

Company B

Choreography by **Paul Taylor**

Songs sung by **The Andrews Sisters***

Staged by **Patrick Corbin**

Costumes design by **Santo Loquasto**

Lighting design by **Jennifer Tipton**

Paul Taylor's Company B is in a class by itself, a rousing modern dance that both celebrates the upbeat optimism that animated the popular music of World War II and reveals the dark realities of war. The music is the songs of the fabled Andrews Sisters — by far the most successful and beloved singing group of its era. Here are the jaunty "Oh Johnny, Oh Johnny, Oh!" (Johnny - as someone called him, "a wonderful corn-fed Romeo" — under siege by a swarm of besotted girls); the provocative "Rum and Coca Cola" with its beguiling Latin rhythms; the plangent "I Can Dream, Can't I?"; the explosive "Tico-Tico"; the signature rallying cry, "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy...of Company B." The dancers are soldiers and bobby-soxers, joyous and carefree, until the war impinges — sometimes fatally — on their fun. Reviewing Company B's premiere in 1991, The New York Times hailed "the extraordinary appeal of this profound piece of choreography to a groovy beat."

Miami City Ballet premiere February 25, 1995 at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts; Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

*All selections performed by The Andrews Sisters courtesy of MCA Records. The Andrews Sisters' 50th Anniversary Collection is available on MCA Compact Discs.

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