

STAGEBILL

OCTOBER 2000



WASHINGTON, D.C.

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Friday and Saturday Evenings, October 20 and 21, 2000, at 8:00



presents the

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

JOE BOWIE CHARLTON BOYD RUTH DAVIDSON SETH DAVIS*
MARJORIE FOLKMAN SHAWN GANNON LAUREN GRANT
JOHN HEGINBOTHAM DAVID LEVENTHAL BRADON McDONALD*
GREGORY NUBER* JUNE OMURA MIREILLE RADWAN-DANA
KIM REIS* GUILLERMO RESTO MATTHEW ROSE
JULIE WORDEN MICHELLE YARD

*APPRENTICE

Artistic Director
Mark Morris

General Director
Barry Alterman

Managing Director
Nancy Umanoff

My Party

Peccadillos

Sang-Froid

Intermission

Deck of Cards

Grand Duo

Funded in part by the National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts, with lead funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Additional funding provided by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Philip Morris Companies Inc.



NEW ENGLAND
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Patrons are requested to turn off pagers, cellular phones, and signal watches during performances.

The taking of photographs and the use of recording equipment are not allowed in this auditorium. 17

Choreography by Mark Morris

My Party

(1984)

Music: Jean Françaix (Trio in C for Violin, Viola, and Cello)

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Sarah Roth, *violin*; Jessica Troy, *viola*; Wolfram Koessel, *cello*

Joe Bowie Marjorie Folkman Shawn Gannon Lauren Grant

David Leventhal June Omura Matthew Rose Michelle Yard

Pause

Peccadillos

(2000)

Music: Erik Satie

(“Menus propos enfantins,” “Enfantillages pittoresques,” “Peccadilles importunes”)

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Ethan Iverson, *piano*

Mark Morris

Pause

Sang-Froid

(2000)

Music: Frédéric Chopin

(Etude in A, Mazurka in A, Etude in G-flat, Mazurka in D-flat, Berceuse in D-flat,
Waltz in D, Nocturne in F, Prelude in A, Etude in A)

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Costumes: Elizabeth Kurtzman

Ethan Iverson, *piano*

Joe Bowie Marjorie Folkman Lauren Grant

John Heginbotham David Leventhal June Omura

Mireille Radwan-Dana Matthew Rose Julie Worden

Sang-Froid was commissioned by the American Dance Festival through the Doris Duke Awards for New Work, with additional support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

Sang-Froid was also made possible by the Doris Duke Fund for Dance of the National Dance Project, a program administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundations, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Philip Morris Companies Inc.

Additional support was provided by the Charles Englehard Foundation.

Intermission

Deck of Cards

(1983)

Music: "Gear Jammer," performed by Jimmy Logsdon

"Say It's Not You," performed by George Jones

"Deck of Cards," performed by T. Texas Tyler

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Mark Morris Michelle Yard

Pause

Grand Duo

(1993)

Music: Lou Harrison (Grand Duo for Violin and Piano)

Prelude

Stampede

A Round

Polka

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Costumes: Susan Ruddie

Sarah Roth, *violin*; Ethan Iverson, *piano*

Joe Bowie Charton Boyd Marjorie Folkman Lauren Grant

John Heginbotham David Leventhal Bradon McDonald

Gregory Nuber June Omura Mireille Radwan-Dana Kim Reis

Matthew Rose Julie Worden Michelle Yard

Meet the Artists

Mark Morris was born on August 29, 1956, in Seattle, Washington, where he studied as a young man with Verla Flowers and Perry Brunson. He performed with a variety of companies in the early years of his career, including the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, Hannah Kahn Dance Company, Laura Dean Dancers and Musicians, Eliot Feld Ballet, and the Koleda Balkan Dance Ensemble. He formed the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1980 and has since created more than 100 works for the Dance Group, as well as choreographing dances for many ballet companies, including the San Francisco Ballet, the Paris Opéra Ballet, and American Ballet Theatre. From 1988–91, he was director of dance at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels, the national opera house of Belgium. During his tenure there, he created 12 pieces, including three evening-length works: *The Hard Nut* (his comic book-inspired version of *The Nutcracker*); *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*; and *Dido and Aeneas* and founded the White Oak Dance Project with Mikhail Baryshnikov. Mr. Morris is noted for his musicality—he has been described as “undeviating in his devotion to music” and for his “ability to conjure so many contradictory styles and emotions.” He has worked extensively in opera as both a choreographer and a director. Most recently, he directed and choreographed a Royal Opera, Covent Garden production of *Rameau's Platée*, which premiered at the Edinburgh International Festival in 1997 and had its New York debut with The New York City Opera in April of 2000 at Lincoln Center. Mr. Morris was named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation in 1991, and he is the subject of a biography by Joan Acocella (Farrar, Straus & Giroux).

Mark Morris Dance Group was formed in 1980 and gave its first concert that year in New York City. In the following years, the company's touring schedule steadily expanded to include cities both in the United States and Europe. In 1986 the Dance Group made its first national television program for the PBS *Dance in America* series. In 1988 the Mark Morris Dance Group was invited to become the national dance company of Belgium. During its three years as resident company of the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels, the Dance Group was the subject of several television programs, including the United Kingdom's *South Bank Show*. The company returned to the United States in 1991 as one of the world's leading dance companies, performing across the United States and at major international festivals. The

Dance Group has maintained and strengthened its ties to several cities around the world, most notably Berkeley, California, where, for the past several years, it has performed bi-annually at CalPerformances, including presentations of *The Hard Nut* each December from 1996–99. Audiences have also become accustomed to the Dance Group's regular and frequent appearances in Boston, Massachusetts; Fairfax, Virginia; London, England; and at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, Massachusetts. It was recently named the official dance company (2000–05) of the Virginia Waterfront International Arts Festival. In addition to a full international touring schedule, the Dance Group has recently completed two film projects: an Emmy Award-winning collaboration with cellist Yo-Yo Ma entitled *Falling Down Stairs*, using Bach's Third Suite for unaccompanied cello, and a film version of Mr. Morris' *Dido and Aeneas*. The company's British premiere performances of *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* with the English National Opera garnered the Dance Group the 1997 Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Dance Production.

Joe Bowie, born in Lansing, Michigan, began dancing while attending Brown University. After graduating with honors in English and American literature, he moved to New York and performed in the works of Robert Wilson and Ulysses Dove and danced with The Paul Taylor Dance Company for two years before going to Belgium to work with Mark Morris in 1989.

Charlton Boyd was born in New Jersey, where he studied and performed with Inner City Ensemble Theater & Dance Company. He is a graduate of The Juilliard School and has danced with the Limón Dance Company. He appears in the *José Limón Technique Video, Volume 1*, and other music videos. He first appeared with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1989 and became a full-time company member in '94.

Ruth Davidson, a native New Yorker, has enjoyed dancing with the Mark Morris Dance Group since its first performance in 1980. She has studied consistently with Jocelyn Lorenz since 1979.

Seth Davis began dancing under the instruction of his mother, Victoria Shiflet, in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He attended Shenandoah Conservatory, where he studied dance and photography. After receiving a full scholarship to the School of American Ballet, he moved to New York City. He has performed with bopi's

(continued on page 21)

(continued from page 20)

black sheep, in dances by Kraig Patterson, and in numerous productions with the Metropolitan Opera Ballet. He can also be seen dancing in the upcoming feature film *Still a Kiss*. He has performed with the Mark Morris Dance Group since 1998.

Marjorie Folkman graduated from Barnard College *summa cum laude*. She has danced for Spencer/Colton, Kraig Patterson, Sally Hess, Sara Rudner, the Repertory Understudy Group for the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, and began dancing with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1996.

Shawn Ganon is from Dover, New Jersey, where he received his early dance training with Dorothy Wescott Rosen. He joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1995 after dancing with Lee Theodore's Dance Machine, Mark Dendy Dance Group, Laura Dean Dancers and Musicians, and Jane Comfort and Company.

Lauren Grant was born and raised in Highland Park, Illinois. She graduated with a B.F.A. from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where she was awarded the Eric and Mark Myers Scholarship. Ms. Grant began working with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1996 and became a full-time company member in '98.

John Heginbotham grew up in Anchorage, Alaska. He graduated from The Juilliard School's dance division in 1993 and since then has performed with artists including John Jasperse, Ben Munisteri, and as a guest artist with Pilobolus Dance Theater. He was a member of Susan Marshall and Company from 1995-98. He joined MMDG in 1998.

Ethan Iverson (*piano/music director*) took his place at the feet of the Mark Morris Dance Group in January of 1998. A modern jazz pianist, Mr. Iverson's latest CD (*The Minor Passions*, with Reid Anderson and Billy Hart) was first on Ben Ratliff's list of the Top Ten "alternative" jazz recordings of 1999 in the *New York Times*. This year his engagements include solo, trio, and quartet performances as a leader (his Weill Hall recital debut is next February), sideman appearances with the Dave Douglas Sextet and the Mark Turner Quartet, and his concerto debut playing the Pat Zimmerli Piano Concerto with Metamorphosen in Boston. His piano teachers are Sophia Rosoff and Fred Hersch.

Wolfram Koessel (*cello*) is a native of Freiburg, Germany. He has performed internationally as a soloist and chamber musician. He has toured South America extensively, giving recitals and holding master classes. As a soloist he performs regularly with the Jupiter Symphony, and he has also appeared as soloist with the Metamorphoses Orchestra, Long Beach Symphony, Cordoba Symphony, Grossman Orchestra, Stuttgart Wind Orchestra, NY City Island Players, and the Mannes Orchestra. In 1991 he was offered a full scholarship by the Mannes School of Music, where he studied cello with Timothy Eddy and chamber music with Felix Galimir. As a winner of Artists International, he gave his debut to critical acclaim at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in April of 1995. Mr. Koessel serves as cellist with the Meridian String Quartet, is on the faculty of the New York Youth Symphony Chamber Music Program, and in residence at the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College.

David Leventhal, a native of Newton, Massachusetts, began his dance training at Boston Ballet School and continued his studies with Boston-area teachers and at Brown University, where he received a B.A. with honors in English literature. He danced with the companies of Marcus Schulkind, Spencer/Colton, Ben Munisteri, and Zvi Gotheiner before joining the Mark Morris Dance Group in January of 1998.

Bradon McDonald received his B.F.A. from The Juilliard School in 1997. After graduation he won the Princess Grace Award and joined the Limón Dance Company, where, for three years, he performed such roles as Eros in Limón's *The Winged*, Iago in Limón's *The Moor's Pavane*, and the third and fifth solos in Tudor's *Dark Elegies*, as well as works by Jiri Kylián, Doug Varone, Igal Perry, and Donald McKayle. Mr. McDonald has choreographed and presented his own works internationally and has served as choreographer for seven Juilliard Opera Company productions under director Frank Corsaro. Recently, he was the choreographic assistant to Donald McKayle for his new work on the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. This is Mr. McDonald's first season with the Mark Morris Dance Group.

Gregory Nuber has appeared with the Mark Morris Dance Group since 1998 in productions of *The Hard Nut*; *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*; *Platéé*; and with cellist Yo-Yo Ma in *Rhymes With Silver*. He was delighted to join the Dance Group as an apprentice in April of

2000. Mr. Nuber has also danced in New York City Opera's production of *Carmina Burana*, directed and choreographed by Donald Byrd, and was a member of Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre for three years. He is a graduate of Arizona State University with degrees in theater and dance.

June Omura spent her formative first six years in New York City and then grew up in Birmingham, Alabama, appearing in local dance and theater productions from the age of eight. She returned to New York to attend Barnard College, graduating in 1986 with honors in dance and English. She first studied with Mark Morris that summer and happily joined the Dance Group in 1988.

Mireille Radwan-Dana joined Mark Morris Dance Company in 1988. "The six Grandfathers have placed in this world many things, all of which should be happy. Every little thing is sent for something, and in that thing there should be happiness and the power to make happy. Like the grasses showing tender faces to each other, thus we should do, for this was the wish of the Grandfathers of the world." (*Black Elk*)

Kim Reis was raised in Vancouver, Washington, where she competed in gymnastics for eight years before leaving the sport to pursue dance at a performing arts high school. She received her B.F.A. from the University of Utah and is certified to teach Pilates. Ms. Reis first appeared with the Dance Group in 1998 and became an apprentice in April of 2000. Endless thanks to family, friends, and teachers for their belief and support.

Guillermo Resto has danced with Mark Morris since 1983.

Matthew Rose received his B.F.A. from the University of Michigan. He has appeared with the Martha Graham Dance Company, Pascal Rioult Dance Theater, and Ann Arbor Dance Works. Mr. Rose began working with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1997 and became a full-time company member in '99.

Sarah Roth (violin) is from the Boston area. She graduated with distinction in performance from the New England Conservatory of Music, where she began her early training in the Preparatory School. She is active as an orchestral musician, playing with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra and Cantata Singers. As a member of Boston's Emmanuel Music she has performed more than 100 cantatas of J.S. Bach; has appeared as soloist, orchestral, and chamber musician in Emmanuel's major productions of Bach, Handel, Mozart, Brahms, and Schubert; and was the violinist in the Peter Sellars/Craig Smith production of *Weill/Bach: Mahagonny Songspiel; Conversations Between Fear and Death*, presented recently in Paris and Frankfurt. Her principal teacher was James Buswell, and as a Tanglewood Fellow she coached chamber music with Joel Smirnoff, Peter Serkin, and Yo-Yo Ma.

Jessica Troy (viola) holds degrees from Amherst College, the State University of New York at Stonybrook, and the Musikhochschule in Luebeck, Germany. She has participated in many music festivals, including Tanglewood, Marlboro, The Norfolk Festival of Contemporary Chamber Music, and Prussia Cove in Cornwall, England. Roger Reynolds, Oliver Knussen, and Georgy Kurtag are some of the composers with whom she has had the opportunity to work.

Julie Worden, from Naples, Florida, is a graduate of the North Carolina School of the Arts. She has worked with Chicago choreographers Bob Eisen, Jan Erkert, and Sheldon B. Smith. She has been dancing with Mark Morris since 1994.

Michelle Yard was born in Brooklyn, New York. She began her professional dance training at the New York City High School of the Performing Arts. Upon her graduation she received the Helen Tamiris and B'nai Brith Awards. For three years, she was also a scholarship student at The Alvin Ailey Dance Center. She attended New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where she recently graduated with a bachelor of fine arts. Ms. Yard joined the Dance Group in 1997.

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Thanks to Maxine Morris.

Sincerest thanks to all the dancers for their dedication, support, and incalculable contribution to the work.

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