



THE KIMMEL CENTER
ACADEMY OF MUSIC
MERRIAM THEATER

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[. @Philadanco](#) welcomes #CarmenDeLavallade and more in fall performance at the @Kimmelcenter 12/15-17. More info @ Kimmelcenter.org

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**THE KIMMEL CENTER'S RESIDENT COMPANY PHILADANCO
WELCOMES SPECIAL GUEST
AND KENNEDY CENTER AWARDEE
CARMEN DE LAVALLADE IN
H-I-S-T-O-R-Y
DECEMBER 15–17**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Philadelphia, PA. October 18, 2017) — Beloved Kimmel Center Resident Company **PHILADANCO** will perform its fall program at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts' Perelman Theater December 15–17, 2017. *H-I-S-T-O-R-Y* will feature *Walking with Pearl*, about historic choreographer and dancer Pearl Primus; the world premiere of *Pieces of My Heart*, choreographed by Sonia Dawkins based on August Wilson poems; *Forces of Rhythm* by Tony Award winner Louis Johnson; and a piece from choreographer Geoffrey Holder performed by his wife, special guest artist and Kennedy Center Honors Award winner, Carmen de Lavallade.

PHILADANCO consistently creates vibrant and meaningful art on stage," said Anne Ewers President and CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. "Philadelphia audiences are privileged to experience two different productions each season, and I know *H-I-S-T-O-R-Y* will be a powerful, engaging, and thrilling performance."

Carmen de Lavallade has had an unparalleled career in dance, theater, film and television beginning in her hometown of Los Angeles where she performed with the Lester Horton Dance Theater. While in Los Angeles, Lena Horne introduced the then 17-year-old de Lavallade to the filmmakers at 20th Century Fox

where she appeared in four movies, including *Carmen Jones* (1954) with Dorothy Dandridge and *Odds Against Tomorrow* (1959) with Harry Belafonte. During the filming of *Carmen Jones*, she met Herbert Ross, who asked her to appear as a dancer in the Broadway production of *House of Flowers*. Her dance career includes having ballets created for her by Lester Horton, Geoffrey Holder, Alvin Ailey, Glen Tetley, John Butler and Agnes de Mille.

The Philadelphia Dance Company (PHILADANCO) presents the highest quality of professional dance performance and improves the skills of emerging and professional dancers and choreographers. PHILADANCO is celebrated across the nation and around the world for its innovation, creativity, and preservation of predominantly African-American traditions in dance.

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus include: ***The Color Purple*** (December 12–17, 2017, Forrest Theatre), ***A Soulful Christmas*** (December 13, 2017, Verizon Hall), ***STOMP*** (December 26–31, 2017, Merriam Theater), ***Tango Fire*** (January 31, 2017, Merriam Theater) and **PHILADANCO: *Success Stories*** (April 13-15, 2018, Perelman Theater).

PHILADANCO: H-I-S-T-O-R-Y

Perelman Theater

December 15, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

December 16, 2017, 2:30 p.m.

December 16, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

December 17, 2017, 2:30 p.m.

Tickets

Tickets are on sale now and start at \$30.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at www.kimmelcenter.org, or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See kimmelcenter.org for more information.

The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, the Kimmel Center's mission is to operate a world-class performing arts center that engages and serves a broad audience through diverse programming, arts education, and community outreach. The Kimmel Center Campus is comprised of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, SEI Innovation Studio, and the Merck Arts Education Center), the Academy of Music (owned by the Philadelphia Orchestra Association), and the Merriam Theater. The Kimmel Center is also home to eight Resident Companies: The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and Curtis Institute of Music. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts is the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is the season sponsor of the Kimmel Center's 2017-2018 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit kimmelcenter.org.

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