

BAM

2017 WINTER/SPRING SEASON

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC PETER JAY SHARP BUILDING 30 LAFAYETTE AVENUE BROOKLYN, NY 11217—1486

Malpaso Dance Company—one of Cuba’s most prized ensembles makes BAM debut with the NY premiere of *Dreaming of Lions*

Original score composed and performed by Arturo O’Farrill along with the Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor.

BAM and The Joyce Theater present

Dreaming of Lions

Malpaso Dance Company
Arturo O’Farrill & the Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble
Choreography by Osnel Delgado
Music by Arturo O’Farrill

BAM Harvey Theater (651 Fulton St)

Mar 1—4 at 7:30pm; Mar 5 at 3pm
Tickets start at \$25

Master Class: Malpaso Dance Company

With Osnel Delgado and members of the company
Co-presented with BAM and Mark Morris Dance Group
Mar 3 at 12pm, Mark Morris Dance Center (3 Lafayette Ave)
Price: \$25
For intermediate to professional dancers
Visit BAM.org/master-classes for more information and to register

“It’s impossible to choose favorites among the dancers...they’re both humble and sparkingly present.” – *The New York Times*

Feb 3, 2017/Brooklyn, NY—*Dreaming of Lions* is a new dance work by Osnel Delgado, the resident choreographer and artistic director of Malpaso Dance Company, one of the newest and most sought-after Cuban contemporary ensembles. Drawing inspiration from Ernest Hemingway’s beloved novella *The Old Man and the Sea*, Delgado deconstructs the classic tale of an old man’s quest to catch an elusive fish through a unique vocabulary that melds contemporary movement with ballet and traditional Cuban technique. Danced by a company lauded for its precise-yet-fluid physical virtuosity, *Dreaming of Lions* wrestles with themes of honor, determination, and loss during one fisherman’s crusade for victory against the unrelenting sea. The company’s executive director and co-founder Fernando Sáez serves as dramaturg.

The evening-length work for 11 dancers features a stunning lineup of creative collaborators including a new original score composed and performed by Grammy Award-winning icon Arturo O’Farrill along with his Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble; lighting design by the renowned Al Crawford; and costumes by lauded couturiers Reid & Harriet.

One of Cuba’s first (if not *the* first) privately funded dance companies, Malpaso began with a leap of faith when dancers Osnel Delgado and Daileidys Carrazana left soloist positions at the prominent modern dance company, Danza Contemporánea de Cuba, four years ago to start their own company—an action that their friends and colleagues warned them was a “malpaso” (a misstep). After joining forces with Fernando Sáez of the Ludwig Foundation, and years of tenacious persistence, Malpaso came to fruition and was named in honor of its uncertain origins.

About the artists

Based in Havana, Cuba, **Malpaso Dance Company** is committed to bringing Cuban contemporary dance into the 21st century by collaborating with top international choreographers and nurturing new voices in Cuban choreography. The company's core artistic vision is led by resident repertory choreographer Osnel Delgado. The company was founded in 2012 by Delgado, Daileidys Carrazana, and Fernando Saéz, and comprises 16 dancers, including former members of Danza Contemporánea de Cuba. Its repertoire includes *24 hours and a dog* by Delgado and *Porque Sigues (Why You Follow)* by the American choreographer Ronald K. Brown, among others.

Malpaso co-founder, artistic director, dancer, and choreographer, **Osnel Delgado** danced with Danza Contemporánea de Cuba from 2003 to 2011, before founding Malpaso. He has worked with choreographers Mats Ek, Rafael Bonachela, Kenneth Kvarnström, Ja Linkens, Itzik Galili, Samir Akika, Pedro Ruiz, Isidro Rolando, and George Cespedes, among others. Delgado has created works for DCC, Rakatan, and Ebony Dance of Cuba. Delgado is a 2003 graduate of the National Dance School of Havana, where he is also a professor of dance studies.

Fernando Sáez, Malpaso co-founder and executive director, graduated from the School of Performing Arts at the Superior Institute of Arts (ISA) in Havana in 1988. He is also a founder and actor of Estudio Teatral de Santa Clara, was the head of the sociocultural development project in Las Terrazas, Pinar del Rio from 1993 to 1997, and has served on the staff of the Ludwig Foundation of Cuba since 1998. He is also a member of the foundation’s board of directors.

Malpaso co-founder, associate artistic director, and dancer **Daileidys Carrazana** graduated from the National Ballet School in Havana in 2003. She was a member of Danza Contemporanea de Cuba from 2003 to 2011, before founding Malpaso with Osnel Delgado. Carrazana has worked with choreographers such as Mats Ek, Jan Linkens, Samir Akika, Pedro Ruiz, and Isidro Rolando, among others.

Arturo O’Farrill was born in Mexico and grew up in New York City. Educated at the Manhattan School of Music and the Brooklyn College Conservatory, O’Farrill played with the Carla Bley Big Band from 1979 through 1983 and later founded the Afro Latin Jazz Alliance as a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the performance, education, and preservation of Afro Latin music. As a solo performer, he has collaborated with a wide spectrum of artists including Wynton Marsalis, Dizzy Gillespie, Steve Turre, Papo Vasquez, The Fort Apache Band, Lester Bowie, and Harry Belafonte. In 1995, O’Farrill agreed to direct the band that preserved much of his father's music,

Chico O'Farrill's Afro Cuban Jazz Orchestra, which remained in residence at New York City's Birdland for 15 years.

His debut album with the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra, *Una Noche Inolvidable*, earned a Grammy Award nomination in 2006. His next album, *Song for Chico*, earned a Grammy Award for Best Latin Jazz Album in 2009. The 2015 release of *The Offense of the Drum* was yet another Grammy Award winner. He released *Cuba: The Conversation Continues* on the Motéma label in 2015. He has also composed music for films, including *Hollywoodland* and *Salud*.

For press information, contact Sarah Garvey at sgarvey@bam.org or 718.724.8025.

Credits

Bloomberg Philanthropies is the Season Sponsor.

Leadership support for dance at BAM provided by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Harkness Foundation for Dance.

Programming in the BAM Harvey Theater is endowed by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

Major support for dance at BAM provided by The SHS Foundation.

BAM 2017 Winter/Spring Season supporters: Rose M. Badgley Residuary Charitable Trust; brigittencyc; Betsy and Ed Cohen/Areté Foundation; Con Edison; The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation; Ford Foundation; Forest City Ratner Companies; The Francena T. Harrison Foundation Trust; The Kovner Foundation; MetLife Foundation; The Ambrose Monell Foundation; Henry and Lucy Moses Fund, Inc.; Donald R. Mullen Jr.; Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation, Inc.; Onassis Cultural Center NY; Renova; The Jerome Robbins Foundation, Inc.; The Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Inc.; The Morris and Alma Schapiro Fund; The SHS Foundation; The Shubert Foundation, Inc.; The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust; The TinMan Fund; Toll Brothers City Living; Viacom; and The Winston Foundation, Inc.

Delta is the Official Airline of BAM. Pepsi is the official beverage of BAM.

Your tax dollars make BAM programs possible through funding from the City of New York Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. The BAM Next Wave Festival is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. The BAM facilities are owned by the City of New York and benefit from public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs with support from Mayor Bill de Blasio; Cultural Affairs Commissioner Tom Finkelpearl; the New York City Council including Council Speaker Melissa Mark Viverito, Finance Committee Chair Julissa Ferreras, Cultural Affairs Committee Chair Jimmy Van Bramer, Councilmember Laurie Cumbo, and the Brooklyn Delegation of the Council; and Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams. BAM would like to thank the Brooklyn Delegations of the New York State Assembly, Joseph R. Lentol, Delegation Leader; and New York Senate, Senator Velmanette Montgomery.

Dreaming of Lions is made possible in part by Joyce Theater Productions, a producing partnership of The Joyce Theater Foundation and Sunny Artist Management that supports select projects from inception to premiere and subsequent tours.

It was co-commissioned by the Luminato Festival, Joan and Jerry Lozinski from Toronto (Canada), and The Yard.

A technical residency was generously provided by Duke Performances for the US premiere of *Dreaming of Lions* by Osnel Delgado.

Additional support provided by the following generous funders: Con Edison, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Jerome L. Greene Foundation in honor of Karen Brooks Hopkins, Todd Gordon and Susan Feder, Lisa and Richard Witten, and Diana and Dick Beattie. The work is dedicated to Ronald Feiner.

General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers a dinner menu prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances. BAMcafé also features an eclectic mix of live music for BAMcafé Live on Friday and Saturday nights with a bar menu available starting at 6pm.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater); D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM
Car: Limited commercial parking lots are located near BAM. Visit BAM.org for

information. For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.

####