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Details for Spoleto Festival USA's Opening-Night Fête on Bedon's Alley

May 25 | 8:00pm

April 27, 2018 (Charleston, South Carolina) – Kicking off the 2018 season, Spoleto Festival USA's Opening-Night Fête will take place on May 25 at 8:00pm within the picturesque, brick-lined "South of Broad" street, Bedon's Alley. For many Festival-goers and Charlestonians alike, this has long been considered the site for *the* party of the year—Spoleto Festival USA held its opening-night events on Bedon's Alley annually from 1999 to 2009. In September 2018, however, a private home will be built on the Alley's famous parking lot. The public is invited to join Spoleto Festival USA for the celebratory space's final act.

The Opening-Night Fête immediately follows Miami City Ballet's performance of *Celebration: The Art of the Pas de Deux* at the Charleston Gaillard Center. Taking cues from the theme Miami in the 1960s, the outdoor festivities will feature refreshing gin and tonics, tropical food provided by Chef John Zucker of Cru Café, and live music. Guests will have the opportunity to toast the dancers from the evening's performance—some of whom will be in attendance—and celebrate the beauty and preservation of the Charleston venue.

Tickets for the 2018 Opening-Night Fête are \$385 (a portion of which is tax deductible) and can be purchased anytime at spoletousa.org or by calling 843.720.1114. Fête and performance tickets can be purchased together for \$480 per seat.

Founded in 1977, Spoleto Festival USA is an annual 17-day performing arts festival that presents leading artists in classical and popular music, jazz, dance, and theater, contributing to the rich cultural fabric of Charleston, SC. The 2018 season (May 25 – June 10) includes more than 150 ticketed events in a dozen locations on the downtown peninsula, including the historic Dock Street Theatre and the grand Charleston Gaillard Center. A release outlining the entire 2018 season can be found [HERE](#).