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Top 5 events for dance for 2013-14 season

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New York's Ballet Hispanico

1. Jonah Bokaer/Daniel Arsham in Occupant

Former Merce Cunningham dancer Bokaer and visual artist Arsham create dance-performance pieces that meld intellectual rigor, visual beauty and wit with a theatricality all too rare in contemporary work.

Dec. 6 at the Adrienne Arsht Center

2. Nora Chipaumire

Chipaumire is a passionate performer who asks rigorous questions about politics and preconceptions. She'll perform Miriam, based on the life of South African singer and activist Miriam Makeba, with an original score by Cuban pianist Omar Sosa.

Jan. 23-25, The Light Box at Goldman Warehouse (co-presented by Miami Light Project and MDC Live Arts)

3. Miami City Ballet Program III - West Side Story Suite and Episodes

They can dance, but can they sing? MCT ventures into musical theater with a distilled version of Jerome Robbins' Broadway classic. Chita Rivera, the inimitable, original Anita, is helping coach the dancers in the proper passion. On the same program, the company premiere of George Balanchine's rarely performed Episodes, a one-time collaboration with Martha Graham; MCB's staging will restore the solo for then-Graham dancer Paul Taylor.

Feb. 14 to March 2 in Dade, Broward and West Palm Beach

4. Trey McIntyre

One of the sharpest choreographic talents in classical dance in the 2000's, McIntyre left New York for Boise, Idaho, and civic support in 2008, enabling him and his dancers to keep making vital contemporary dance.

April 12 at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (co-presented with MDC Live Arts)

5. Rosie Herrera for Ballet Hispanico

A Latino triple threat — Miami's enthralling dance theater choreographer sets her vision, and a new work, on Ballet Hispanico, the longtime New York-based modern dance troupe, with live music by the Paquito D'Rivera Ensemble.

June 6-7 at the Adrienne Arsht Center, Miami

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