



Eduardo Vilaro *Artistic Director*



EDUARDO VILARO (*Luna Negra Artistic Director*) was born in Havana, Cuba, and grew up in New York City. He received his training at the Alvin Ailey American Dance School and the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance and then received his BFA from Adelphi University in 1988. He was a principle dancer with Ballet Hispanico of New York where he created and performed roles for choreographers such as George Faison, Graciela Daniele, Christopher Giles, Alberto Alonso and Ramon Oller. He has taught and toured throughout the United States, Europe, Central and South America, and the Middle East. In 1999 Mr. Vilaro received a Masters degree from Columbia College and founded Luna Negra Dance Theater for which he has created over 20 original works. He has also received commissions to create works for Ravinia Festival, Chicago Sinfonietta,

Lexington Ballet, New Jersey Dance Theater Ensemble, Civic Ballet, and Same Planet, Different World. Eduardo was a recipient of a 2001 Ruth Page Award in choreography and was honored at Panama's II International Festival of Ballet for his choreographic work. In 2004 he was honored with a grant award from the Cuban Artists Fund and a Choreography Fellowship from the Illinois Arts Council. He has been on the faculty of the Dance Center of Columbia College and the Chicago Academy of the Arts and currently serves on the board directors of Dance USA .

"...we can thank Cuban born Eduardo Vilaro and his beguiling dancers for reshaping those flashy stereotypes into exquisite movement poems of heart felt complexity."

- *Lucia Mauro, Chicago Tribune*