

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Many Angels **(2024 World Premiere)**

Choreographer: Lar Lubovitch

Assistant to Choreographer: Katarzyna Skarpetowska

Music: Gustav Mahler

Costumes: Harriet Jung and Reid Bartelme

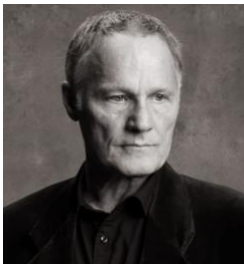
Lighting: Clifton Taylor

Scenic Design: Lar Lubovitch

The expression "How many Angels can dance on the head of a pin?" is a question with no logical answer. "Why do you make dances?" is another one. Occasionally something may exist in the world simply for the sake of itself - for example, a dance. *Many Angels* is a dance to music by Gustav Mahler. It's not really about Angels. (Well, maybe a little).



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
in Lar Lubovitch's *Many Angels*.
Photo by Paul Kolnik.



Lar Lubovitch. Photo
by NYC Dance Project

Lar Lubovitch

Born in Chicago in 1943, Lar Lubovitch began his dance education at The Juilliard School in NYC in 1962. In 1968, after performing in numerous dance companies, he created the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, which tours worldwide. He has choreographed over 100 dances, celebrated for their musicality, humanity and rhapsodic style. Called "a national treasure" by *Variety* and named "one of the ten best choreographers" by the *New York Times*, Lubovitch has been the recipient of numerous National Endowment awards, including several "masterpiece grants" for the reconstruction of seminal works.

His dances have also been performed by major US and international companies, including American Ballet Theatre, San Francisco Ballet, Paris Opera Ballet, Royal Danish Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, New York City Ballet, The Joffrey Ballet, Martha Graham Dance Company, and many others. His "Othello, A Dance in Three Acts" (1997), a co-production of ABT and SF Ballet, was broadcast on PBS Great Performances (Emmy nomination). His dances on film include "Fandango," also broadcast on PBS (International Emmy Award), and "My Funny Valentine," for the Robert Altman film "The Company" (American Choreography Award).

He has created ice dances for many Olympic skaters, as well as TV specials, including *The Sleeping Beauty on Ice* (PBS), and *The Planets on Ice* (A&E—International Emmy nomination, Cable Ace Award, Grammy Award). Broadway credits include *Into the Woods* (1987, Broadway choreography debut, Tony nomination), *The Red Shoes* (1993, Astaire Award), and the Tony Award-winning revival of *The King and I* (1996).

In 2007, he founded the Chicago Dancing Festival. In 2016, he premiered the evening-length ballet *The Bronze Horseman* at the Mikhailovsky Ballet (St. Petersburg, Russia). Recent awards include Chicagoan of the Year; Ford Fellow (US Artists); the Dance/USA Honor; Prix Benois de la Danse for Choreography (Bolshoi, Moscow); America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasure (Dance Heritage Coalition); and Lifetime Achievement awards from American Dance Guild, American Dance Festival/Scripps, *Dance Magazine*, and the Martha Graham Foundation. Lubovitch holds honorary Doctorates from Juilliard and Boston Conservatory. Since 2018, he has been Distinguished Professor of Dance at UC Irvine.

The creation of *Many Angels* is made possible by
The Ellen Jewett and Richard L. Kauffman New Works Endowment Fund.

Many Angels Music Credit Information

"Adagietto" from Symphony No. 5 in C-Sharp Minor, performed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Daniel Barenboim conducting.