

Fall dance preview: Premieres, classics among highlights



TODD ROSENBERG PHOTOGRAPHY

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's Choreographer in Residence Alejandro Cerrudo stands in front of Marc Chagall's America Windows at the Art Institute of Chicago.

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By Sid Smith, Special to the Tribune

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A somewhat quiet fall coming at the end of a busy, spectacular year nevertheless promises great things, including Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's first full-length work, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet

in a rare visit boasting a ballet take on "Moulin Rouge," and one of the Joffrey Ballet's signature classics, "The Green Table." Here are a few to anticipate, in chronological order:

'Voices of Strength'

"Voices of Strength: Two programs of Dance and Theater by Women of Africa" features five African artists, from Morocco down to South Africa, who present four contemporary works in two separate programs that offer a sampler of the diverse styles of dance on view there today. 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday. The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago, 1306 S. Michigan Ave.; \$26 and \$30, 312-369-8330 or colum.edu/dancecenter.

Harvest Chicago Contemporary Dance Fest

Launched in 2010 by Nicole Gifford and Melissa Mallinson, this year's three-day festival stars 14 troupes and 14 independent choreographers from here and all over the U.S. 8 p.m. Oct. 5 and 6 and 3 p.m. Oct. 7, Ruth Page Center for the Arts, 1016 N. Dearborn St.; \$25, 312-337-6543 or brownpapertickets.com.

Luna Negra Dance Theater

On a roll after last season's impressive take on "Carmen," the troupe reunites with the gifted Brazilian-born choreographer Fernando Melo, bringing back his brilliant cartoon "Bate" and a new work, plus a premiere from artistic director Gustavo Ramirez Sansano. 8 p.m. Oct. 13, the Harris Theater, 205 E. Randolph Drive; \$25-\$65, 312-334-7777 or harristheaterchicago.org.

Joffrey Ballet

The city's premiere classical troupe performs Jiri Kylian's "The Forgotten Land," James Kudelka's spectacular "Pretty Ballet" and the richly expressionistic "Green Table," celebrating its 80th anniversary. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 17, 19, 25 and 26; 2 and 7:30 p.m. Oct. 20 and 27; and 2 p.m. Oct. 21 and 28, the Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Parkway. \$31-\$152, 800-982-2787 or ticketmaster.com/auditorium.

'One Thousand Pieces,' Hubbard Street Dance

In perhaps the most ambitious undertaking of his young but impressive career, resident choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo unveils the troupe's first full-length endeavor, inspired by Marc Chagall's "America Windows" hanging in the Art Institute of Chicago, set to music by Philip Glass and marking the troupe's 35th year. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 18, 8 p.m. Oct. 19 and 20 and 3 p.m. Oct. 21, the Harris Theater. \$25-\$99, 312-850-9744 or hubbardstreetdance.com (tickets on sale Thursday).

Dance Chicago

The wily, adventurous and unpredictable annual festival is back for its 18th outing, with many performances returned to its original home at the Athenaeum Theatre, offering a plethora of local dance and dancers of all sizes and styles. Various times Oct. 20-Dec. 1, the Athenaeum, 2936 N. Southport Ave., with some events at Stage 773, 1225 W. Belmont Ave. and the Carl Sandburg Theater in Orland Park. \$10-\$28, 773-935-6875 or athenaeumtheatre.org.

Giordano Dance Chicago

Celebrating 50 years, a rare milestone in the uncertain world of dance, the troupe, now housed downtown, offers new works by Autumn Eckman and Christopher Huggins. 8 p.m. Oct. 26 and 27, the Harris Theater. \$15-\$60, 312-334-7777 or harristheaterchicago.org.

'Moulin Rouge — the Ballet,' the Royal Winnipeg Ballet

In a rare visit by this Canadian troupe, the company performs Jordan Morris' full-length take on the famed Parisian nightspot. 7:30 p.m. Nov. 2, 8 p.m. Nov. 3 and 2 p.m. Nov. 4 at the Auditorium Theatre. \$30-\$74, 800-982-2787 or ticketmaster.com/auditorium.

River North Dance Chicago

Artistic director Frank Chaves marks 20 years with the troupe in a program including new works from Adam Barruch and Nejlá Yarkin. 8 p.m. Nov. 16 and 17, the Harris Theater. \$30-\$75, 312-334-7777 or harristheaterchicago.org.

Chicago Human Rhythm Project 'Global Rhythms'

This year's "Global Rhythms" installment stars the Chicago debut of ScrapArtsMusic, a Vancouver troupe whose instrumentation includes accordions, artillery shells and industrial implements. 8 p.m. Nov. 24 and 3 p.m. Nov. 25, the Harris. \$15-\$55, 312-334-7777 or harristheaterchicago.org.

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