

CENTER FOR THE ARTS

George Mason University



GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

 *presents* 

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

CRAIG BIESECKER * JOE BOWIE CHARLTON BOYD
RITA DONAHUE * MARJORIE FOLKMAN SHAWN GANNON LAU-
REN GRANT JOHN HEGINBOTHAM DAVID LEVENTHAL
BRADON McDONALD AMBER MERKENS GREGORY NUBER
MAILE OKAMURA JUNE OMURA GUILLERMO RESTO
MATTHEW ROSE BRYNN TAYLOR * JULIE WORDEN
MICHELLE YARD

*apprentice

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
MARK MORRIS

GENERAL DIRECTOR
BARRY ALTERMAN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NANCY UMANOFF

Saturday, March 8, 8:00 p.m.

Program:

New Love Song Waltzes • *Going Away Party*

-intermission-

Serenade (World Premiere) • V

The Mark Morris Dance Group's performances are made possible with public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts Dance Program and the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency.

The Mark Morris Dance Group New Works Fund is supported by The Howard Gilman Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, as well as The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation; The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation; Altria Group, Inc.; Hazen Polsky Foundation; and the May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation.



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THE TAKING OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND THE USE OF RECORDING EQUIPMENT ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE THEATER.

Choreography by Mark Morris

NEW LOVE SONG WALTZES

Music: Johannes Brahms (*Neue Liebeslieder Walzer*, op. 65)

Lighting: James F. Ingalls

EILEEN CLARK, *soprano*; BARBARA REARICK, *mezzo-soprano*;
JAMES ARCHIE WORLEY, *tenor*; CHRISTOPHER ROSELLI, *baritone*
SARA DAVIS BUECHNER, ILAN RECHTMAN, *piano*

JOE BOWIE, MARJORIE FOLKMAN, JOHN HEGINBOTHAM,
DAVID LEVENTHAL, BRADON McDONALD, AMBER MERKENS,
MAILE OKAMURA, MATTHEW ROSE, BRYNN TAYLOR, MICHELLE YARD

Premiere: November 4, 1982 - Bessie Schoenberg Theater, Dance Theater Workshop,
New York, New York

-pause-

GOING AWAY PARTY

Music: Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys ("Playboy Theme", "Yearning",
"My Shoes Keep Walking Back to You", "Goin' Away Party",
"Baby, That Sure Would Go Good", "Milk Cow Blues", "Crippled Turkey",
"When You Leave Amarillo, Turn Out the Lights")

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Costumes: Christine Van Loon

CHARLTON BOYD, LAUREN GRANT,
JOHN HEGINBOTHAM, DAVID LEVENTHAL, MAILE OKAMURA,
MATTHEW ROSE, JULIE WORDEN

Premiere: April 14, 1990 - Halles de Schaerbeek, Brussels, Belgium

-intermission-

SERENADE (WORLD PREMIERE)

Music: Lou Harrison (*Serenade for Guitar*)

Round

Air

Infinite Canon

Usul

Sonata

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Costume: Isaac Mizrahi

OREN FADER, *guitar*

STEFAN SCHATZ, *percussion*

MARK MORRIS

In honor of the divine Mr. Harrison.

-pause-

V

Music: Robert Schumann (*Quintet in E flat for piano and strings*, op. 44)

Allegro brillante

In modo d'una Marcia. Un poco largamente - Agitato

Scherzo molto vivace

Allegro, ma non troppo

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Costumes: Martin Pakledinaz

YOSUKE KAWASAKI, *violin*; MATILDA KAUL, *violin*;

JESSICA TROY, *viola*; WOLFRAM KOESSEL, *cello*;

SARA DAVIS BUECHNER, *piano*

JOE BOWIE, CHARLTON BOYD, MARJORIE FOLKMAN, LAUREN GRANT,
JOHN HEGINBOTHAM, DAVID LEVENTHAL, BRADON McDONALD,
AMBER MERKENS, GREGORY NUBER, MAILE OKAMURA,
MATTHEW ROSE, BRYNN TAYLOR, JULIE WORDEN, MICHELLE YARD

Dedicated to the City of New York.

Premiere: October 16, 2001 - Sadler's Wells, London, England

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 over 100 works for the Dance Group, as well as choreographing dances for many ballet companies, including the San Francisco Ballet, the Paris Opera Ballet, and American Ballet Theatre. From 1988-1991 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. 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 premiere with The New York City Opera in April 2000 at Lincoln Center. He directed and choreographed the June 2000 English National Opera production of *Four Saints in Three Acts*. His premieres in 2002 included *Kolam*, created for Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Project in collaboration with Indian composer Zakir Hussain. Mr. Morris was named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation in 1991 and has received honorary doctorates from the Boston Conservatory of Music, The Juilliard School and Long Island University. 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 U.S. and in Europe and, in 1986, the Dance Group made its first national television program for PBS's “Great Performances-Dance in America.” 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 U.K.'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 U.S. and at major international festivals. The Dance Group has maintained and strengthened its ties to several cities around the world, most notably Berkeley, CA where, for the past several years, the Dance Group has performed twice annually at CalPerformances, including presentations of *The Hard Nut* each December from 1996-2001. Audiences have also become accustomed to the Dance Group's regular and frequent appearances in Boston, MA; Fairfax, VA; London, England; and at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, MA. The Dance Group was named the official dance company (2000-2005) of the Virginia Arts Festival. In addition to a full international touring schedule, the Dance Group has 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's Dido and Aeneas. The Dance Group's 2001 season at Sadler's Wells Theatre in London garnered the company its second Laurence Olivier Award. In 2001, the Mark Morris Dance Center opened in Brooklyn, New York. This 30,000 square foot facility features three studios and a school providing classes to over 400 students of all ages.

CRAIG BIESECKER, from Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, received a B.S. in Music Education from West Chester University of PA. While teaching music in Philadelphia, he studied ballet with John White, Margarita de Saa, and Bryan Koulman. In New York City, he has worked with Pascal Rioult, Carolyn Dorfman, New York Theater Ballet, Mark Dendy and Gerald Casel. This is Craig's first year with the Mark Morris Dance Group.

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, 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 Limon Dance Company. He appears in the Jose Limon Technique Video, Volume 1, and other music videos. He first appeared with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1989 and became a company member in 1994.

SARA DAVIS BUECHNER (piano) was the Grand Prize winner of the 1984 Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, and the top American prizewinner of the 1986 Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. She has appeared with many of America's most prominent orchestras, and has played widely throughout North America, Europe and Asia. Last season she made her recital debut at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival. This season her newest recordings of piano music by Stephen Foster and Rudolf Friml will be released. Ms. Buechner teaches piano and chamber music at New York University, and has presented master classes at conservatories and universities throughout the United States and Japan.

EILEEN CLARK (soprano) has sung with the Mark Morris Dance Group for seven years in works of Monteverdi, Purcell, Bach, Brahms, and old Broadway. She has sung Queen of the Night (*The Magic Flute*) and Naiad (*Ariadne auf Naxos*) with Syracuse Opera, Adina (*Elixir of Love*) with Commonwealth Opera and the baroque dance role Galatea (*Pygmalion*) with Concert Royal. Eileen has also enjoyed singing for the dancers of Jose Limon Dance Co., Anita Feldman Tap, Toby Twining Music and at Kaatsbaan and Jacob's Pillow. Her CD *Lemons Descending* (Oxigale Records) with cellist Matt Haimovitz was a "pick" this summer in Gramophone Magazine.

RITA DONAHUE was born and raised in Fairfax, Virginia. She graduated with a B.F.A. in Dance and a B.A. in English from George Mason University in 2002 and joined bop's black sheep, dances by Kraig Patterson. She began working with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2003.

OREN FADER (www.orenfader.com) is active as a performer of classical guitar repertoire, both traditional and contemporary. Reviewing his solo New York recital, Guitar Review magazine stated: "His scholarship, technique, and intelligent musicianship are plainly evident and the beauty of his tone is consistently compelling." He has performed in London, Tokyo, Munich, Amsterdam, Montreal, Maui, Russia, Mexico, and throughout the United States, and can be heard on over 20 recordings. Recently completed recording projects include a new recording of an arrangement of "The Rite of Spring" performed with the Fireworks ensemble. Mr. Fader's solo CD will be available in the spring of 2003. Since 1994 Mr. Fader has been on the guitar faculty and directed the Guitar Chamber Music program at the Manhattan School of Music.

MARJORIE FOLKMAN graduated summa cum laude from Barnard College. She has danced for Amy Spencer and Richard Colton, Sally Hess, Neta Pulvermacher, Kraig Patterson, the Repertory Understudy Group for the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, and Sara Rudner. She began dancing with Mark Morris in 1996.

SHAWN GANNON 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 in Highland Park, Illinois, and began dancing at age three. She continued training, primarily in classical ballet, through high school. At New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, Lauren received her modern dance training and graduated with a BFA. Lauren joined MMDG in 1998.

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 1995-1998. He joined MMDG in 1998.

Canadian violinist **MATILDA KAUL** has been heard as recitalist and orchestral soloist throughout North America, England and Japan. As a student of Donald Weilerstein, she earned both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music, and upon graduation was awarded the Bennet Levine prize in chamber music. She regularly participates in festivals on both sides of the Atlantic, including appearances at Ravinia, Banff, Norfolk, Aspen and IMS Prussia Cove. Her many awards and prizes include career grants from the Canada Council for the Arts and the Chalmers Foundation, and first prize in the Minnesota Orchestra's WAMSO Competition. After a year of studying in London, Matilda is currently pursuing a diploma at the Juilliard School, where she studies with Ronald Copes.

Japanese-American violinist, **YOSUKE KAWASAKI**, is currently the co-concertmaster of the Saito Kinen Orchestra and the Mito Chamber Orchestra of Japan. He was the former concertmaster of the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra from 1999 - 2001. As an active chamber musician, Kawaskai has worked with artists such as, Lukas Foss, Gary Graffman, Karl Leister, and Walter Van Hauwe. He has made duo appearances with Vadim Serebryany in America and Japan which included the complete cycle of Beethoven's Sonata for Piano and Violin in the 2000 season. His debut recording was recently released of Bach's Brandenburg Concertos on the King label.

WOLFRAM KOESSEL (cello) made his critically acclaimed debut at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 1994, since then he has performed as soloist and chamber musician in concert halls throughout the world. Strings Magazine wrote: "Mr. Koessel, in a very promising debut, played a substantial program with great seriousness, using his excellent technical means only for the music, not for effect or show." Based in New York City, Mr. Koessel appears with a wide range of ensembles and chamber music groups, most notably the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and The Jupiter Symphony. As a soloist, Mr. Koessel has performed the standard as well as unusual cello concerto repertoire with the Jupiter Symphony, the New York Metamorphoses Orchestra, which he co-founded in 1994, the Mannes Orchestra and the Symphony Orchestras of Cordoba, Mendoza, Costa Rica and Stuttgart. Multifaceted as a chamber musician, Mr. Koessel is on the faculty of the New York Youth Symphony Chamber Music Program and is the music director of "Sundays on the Island" (a chamber music series on New York's City Island). He served until recently as cellist with the award-winning Meridian String Quartet. His performance of Tchaikovsky's "Rococo Variations" was featured on WQXR's "Young Artists Showcase". Upon completion of his master's degree at the Mannes College of Music, he was the recipient of the George and Elizabeth Gregory Award for Excellence in Performance. He has played for the Mark Morris Dance Group since the new millennium.

DAVID LEVENTHAL, raised in Newton, Mass., has danced with the Mark Morris Dance Group since 1997. Previously, he worked with JosÉ Mateo's Ballet Theatre and the companies of Marcus Schullkind, Amy Spencer/Richard Colton, Ben Munisteri, and Zvi Gotheiner. He graduated from Brown University in 1995 with honors in English Literature.

BRADON McDONALD received his B.F.A. from the Juilliard School in 1997. After graduation he won the Princess Grace Award and joined the LimUn Dance Company where, for 3 years, he

performed such roles as "Eros" in LimŮn's *The Winged*, "Iago" in LimŮn's *The Moor's Pavane* and the third and fifth solos in Tudor's *Dark Elegies* as well as works by Jiri Kylian, Doug Varone, Igal Perry, and Donald McKayle. Bradon has choreographed and presented his own works internationally and has served as choreographer for seven Juilliard Opera Company productions under the director Frank Corsaro. Recently Bradon was the choreographic assistant to Donald McKayle for his new work on the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Bradon joined Mark Morris Dance Group in April 2000.

AMBER MERKENS began her dance training with Nancy Mittleman in Newport, Oregon. She received her BFA from the Juilliard School in 1999 and went on to dance with the LimŮn Dance Company for two years. She is a recipient of the 2001 Princess Grace Award and has presented her own choreography in various venues, including Alice Tully Hall and the Joyce Soho. Amber joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in August 2001.

GREGORY NUBER began working with MMDG in 1998 and became a company member in 2001. He was a member of Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre for three years, has appeared as a guest artist with New York City Opera, Cleveland Opera and Tennessee Repertory Theatre, and has worked with numerous New York based choreographers. Gregory is a graduate of Arizona State University where he studied acting and dance.

MAILE OKAMURA was born and raised in San Diego, CA. She was a member of Boston Ballet II and Ballet Arizona before moving to New York in 1996. Since then she has had the pleasure of dancing with Neta Pulvermcher, Zvi Gotheiner, Gerald Casel, and many others. Maile began working with MMDG in 1998 and became a company member in 2001.

JUNE OMURA spent her 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.

BARBARA REARICK (mezzo-soprano) has performed with the American Symphony Orchestra, Irish Chamber Orchestra, Hallé, Nashville Symphony, Phoenix Symphony, City of Birmingham Symphony, the Pasadena Pops and at various venues including Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, Symphony Space, St. John's Smith Square in London as well as Wigmore Hall in London where she premiered a song cycle written especially for her by her frequent collaborator, Sir Richard Rodney Bennett. Opera roles include Cherubino (*The Marriage of Figaro*), Lucretia (*The Rape of Lucretia*), Suzuki (*Madame Butterfly*) and *The Mother* (*Amahl and the Night Visitors*). Her recent engagements include a world premiere recording of Kurt Weill's *The Eternal Road* with Gerard Schwarz and the title role in the first complete performance of Allan Jaffe's *The Life of Mary Shelley*. Upcoming engagements include Mahler Symphony No. 8 with the Utah Symphony. She appeared on BBC World Service and NPR and has recorded for ASV and Gateway Classics.

ILAN RECHTMAN (piano) has performed with major orchestras throughout the world and they include the London Symphony Orchestra, the Montreal Metropolitan Orchestra, New Zealand Symphony, Szeland Symphony (Denmark) and in the United States with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the San Diego Symphony, the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, the New World Symphony (Miami), the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops, among others. Active as a recitalist and chamber musician, Mr. Rechtman has performed in Canada, Costa Rica, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Germany, Hungary, France, Mexico, South Korea and Spain and has appeared in more than eighty cities throughout the United States. He has frequently performed in New York City with appearances at Carnegie Hall, the 92nd Street Y, Town Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Merkin (Abraham Goodman) Concert Hall, and Weill Recital Hall. In piano competitions, Mr. Rechtman won first prize at the Francois Shapira Competition in Israel and at the first San Antonio International Competition. He also won the Maurice M. Clairmont Piano Prize and the America Israel Cultural Foundation's Norry scholarship. Mr. Rechtman is recognized as a composer of note and has made important contributions in this field. Music Directors Zubin Mehta and Lorin Maazel each commissioned and performed Mr. Rechtman's compositions. "Sailor's Rhapsody", a composition for piano and orchestra has been performed by numerous orchestras including the Pittsburgh, New World, Annapolis and Cape Cod Symphony Orchestras. His chamber work, "Three Movements for Cello and Piano" has had performances in Washington at the Kennedy Center as well as in New York City's Weill Hall. Two works received orchestral premieres at Carnegie Hall: "America, Suite Popular, 1994", for woodwind quintet and orchestra, commissioned and performed by the Woodwind Quintet of America with the Manhattan School of Music Sinfonietta. Ilan Rechtman's works are published by Theodore Presser

Company and are released on the Omega/Vanguard, Meridian, MMC, Newport Classics, Cembal dAmoure and Well Tempered Productions labels.

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. Matthew began working with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1997 and became a company member in 1999.

CHRISTOPHER ROSELLI (baritone) has appeared in operatic performances with the Utah Opera, Spoleto Festival, Italy and USA, New York Grand Opera, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Virginia Opera, Opera Colorado, El Paso Opera, Piedmont Opera, Sarasota Opera, and the Brevard Music Festival. His concert engagements have included national and international tours including performances in Italy, Germany, Austria, France, Switzerland, and Denmark. Other appearances include the Kalamazoo Symphony, the Fresno Philharmonic, the National Repertory Orchestra, the Colorado Symphony, the Fairfield Old Academy Orchestra, the Rome Symphony, the Ridgewood Symphony, and the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra. In addition to his performing, Christopher is a member of the voice faculty at the Actors Studio Drama School in New York City.

STEFAN SCHATZ (percussion) is a 1995 graduate of New York's prestigious New School Jazz and Contemporary Music Program, with degrees in Performance and Creative Writing. He has performed with some of the finest names in jazz, including Dakota Staton, Jon Hendricks, Milt Hinton, Mark Turner, Ray Bryant, and Buster Brown. As a member of The Glenn Miller Orchestra and an accompanist for the dance troupe Manhattan Tap, Stefan toured extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Central and South America, and Europe. In 1998, he was featured in a jazz trio and traveled to over thirty different countries on the Crystal Symphony World Cruise. Stefan has studied with Vernel Fournier, Marvin "Bugaloo" Smith, Kenny Washington, Lewis Nash, and Bernard Purdie.

BRYNN TAYLOR raised in San Diego, CA, graduated from UC Berkeley with a double major in molecular biology and dance. As a member of the Bay Area Repertory Dance Company she performed in works by Marni and David Wood, Martha Graham and Joe Goode. In New York Brynn danced with Lori Belilove & Co. before joining the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2002.

JESSICA TROY (viola), a native New Yorker, holds degrees from Amherst College, the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and the Musikhochschule in Luebeck, Germany, where her major teachers were Philipp Naegele, Caroline Levine, and Barbara Westphal. She is a member of the Brooklyn Philharmonic and plays regularly with the Jupiter Symphony. Her chamber music activities have included performances with Sequitor and the Eberli Ensemble, as well as with the Acacia, Maia, and Meridian String Quartets in venues ranging from The Knitting Factory, to the Saratoga Music Festival, and the Violin Society of American Conference, where she also served as a judge in the instrument competition. She has been a participant at many chamber music festivals, including Marlboro and Prussia Cove. She has had the opportunity to work with many composers on their own works, including Roger Reynolds, Jacob Druckman, Oliver Knussen and Gregory Kurtag.

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

JAMES ARCHIE WORLEY's (tenor) career spans from singing Verdi's Requiem in China to engagements at the Metropolitan Opera, Avery Fisher Hall and Carnegie Hall. He has sung with such orchestras as the New York Philharmonic, the American Symphony Orchestra, the Brooklyn Philharmonic, the Orchestra of St. Luke's and the American Composers Orchestra. Mr. Worley holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Georgia and is an alumnus of the Manhattan School of Music.

MICHELLE YARD was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. 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 graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Michelle began dancing with the Dance Group in 1997.

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP STAFF

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