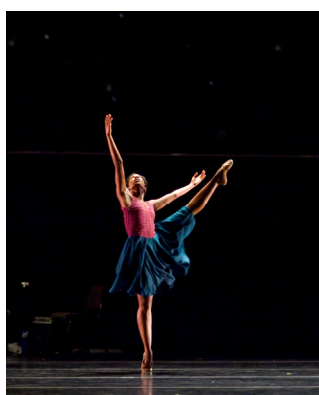




L U N A ● N E G R A  
D A N C E T H E A T E R

## *Danzón*

Luna Negra Dance Theater  
with the Turtle Island Quartet



After working with artists from all over the Latino world, and investigating the myriad of cultural influences that make up Latino culture, former artistic director Eduardo Vilaro has returned to his own roots with the creation of *Danzón*. The *Danzón* has been called the official dance of Cuba, and it initially evolved from Haitian contradance. Its current form was created by Miguel Faílde Pérez in 1879, and although the *Danzón* has evolved in many respects, much of the original structure remains. As traditional Cuban dance music, *Danzón* has never ceased to influence Cuban musicians, and its influences can be heard in virtually all popular Cuban music genres. It is this continuity that defines *Danzón* as a truly unique, living art form.

For this work, Luna Negra Dance Theater collaborates with the bold and ingenious, two-time GRAMMY® Award winning Turtle Island Quartet. Following the world premiere in Chicago at the Harris Theater, Luna Negra Dance Theater and the musicians embarked on a national tour- bringing this fabulous music and dance experience to audiences across the country. *Danzón* is a commission of the University of Notre Dame's DeBartolo Performing Arts Center and the Music Center at Strathmore. In partnering with Turtle Island Quartet, Vilaro has taken this traditional and quintessentially Cuban dance form and reinvented and reinvigorated it as a modern work of art. In doing so, he has both introduced mainstream American audiences to a thriving Latino tradition, and created a milestone moment in the continuity of Latino artistic expression.



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