip-Hop at its finest: *Philadelphia Experiment* is a retrospective of the city of Philadelphia. An acknowledgement of its political, social and economic change, this dynamic, energetic piece alludes to the rhythms, posture, physicality and speed of the city of Philadelphia.

## **SUITE en BLEU**

8 dancers

Choreographer: Gene Hill Sagan

Music: George Frideric Handel & Johann Sebastian Bach

Choreographed by Gene Hill Sagan in Israel from the archives of Batsheva Dance Company with permission of the estate of Mr. Sagan, this neo-classical ballet danced by 8 dancers, challenges the audience with its framing balletic flavored pure dance movements set to the brilliant music of Handel & Bach.

## **LATCHED**

Choreographer: Christopher L. Huggins

Music: Sohn

Although it is often irresistible, people find ways to latch onto one another while trying to detach. *Latched* is an exploration about being latched onto another body, soul or spirit. With music by English composer and producer Sohn, Huggins reveals the struggle of trying to break free amid the physical and emotional ties that bind.