

DECIDEDLY JAZZ DANCEWORKS

PRESENTS

# *Rockin' in Rhythm*



*... to the music of Duke Ellington*

CHOREOGRAPHED BY VICKI ADAMS WILLIS

DANCED BY CHRISTY HAYNE, DONNA LARSON, MICHÈLE MOSS, ERIN O'CONNOR, HANNAH STILWELL, GAIL OUGH



WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, FACULTY OF FINE ARTS, PROGRAMME OF DANCE.

*I*t seems inevitable that a dance company dedicated to the preservation of the traditional values of jazz should create an all Ellington production. During a long and outstandingly prolific career, the Duke proved to be a creative force of exceptional energy and drive. Today he remains among the most significant of all figures in jazz history, as well as a seminal figure of twentieth century music.

*Ellington was born in 1899 in Washington, D.C., and during a career that lasted until his death in 1974, he wrote over 5000 pieces, which range from short 32 bar 'tunes' to major suites, sacred concerts, musicals, film scores, symphonic works and even a ballet....all of which beg to be danced to! Ellington himself declared that his music is "intended to inspire or sustain dancing", and interestingly enough believed that all musicians should dance in order to "really understand the beat".*

*ROCKIN' IN RHYTHM is not an historical view of the choreography and dances of the various Ellington eras. It is instead an attempt to capture the spirit of but a few famous and not so famous Ellington creations which happened to catch our ears and our hearts.*

*With the exception of 'Take the 'A' Train' (performed by Quadrant) and 'I'm Just a Lucky So and So' (performed by the orchestra of the Broadway musical "Sophisticated Ladies" - led by Ellington's son, Mercer) all of the recordings are of Ellington's various mighty orchestras.*

*If we missed your favorite Ellington tune, we apologize... but take heart... with the overwhelming volume of Ellington material available, we're bound to be compelled to create ROCKIN' IN RHYTHM II sometime in the near future! In the meantime, we hope that you enjoy the selections we have made from a wide range of Ellington styles and periods. Each has its own unique personality, but we think you will agree that all contain that indisputable Ellington magic!*

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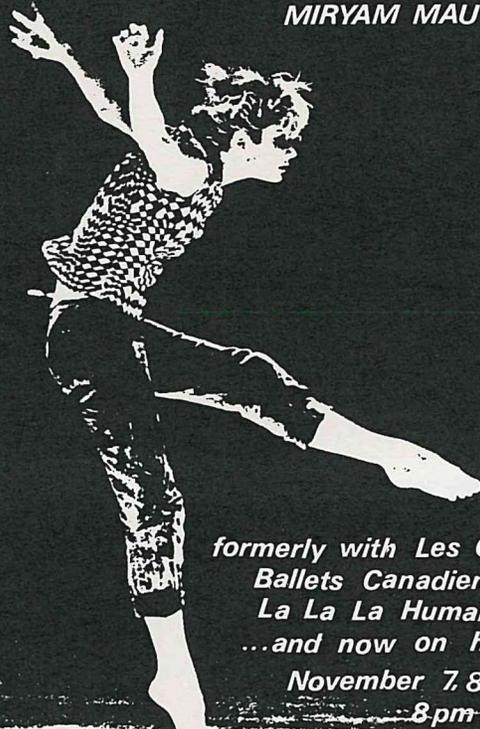
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**PROGRAM**

*Creole Love Call  
Black & Tan Fantasy*

**ACT 1**

**PART 1**

- TAKE THE 'A' TRAIN** 1941  
WRITTEN BY BILLY STRAYHORN  
DANCED BY DONNA, HANNAH AND MICHELE
- KINDA DUKISH** 1955  
DANCED BY THE COMPANY
- IT DON'T MEAN A THING** 1932  
**IF IT AIN'T GOT THAT SWING**  
SUNG BY IVIE ANDERSON  
DANCED BY MICHELE AND DONNA
- BLUE ABANDON** 1940  
DANCED BY ERIN
- DANCERS IN LOVE** 1945  
DANCED BY HANNAH AND MICHELE
- COTTON TAIL** 1940  
DANCED BY THE COMPANY
- THINGS AIN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE** (Timesa wastin) 1945  
WRITTEN BY MERCER ELLINGTON  
DANCED BY THE COMPANY

**PART 2**

**SOPHISTICATED LADIES 'SUITE'**

- DANCED BY THE COMPANY 1933
- MUSIC: **SOPHISTICATED LADY** 1942
- DON'T GET AROUND MUCH ANYMORE** 1945  
- SUNG BY AL HIBBLER
- THE WONDER OF YOU** 1934  
- SUNG BY JOYA SHERRILL *- J. Hodges*
- SOLITUDE** 1945  
- SUNG BY JOYA SHERRILL
- LONG, STRONG AND CONSECUTIVE** 1940  
- SUNG BY JOYA SHERRILL
- FLAMING SWORD**

\*\*\*\*\* INTERMISSION \*\*\*\*\*

**ACT 2**

- SATIN DOLL** 1957  
DANCED BY HANNAH, MICHELE, CHRISTY AND ERIN
- MOOD INDIGO** 1931  
SUNG BY ELLA FITZGERALD  
DANCED BY CHRISTY
- TENZ** 1971  
*(Afro Eurasian Eclipse)*  
DANCED BY THE COMPANY 1962
- SINGLE PETAL OF A ROSE**  
DANCED BY DONNA WITH CHRISTY, MICHELE AND HANNAH
- I'M JUST A LUCKY SO AND SO** 1945  
SUNG BY GREGORY HINES  
DANCED BY MICHELE
- CARAVAN** 1937  
DANCED BY THE COMPANY
- ROCKIN' IN RHYTHM** 1931  
SCATTED BY ELLA FIZGERALD  
DANCED BY THE COMPANY

\*\*\*\*\*

*Nightwalk*

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SLIDES: DON MONTY AND BERNIE VAREM  
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PHOTOGRAPHY: BARBARA HARRISON

### ROCKIN' IN RHYTHM

CHOREOGRAPHED BY:  
VICKI ADAMS WILLIS AND THE DANCERS

DANCED BY: CHRISTY HAYNE  
DONNA LARSON  
MICHELE MOSS  
ERIN O'CONNOR  
HANNAH STILWELL  
UNDERSTUDY: GAIL OUGH

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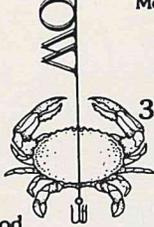
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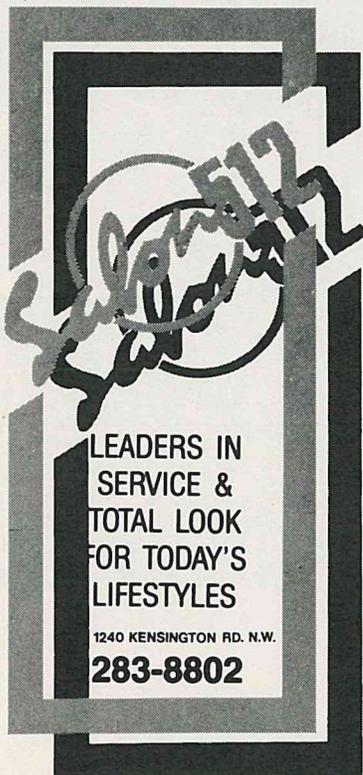
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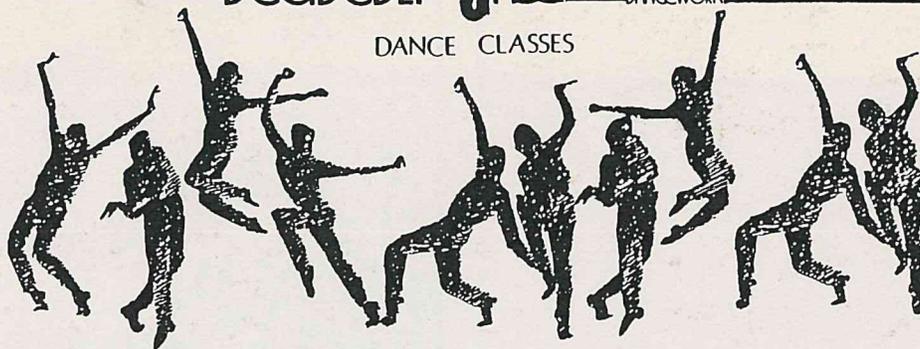
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