

CENTER FOR THE ARTS



GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

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George Mason University

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

 presents 



Friday, October 10, 2003, 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 11, 2003, 8:00 p.m.

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

Artistic Director
MARK MORRIS

General Director
BARRY ALTERMAN

Executive Director
NANCY UMANOFF

PROGRAM
Going Away Party
All Fours
-intermission-
A Spell
Gloria

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 Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation; Altria Group, Inc; and The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation.

The Mark Morris Dance Group's education and performance activities are supported by Independence Community Foundation.

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 THE THEATER.



*apprentice †maternity leave

Choreography by Mark Morris

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")

Costumes: Christine Van Loon

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

SHAWN GANNON, LAUREN GRANT, JOHN HEGINBOTHAM, BRADON McDONALD
MAILE OKAMURA, MATTHEW ROSE, JULIE WORDEN

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

-pause-

ALL FOURS

Music: Béla Bartók (*String Quartet No. 4*)

Costumes: Martin Pakledinaz

Lighting: Nicole Pearce

JONATHAN GANDELSMAN, *violin*; ANDREA SCHULTZ, *violin*;
JESSICA TROY, *viola*; WOLFRAM KOESSEL, *cello*

I. Allegro

JOE BOWIE, CHARLTON BOYD, RITA DONAHUE, SHAWN GANNON,
DAVID LEVENTHAL, AMBER MERKENS, MAILE OKAMURA, MICHELLE YARD

II. Prestissimo, con sordino

JOHN HEGINBOTHAM, GREGORY NUBER

III. Non troppo lento

LAUREN GRANT, JOHN HEGINBOTHAM, GREGORY NUBER, BRYNN TAYLOR

IV. Allegretto pizzicato

LAUREN GRANT, BRYNN TAYLOR

V. Allegro molto

CRAIG BIESECKER, JOE BOWIE, RITA DONAHUE, SHAWN GANNON,
DAVID LEVENTHAL, AMBER MERKENS, MAILE OKAMURA, MICHELLE YARD

Commissioned in part by Cal Performances.

Béla Bartók's String Quartet No. 4 is performed by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc., publisher and copyright owner.

Premiere: September 12, 2003 - Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, California

-intermission -

A SPELL

Music: John Wilson ("Where the Bee Sucks," "Stay, O Stay,"
"Do Not Fear to Put Thy Feet," "Take, O Take Those Lips Away")

Costumes: Susan Ruddle

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

EILEEN CLARK, *soprano*; ANDREA SCHULTZ, *violin*; JONAH SPEIDEL, *piano*
MARJORIE FOLKMAN, BRADON McDONALD, MATTHEW ROSE

Premiere: August 17, 1993 - Meadowbank Centre, Edinburgh Festival, Edinburgh, Scotland

-pause-

GLORIA

Music: Antonio Vivaldi (*Gloria in D*)

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

George Mason University Singers

and Chamber Orchestra, Dr. Stan Engebretson, *Conductor*

EILEEN CLARK, *soprano*; EMILY EYRE, *alto*

JOE BOWIE, MARJORIE FOLKMAN, SHAWN GANNON, LAUREN GRANT,

JOHN HEGINBOTHAM, DAVID LEVENTHAL, BRADON McDONALD,

MAILE OKAMURA, JULIE WORDEN, MICHELLE YARD

Original Premiere: December 12, 1981 –

Bessie Schoenberg Theater, Dance Theater Workshop, New York, New York

Revised Premiere: November 28, 1984 – Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, New York



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. In the early years of his career, he performed with Lar Lubovitch, Hannah Kahn, Laura Dean, Eliot Feld, and the Koleda Balkan Dance Ensemble. He formed the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1980, and has since created over 100 works for the company. From 1988–1991, he was Director of Dance at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels, the national opera house of Belgium. Among the works created during his tenure were three evening-length dances: *The Hard Nut*, *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*; and *Dido and Aeneas*. In 1990, he founded the White Oak Dance Project with Mikhail Baryshnikov. Mr. Morris is also much in demand as a ballet choreographer. He has created four works on the San Francisco Ballet since 1994 and received commissions from such companies as American Ballet Theatre, Boston Ballet, and the Paris Opera Ballet. His work is in the repertory of the Geneva Ballet, New Zealand Ballet, English National Ballet, and the Royal Ballet, Covent Garden. He has worked extensively in opera, directing and choreographing productions for the New York City Opera, English National Opera, and the Royal Opera, Covent Garden. Mr. Morris was named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation in 1991. He has received honorary doctorates from The Boston Conservatory of Music, The Juilliard School, Long Island University, Pratt Institute, and Bowdoin College. Mr. Morris is the subject of a biography by Joan Acocella (Farrar, Straus & Giroux). In 2001, Marlowe & Company published *Mark Morris' L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato: A Celebration*, a volume of photographs and critical essays.

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP was formed in 1980 and gave its first concert that year in New York City. The company's touring schedule steadily expanded to include cities both in the U.S. and in Europe, and in 1986 it made its first national television program for the PBS series *Dance in America*. In 1988, the Dance Group was invited to become the national dance company of Belgium, and spent three years in residence at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels. 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. It has maintained and strengthened its ties to several cities around the world, most notably Berkeley, CA, where Cal Performances presents the company in two annual seasons, including engagements of *The Hard Nut* each December. It is the official dance company (2000–2005) of the Virginia Arts Festival, and appears regularly in Boston, MA; Fairfax, VA; Seattle, WA; Urbana-Champaign, IL; and at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, MA. The company's London seasons have garnered two Laurence Olivier Awards. MMDG is noted for its commitment to live music, a feature of every performance on its full international touring schedule since 1996. Cellist Yo-Yo Ma has frequently collaborated with the Dance Group; their projects include the 1997 Emmy Award-winning film *Falling Down Stairs*, using Bach's Third Suite for Unaccompanied Cello, and the 2002 dance *Kolam*, created for The Silk Road Project in collaboration with Indian composer Zakir Hussain and jazz pianist Ethan Iverson of The Bad Plus. MMDG's film and television projects include *Dido and Aeneas*, *The Hard Nut*, and two documentaries for the U.K.'s *South Bank Show*. In 2001, the Mark Morris Dance Center opened in Brooklyn, New York. The 30,000-square foot facility features three studios and a school for dance students of all ages.

DR. STANLEY ENGBRETSON is the Director of Choral Studies at George Mason University, where he leads the University Singers, the Symphonic Chorus, and is head of the Vocal Jazz and Choral Conducting Programs. He has conducted throughout the United States and in Europe, most notably as conductor of the Polychoral Festival in the Cathedral of St. Mark in Venice, Italy, and in conducting workshops in Trier and Cologne, Germany as well as St. Moritz, Switzerland. He has studied with great masters of choral music including Robert Shaw, Gregg Smith, Richard Westenburg, Roger Wagner and Eric Ericson, Conductor Emeritus of the world-renowned Swedish Radio Choir in Stockholm, Sweden. A native of North Dakota, Engbretson grew up in a musical environment, receiving his early training in the Scandinavian choral tradition. After taking Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Piano and Voice, he received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Conducting from Stanford University. He has held faculty positions within the University of Texas system and at the University of Minnesota. In addition, he was the Artistic Director of the Midland-Odessa Symphony Chorus and was the Associate Conductor of the Minnesota Chorale. In Washington since 1990, Engbretson is also the Artistic Director of the newly formed National Philharmonic Chorale and is the Director of Music at the historic New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. He is active in professional choral organizations and appears as a lecturer for The Smithsonian Institution and presents American music within the prestigious Europa Cantat choral festivals in Nevers, France and Barcelona, Spain.

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, and worked with choreographers Tim and Lina Early. 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 Limón Dance Company. He appears in the Jose Limón 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.

EMILY EYRE (alto) was born in Rye, New York and raised in Hawaii, and her solo performances include Handel's *Messiah* and Vivaldi's *Gloria* with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Meredith Monk's *Atlas, Celebration Service*, and *Expeditions in Concert* with the Houston Grand Opera, Spoleto Festival, and Lincoln Center Festival respectively. Concert performances include Bach's *Mass in B Minor, St. John Passion, Christmas Oratorio, Easter Oratorio, Ascension Day Oratorio, Magnificat, Anna Magdalena Songbook*, and cantatas with organizations such as Berkshire Bach Society, New York Metamorphoses Orchestra, BachWorks, Princeton University Chapel Music, Columbia University, Westchester Concert Singers and Valley Chamber Chorale. Ms. Eyre has also performed the music of Handel, Purcell, Scarlatti and Monteverdi with the Clarion Music Society, Pennsylvania Sinfonia Orchestra and AmorArtis, and has been the featured soloist in performances of the Brahms' *Alto Rhapsody*, the Duruflé *Requiem*, Szymanowski's *Stabat Mater*, Rachmaninov's *Vespers* and Patrick Cassidy's *Famine Remembrance* (recorded on Windham Hill). Ms. Eyre received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Birmingham-Southern College and a graduate fellowship and Masters of Music degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She is a past winner of the Metropolitan Opera Competition in North Carolina, Western Piedmont Symphony Competition and Mobile Opera Competition. Emily was also a recipient of the Adams Fellowship for the Carmel Bach Festival. Ms. Eyre now resides in New York City.

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 the Limón Dance Company, Anita Feldman Tap, Toby Twining Music and at Kaatsbaan and Jacob's Pillow. This year Eileen is a winner of a JPF record award for her CD "Lemons Descending" with cellist Matt Haimovitz (Oxingale records).

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 bopi's black sheep, dances by Craig Patterson. She began working with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2003.

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

JONATHAN GANDELSMAN (violin) most recently played with Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble at the Smithsonian Folk Life Festival in Washington D.C. He has also toured with the ensemble to the West Coast and Toronto. Other chamber music collaborations have included performances with Lynn Harrell, Nigel Kennedy, James Levine, Franz Helmerson, Sylvia Marcovici, Pavel Vernikov, Sergey Babayan, Gilbert Kalisch, Daniel Gortler, and his father Yuri Gandelman, the violist of the Fine Arts Quartet. A recording on EMI of works by Bach and Bartók with Nigel Kennedy was released in January 2003. Since 1990, Jonathan has been a student of Maya Glezarova, and in 1999 he graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music.

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 B.F.A. Lauren joined MMDG in 1998.

JOHN HEGINBOTHAM is from Anchorage, Alaska, and graduated from the Juilliard School in 1993. He has performed with artists including Susan Marshall and Company, John Jasperse, Ben Munisteri, and as a guest artist with Pilobolus Dance Theater. John's choreography is featured in the performances and "Emerge" music video of recording artists Fischerspooner. He joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1998.

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, Massachusetts, has danced with the Mark Morris Dance Group since 1997. Previously, he worked with José Mateo's Ballet Theatre and the companies of Marcus Schulkind, 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 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 Pavana* 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 the Mark Morris Dance Group in April 2000.

AMBER MERKENS began her dance training with Nancy Mittleman in Newport, Oregon. She received her B.F.A. from the Juilliard School in 1999 and went on to dance with the Limón 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, California. 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 Pulvermacher, Zvi Gotheiner, Gerald Casel, and many others. Maile began working with MMDG in 1998 and became a company member in 2001.

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.

ANDREA SCHULTZ (violin) currently performs and tours with a number of groups including the Cabrini Quartet, New York Chamber Ensemble, Sequitur, Brandenburg Ensemble, and the Orchestra of St. Luke's. She has also appeared with the Apple Hill Chamber Players, Da Capo Chamber Players, Sospeso, Ensemble 21, Eberli Ensemble, Cygnus, Mostly Mozart, and the Limon Dance Company. Ms. Schultz has spent summers performing at the Tanglewood, Aspen, Ravinia, Caramoor, Vermont Mozart, and Cape May Music Festivals, as well as the Pundakit International Chamber Music Festival in the Phillipines. She has recorded for the Phoenix, CRI, and New World labels. A graduate of Yale University, she has also received an M.M. and Artist Diploma from the Cleveland Institute of Music and a D.M.A. from SUNY Stony Brook.

JONAH SPEIDEL (piano) began working in the field of dance as music coordinator for Oklahoma Festival Ballet and has since worked with American Ballet Theatre, Ballet Tech and Dance Theatre Workshop, among others. Recently Mr. Speidel was commissioned by the Balanchine Foundation to preserve Mr. Balanchine's early commercial works on recordings which will be kept on archive at Lincoln Center's Performing Arts Library. As a freelance music director, Jonah has collaborated with LaMaMa E.T.C, NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, as well as The Actor's Studio and its graduate program, The Actor's Studio Drama School.

BRYNN TAYLOR raised in San Diego, California, 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. Brynn joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2002.

JESSICA TROY (viola) has played for the Mark Morris Dance Group since 1998. A native New Yorker, she 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 has been a participant at many chamber music festivals, including Marlboro and Prussia Cove, performing with Felix Galimir, Nobuko Imai, Isidore Cohen, Siegfried Palm, Ida Levin and James Tocco, among others. She has had the opportunity to work with many composers on their own works, including Roger Reynolds, Jacob Druckman, Oliver Knussen and Gyorgy Kurtag; her performance of music by the latter can be heard on a recent Bridge CD celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Marlboro Music Festival. As well as being a member of the Brooklyn Philharmonic, she is an active chamber musician, including performances with Sequitur, the Jupiter Symphony Chamber Players, and the Eberli Ensemble, as well as with the Acacia, Maia, and Meridian String Quartets.

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.

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 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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Technical Director Johan Henckens
Assistant Technical Director A.J. Jackson
Lighting Supervisor Susan Hamburger
Sound Supervisor Perchik Miller
Wardrobe Supervisor Katherine McDowell

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Administrative Assistant Kathleen Cannucci
Facility Manager José Suarez
Facility Maintenance Luis Mandry
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Orthopaedist David S. Weiss, M.D.
(NYU-H)J Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

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support and incalculable contribution to the work.

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