



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 26, 2014

- WHAT:** Alonzo King LINES Ballet
- WHEN:** Sunday, April 27, 7:30 p.m.
- WHERE:** Fine Arts Center Concert Hall
University of Massachusetts Amherst
- TICKETS:** Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go online to <http://www.fineartscenter.com/>
- IMAGES:** To download images relating to this press release please go online to <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/PressImages>

“[Alonzo King] possesses a sort of magical science of gesture and spatiality. The technique is classically based – the women are en pointe – but the capacity for choreographic innovation is boundless.”

-Le Monde

ALONZO KING LINES BALLET OF SAN FRANCISCO CLOSSES FAC 2013-2014 SEASON

Alonzo King LINES Ballet is a celebrated contemporary ballet company that has been guided since 1982 by the unique artistic vision of Alonzo King. An audience and critic favorite, the Ballet imbues classical ballet with new expressive potential, by drawing on a diverse set of deeply rooted cultural traditions. Choreographer Alonzo King has been called “one of the few bona fide visionaries in the ballet world today” by the San Francisco Chronicle. See his visionary work come to life on stage as the LINES Ballet closes the 2013-2014 season at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall, on Sunday, April 27th at 7:30 p.m. Ticket-holders are also invited to a pre-show talk by Mount Holyoke Ballet Professor and Director of Mass Academy of Ballet Charles Flachs at 6:30 p.m. at the University Museum of Contemporary Art (lower level of FAC lobby).

The LINES Ballet has a program of diverse origins planned for their Fine Arts Center performance. The first half of the show consists of two works danced to classical music – Vivaldi’s aria *Sposa Son Disprezzata*, and Bach’s *Concerto for Two Violins in D minor*. After intermission, the company presents “Resin,” a work comprised of many smaller movements danced in groups, duets, and solos.

“Resin” is an elegant and expressive display of what makes the LINES Ballet stand out from the world of classical ballet; it is set to Sephardic music, with roots in the Jewish communities of medieval Spain. Musical curator and ethnomusicologist Francesco Spagnolo explains, “the music of the Sephardic Jews has come into contact with music from Europe, including Italy and the Balkans, and especially with the Arabic and Turkish musical worlds.” Rare archival field recordings are interwoven with Judeo-Spanish songs by early-music artist Jordi Savall, and the stage is transformed into a shimmering and timeless landscape.

Alonzo King is well-known for focusing on ballet as a science – founded on universal, geometric principles of energy and evolution. Alonzo King’s revelatory choreography, brought to life by the elegant and kinetic LINES Ballet dancers, is renowned for connecting audiences to a profound sense of shared humanity. Critics have also noted that King’s work is not always guided by the typical gender roles of his dancers, since dancers interact in ways that are more complicated and collaborative than is usual in ballet’s traditional functions for male dancers (the strong support) and female dancers (supported and dainty).

Alonzo King LINES Ballet spends the spring and fall seasons based in San Francisco, but tours globally to share their transformative dance worldwide. The LINES Ballet has been featured at venues such as the Venice Biennale, Monaco Dance Forum, Maison de la Dance, the Edinburgh International Festival, Montpellier Danse, the Wolfsburg Festival, the Holland Dance Festival, and most recently Théâtre National de Chaillot in Paris. Alonzo King LINES Ballet contributes to dance education and community involvement through the LINES Ballet Training Program and Summer Program, the Joint BFA Program in Dance with Dominican University of California, and the LINES Dance Center, one of the largest dance facilities on the West Coast.

Tickets for Alonzo King LINES Ballet are \$42, \$38 and \$15; Five College, GCC, STCC students and youth 17 and under are \$15, \$12 and \$10. For tickets call the Box Office at 545-2511, toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase online at fineartscenter.com. The Fine Arts Center’s season is sponsored by Baystate Health and Health New England, with additional event support coming from Applewood Retirement Community.

PHOTOS

Hi-res photos available for download: <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/article/Images>.

PRESS PASSES

A limited number of press passes are available. Please contact Shawn Farley at 413-545-4159 or sfarley@admin.umass.edu.

ABOUT THE FAC

The Fine Arts Center, located on the UMass Amherst campus, is a presenter of music, dance, theater and the visual arts, bringing hundreds of outstanding and provocative artists to the Pioneer Valley for over 35 years.

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