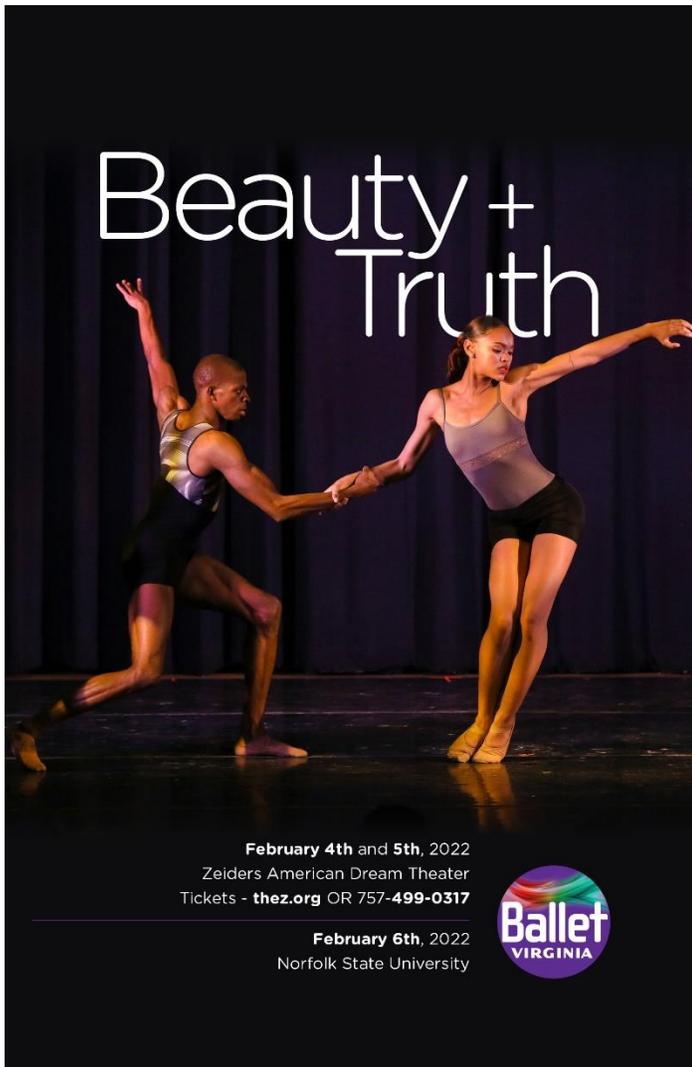




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Ballet Virginia presents

“Beauty + Truth”

Zeiders American Dream Theater

February 4th and 5th in 2022.

From Ballet Virginia: (Norfolk, VA —January 3, 2022)

Founded in September of 2019, this company of diverse and talented artists continues to raise the level of dance performances in Hampton Roads. The Winter Repertoire performances, “Beauty + Truth”, will continue the tradition of offering an exciting variety of dance at Zeiders Main Stage.

“This group of dancers has a wide range when it comes to styles of dance. One piece they are dancing classical ballet in tutus and the next they are pouring their souls out in a fast-paced contemporary piece” says Lydia Roberts Coco, Ballet Virginia’s professional company artistic director and choreographer.

The signature piece of these performances is a new work by Roberts Coco. “FIVE” will bring the story of the Central Park Five alive with hard truths of

injustice and the true beauty of integrity and redemption. Two guest artists will be added to the company’s roster to enhance the story. The production will also feature Roberts Coco’s signature pieces “A Seed of Faith” and “Last Breath”.

In addition, Ballet Virginia Co-Artistic Director, Suzanne Lownsbury, will set the pas de deux from Dennis Nahat’s version of “Romeo and Juliet” with the music of Prokofiev. Mr. Nahat is a former American Ballet Theatre dancer as well as the former artistic director of the Cleveland/San José Ballet.

Rounding out the program, BVII (the second company), will perform both classical and contemporary ballet with choreography by Suzanne Lownsbury and Janina Michalski.

In keeping with Ballet Virginia’s mission to enrich the cultural fabric of our community, there are plans for a workshop at Norfolk State University with the Dance Department students based on the performances.

“Thanks to the growth and success of our academy and pre-professional company we are now able to support a professional company. Having a professional company allows us to do more outreach and perform challenging repertoire,” said Suzanne Lownsbury, Ballet Virginia co-director.

To end this successful season the company will present “Sleeping Beauty” on April 9th and 10th. Additional community events will be posted on social media and our website.

“In our 14th season, repertoire performances, collaborations with other local arts groups and our beloved full-length productions, gives Ballet Virginia the opportunity to bring a wide and diverse range of professional quality dance performances to Hampton Roads,” said Janina Michalski, Ballet Virginia co-director.

Performances are Friday February 4th at 7:30 PM and Saturday, February 5th at 2 PM and 7:30 PM. Tickets for Ballet Virginia’s “Beauty + Truth” are on sale at thez.org or Zeiders Box Office. Information including the new professional company members www.balletvirginia.org.

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About Ballet Virginia

Ballet Virginia is a professional ballet company with an associated academy. The organization provides professional quality performances and training for the Hampton Roads community. The organization also provides opportunities for lighting, set and costume designers as well as choreographers while continuing education and outreach programs for our community-at-large.

The academy draws from a diverse ballet syllabus inspired by the American, Russian, Italian and French schools. This solid technical base ensures added success in other dance genres offered at the Academy. Our professional productions allow selected students and community dancers the opportunity to experience dance as a performance art.

Our Mission

At Ballet Virginia, we are committed to fostering a lifelong passion for dance through nurturing education, invigorating performances and artistic excellence. Our Norfolk and Virginia Beach academies teach to the whole student by instilling discipline, self-confidence, joy and sense of teamwork. Our performances are of the highest caliber as academy students perform side-by-side with professionals. We uphold the highest standards and strive to maintain artistic excellence in all our endeavors.

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