Another dance star honors ADF’s Reinhart

BY SUSAN BROILI
Special to The Herald-Sun

DURHAM — Choreographer Ronald K. Brown had a short story to tell about American Dance Festival director Charles “Charlie” Reinhart. But first, he wanted to say how fortunate he feels to be part of this Reinhart’s last ADF season — his 43rd.

“It’s an incredible honor,” Brown said in a telephone interview earlier this week. “Charles and Stephanie [Reinhart’s late wife and former ADF co-director] have been so incredibly supportive,” Brown said.

REINHART

The choreographer created his 2003 solo, “For You,” in memory of Stephanie Reinhart, who died in 2002 at age 58. Brown premiered the solo at a 2003 ADF memorial program for her. He also performed the solo in 2008 when he and his company EVIDENCE performed at ADF during the festival’s 75th anniversary season. Brown first appeared at ADF in 1991 as part of the Young Choreographers and Composers program.

He described his continuing relationship with “Charlie” as both professional and also “so personal and open.” That doesn’t mean there aren’t some surprises — such as Reinhart’s comment to Brown in 2008.

“After the performance, he came up to me and said, ‘You’re cheating us,’” Brown recalled. The choreographer did not know what to make of that but soon found out when, after a brief pause, Reinhart added, “Your bow was too short.”