



ORANGE COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
TENTH ANNIVERSARY SEASON



NEDERLANDS DANS THEATER

SAN FRANCISCO BALLETT

AMERICAN BALLETT THEATRE

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

NEDERLANDS DANS THEATER 2&3

THE ROYAL BALLETT



What The Critics Say

Nederlands Dans Theater

"Exhilarating to watch! A program that's about as thought-provoking and eye-catching as they come."

– Laura Bleiberg, *Orange County Register*

"This triumphant engagement confirms Kylián as a modernist master and his company as one of the terpsichorean wonders of the age."

– Lewis Segal, *Los Angeles Times*

San Francisco Ballet

"Lavishly designed and hugely popular, *Swan Lake* prompted a wave of audience enthusiasm that culminated in a standing ovation."

– Anna Kisselgoff, *The New York Times*

"This is a *Swan Lake* and a company in which to rejoice."

– Janice Berman, *Newsday*

American Ballet Theatre

"One of the world's few indisputably great ballet companies."

– Clive Barnes, *New York Post*

"Nothing really compares to classic ballet done on a grand scale. ABT does grand ballet like no other American company."

– Lynn Voedisch,
Chicago Sun-Times

Mark Morris Dance Group

"Not only is *L'Allegro* a stunning achievement, it's also a terrific show, by turns poignant and funny and grand. Morris' company is one of the world's finest."

– Christine Temin, *The Boston Globe*

"A glorious outpouring of dance invention and humanistic imagery...the cumulative effect impelled the audience at the end into a roaring standing ovation."

– Anna Kisselgoff, *The New York Times*

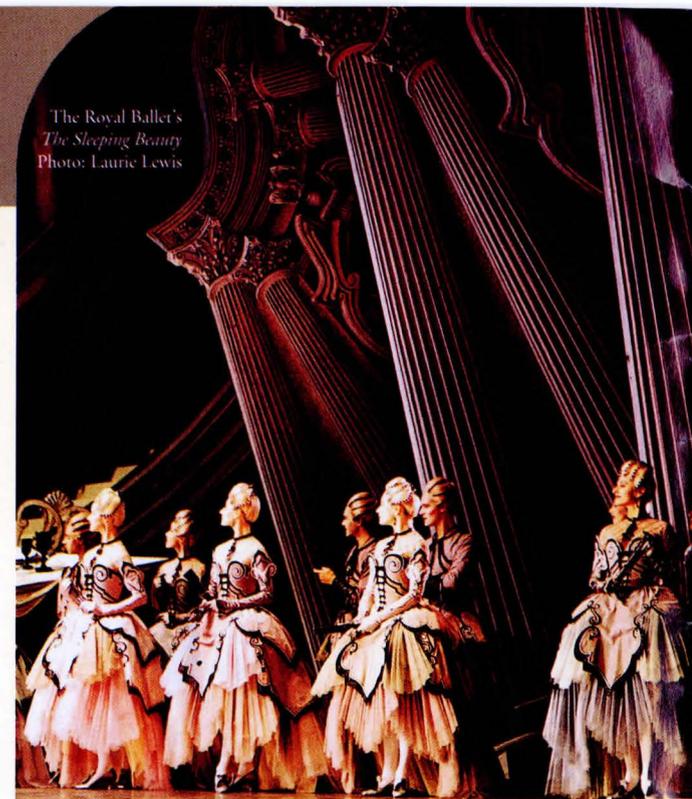
The Royal Ballet

"A flamboyant fantasy, a true opera-house spectacle – theater is what this (*Sleeping Beauty*) is all about."

– Anna Kisselgoff, *The New York Times*

"A magical and immortal *Sleeping Beauty* – Mr. Dowell's extraordinary production forces us to take a fresh look at a ballet we thought we knew."

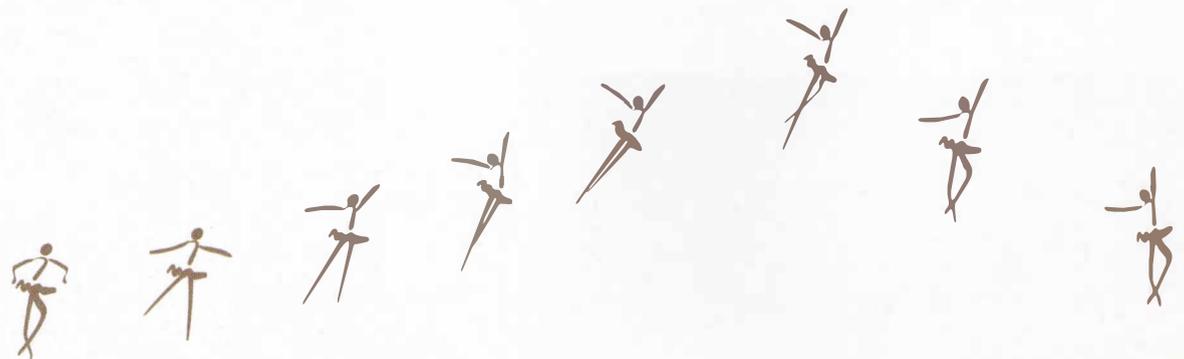
– Octavio Roca, *The Washington Times*



The Royal Ballet's
The Sleeping Beauty
Photo: Laurie Lewis



Wynton Marsalis composed the music for
ABT's World Premiere in February
Photo: Frank Stewart



The Center Brings You The Best In The World!



Kylián

The pride of Holland, **Nederlands Dans Theater** is unique in that it is three companies in one: the main company, which performed here in 1994 to vast critical and audience acclaim, and the equally gifted **NDT 2** (for young dancers) and **NDT 3** (for older dancers). Artistic director Jiří Kylián says the companies represent “the whole working lifespan” of his dancers. The Center is proud to present all three of these remarkable ensembles this season, with NDT 1 in July and NDT 2 & 3 in a combined engagement in April 1997.

San Francisco Ballet returns – this time bringing its classic of classics, the lovely *Swan Lake* – in the acclaimed production by Helgi Tomasson that put this exemplary company on the map.



Tomasson



Morris

The *wunderkind* of contemporary dance, Mark Morris, makes his first appearance on The Center's dance season, bringing his virtuoso **Mark Morris Dance Group** and his stunning full-evening masterpiece *L'Allegro, Il Penseroso ed Il Moderato*.

America's favorite ballet troupe, **American Ballet Theatre**, led by artistic director Kevin McKenzie, presents a program of outstanding repertory highlights – and then offers a very special event: the World Premiere of *A Suite for Human Nature*, a full-length family ballet set to music by jazz master Wynton Marsalis.

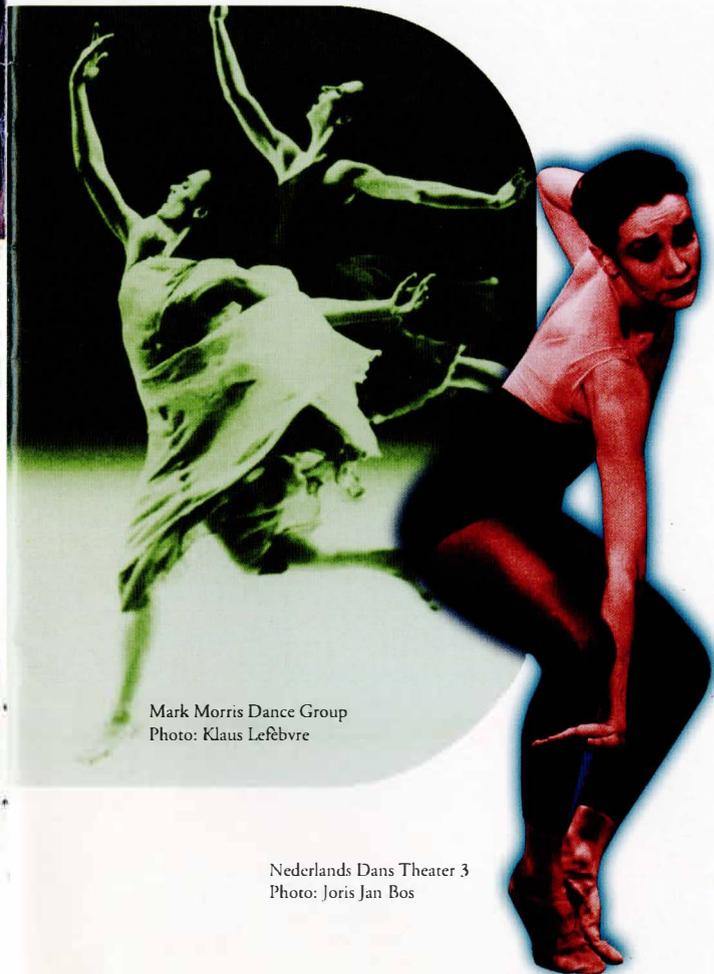


McKenzie



Dowell

The season closes on a grand scale with the return of Great Britain's legendary **Royal Ballet** – this time bearing two glittering jewels: Sir Anthony Dowell's lauded production of *The Sleeping Beauty* and an evening of short ballets set to the romantic, expressive music of Ravel.



Mark Morris Dance Group
Photo: Klaus Lefèbvre

Nederlands Dans Theater 3
Photo: Joris Jan Bos

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Mark Morris Dance Group April 3-6, 1997

Mark Morris, Artistic Director
With Guest Soloists
and
Choir and Chamber
Musicians from
Pacific Symphony
Orchestra

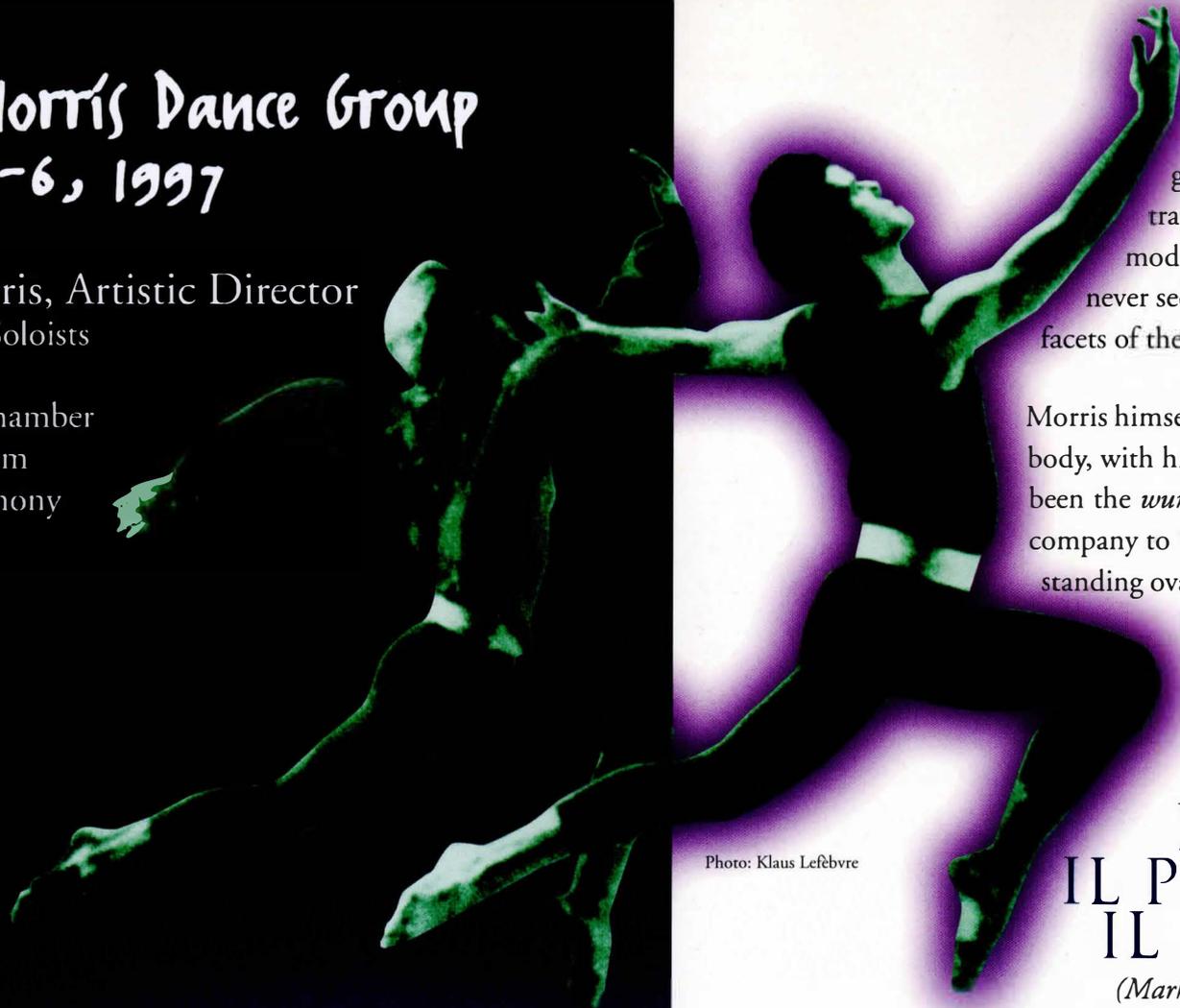


Photo: Klaus Lefèvre



Photo: D. Pierre

Anyone new to Mark Morris will be astounded by the sweep of his choreography. He opens doors and gleefully abolishes cobwebs, showing you a collection of traditional, beloved dance styles – folk, ballet, jazz, early modern – in a clear new light. He invents things you’ve never seen before. You come back to his dances and see new facets of them every time.

Morris himself reminds you of Fred and Ginger dancing in the same body, with his deft, debonair footwork and eloquent torso. He’s been the *wunderkind* of contemporary dance since moving his gifted company to Brussels in 1988 and returning in glory to the U.S., to standing ovations and critical praise. Sometimes shocking, often breathtakingly beautiful, always phenomenal – Morris and his works continue to push the envelope. We wouldn’t want it any other way.

All Performances:
**L’ALLEGRO,
IL PENNEROSO ED
IL MODERATO**

(Mark Morris/George Frideric Handel)

This triumphant full-length work – set to Handel’s soaring Baroque oratorio performed by a chamber orchestra and choir – weaves music, movement and text together with tenderness and ingenuity. Whether rushing across the stage in a furious blast or forming an exquisitely simple circle, the dancers fill the deep space with a potent emotional geometry the like of which has not been seen since Balanchine.

“An extraordinary evening! Among the happiest and most endearing works American dance has seen. The dancers clearly are having a ball. There is no question that it is a masterpiece.”

– Octavio Roca, *San Francisco Chronicle*

A Center Exclusive!



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