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TRP Press Contact: Savanna Myszka, savanna.myszka@theatreroyal.com

For Immediate Release

**Dance Consortium presents a thrilling mixed bill including
three UK premieres**

Acosta Danza's 100% Cuban

**Twelve extraordinary dancers bring Cuban flair and flavour to
the UK**

**Six-venue spring tour coming to Theatre Royal Plymouth from
04 – 05 March 2022**

Last spring, Acosta Danza's tour of the UK was cut short by the pandemic. In spring 2022, Dance Consortium welcomes the Havana-based company back with an exhilarating new mixed bill. *100% Cuban* is five works - including three UK premieres - all infused with Cuba's rich music and dance influences.

Acosta Danza was set up by iconic ballet star Carlos Acosta to develop young talent, showcase Cuban performers and put the vibrancy of Cuban culture firmly centre stage. In just six years, the company has developed an unrivalled reputation as an ensemble of magnetic performers with a boundary-pushing repertoire of work by both international and home-grown choreographers.

100% Cuban features UK premieres from three exciting young Cuban choreographers - *Hybrid* by Norge Cedeno Raffo, *Liberto* by Raúl Reinoso and *De Punta a Cabo* by Alexis Fernandez (Maca). Also in the programme are two big hits from the 2020 UK tour - *Paysage, soudain, la nuit* by Sweden's Pontus Lidberg and *Impronta* created for Acosta Danza by Spanish choreographer Maria Rovira.

Hybrid is a new commission for the company's twelve dancers from Norge Cedeno Raffo. After ten years as a principal dancer and choreographer for Danza Contemporánea de Cuba, Raffo went on to develop his choreographic work becoming



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artistic director and principal choreographer of the Cuban Company OtroLado.

Acosta Danza dancer Raúl Reinoso created *Liberto* on two of his fellow dancers in 2020, one of several works he has made for the company since he joined in 2015. Through a mix of folk and contemporary dance styles, fiction and mythology, Reinoso conjures Cuba's ancestral Yoruba gods to tell the story of a runaway slave. *Liberto* is a call for the right of every individual to choose their own path in life. The score is by young composer José V Gavilondo.

Pontus Lidberg's *Paysage, Soudain, la nuit* is a dream-like celebration of youth set in the magic hours between twilight and dawn. The dancers perform constantly-shifting formations in a grassy landscape installation by Cuban artist Elizabet Cerviño. Cuban composer Leo Brouwer provides the rumba-infused soundtrack with additional music by Swedish composer Stefan Levin.

Maria Rovira created the solo *Impronta* specially for company dancer Zeleidy Crespo whose training is rooted in the folkloric dance styles of Cuba. Clad in turquoise, Crespo dances centre stage, whirling and shimmering, drawing the audience in with her virtuosic physicality. *Impronta* is set to music by José V Gavilondo.

De Punta a Cabo, created by Alexis Fernández (Maca) for Acosta Danza's debut season in 2016, is set against the backdrop of the Malecón, a broad esplanade and seawall stretching for eight kilometres along the Havana coastline. In the piece for twelve dancers, Maca shares his impressions of the contemporary Cuba he knows and loves - a country full of contrasts, traditional and modern, poverty and development, beauty and ugliness. It is danced to a score by three composers - Kumar, Kike Wolf (whose work is based on *La Bella Cubana* by José White) and Omar Sosa.

100% Cuban is presented by Dance Consortium, the UK-wide consortium of 18 large-scale theatres, whose mission is to bring the best international contemporary dance to audiences across the UK.

Carlos Acosta, the company's founder, says: "I am thrilled that Acosta Danza is returning to the UK after such a difficult time for the industry. I look forward to sharing the 100% Cuban programme with you, showcasing some of the finest Cuban dancers I have ever had the pleasure of working with."

Tickets are available now to Members on the Theatre Royal Plymouth website here, tickets will be on sale to the public from this Friday, 29 October.

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For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on public.relations@theatreroyal.com / 01752 230439

Press images can be found here <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmX1W8of>

Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales as the South West's principal centre for performing arts.

Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts. They collaborate to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.

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