

# Showcase

Kimmel Center Presents

January 2004

Program Notes for  
Kimmel Center Presents  
Performances



**PERELMAN THEATER**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29 –

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

7:30PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

2:30PM

**MOVERS AND SHAKERS**

**MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP**

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

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**MARK MORRIS**

GENERAL DIRECTOR

**BARRY ALTERMAN**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**NANCY UMANOFF**

*\*apprentice*

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The use of cameras and recording equipment is prohibited during performances. As a courtesy to the performers and fellow audience members, please turn off all beepers, watch alarms and cellular phones. Latecomers and those who leave the concert hall during the performance will be seated at appropriate intervals.

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*Choreography by Mark Morris*

**Going Away Party**

(Premiere: April 14, 1990)

*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

Charlton Boyd, Lauren Grant,  
 John Heginbotham, David Leventhal,  
 Gregory Nuber, Maile Okamura, Julie Worden

-pause-

**All Fours**

(Premiere: September 12, 2003)

*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**

Charlton Boyd, Joe Bowie, Rita Donahue,  
 David Leventhal, Amber Merckens, Maile  
 Okamura, Noah Vinson, Michelle Yard

**II. Prestissimo, con sordino**

John Heginbotham, Gregory Nuber

**III. Non troppo lento**

Lauren Grant, John Heginbotham, Gregory  
 Nuber, Julie Worden

**IV. Allegretto pizzicato**

Lauren Grant, Julie Worden

**V. Allegro molto**

Charlton Boyd, Joe Bowie, Rita Donahue,  
 David Leventhal, Amber Merckens, Maile  
 Okamura, Noah Vinson, Michelle Yard

*Commissioned in part by Cal Performances.*

—Intermission—

**Serenade**

(Premiere: March 8, 2003)

*Music:* Lou Harrison (Serenade for Guitar)  
 Round

Air  
 Infinite Canon  
 Usul  
 Sonata

*Costume:* Isaac Mizrahi  
*Lighting:* Michael Chybowski

Oren Fader, *guitar*  
 Stefan Schatz, *percussion*

Mark Morris

*In honor of the divine Mr. Harrison.*

-pause-

**Grand Duo**

(Premiere: February 16, 1993)

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

Prelude  
 Stampede  
 A Round  
 Polka

*Costumes:* Susan Ruddle

*Lighting:* Michael Chybowski

Jonathan Gandelsman, *violin*

Craig Biesecker, Joe Bowie, Charlton  
 Boyd, Rita Donahue, Marjorie Folkman,  
 Lauren Grant, John Heginbotham, David  
 Leventhal, Bradon McDonald, Amber  
 Merckens, Gregory Nuber, Maile Okamura,  
 Julie Worden, Michelle Yard

MetLife Foundation is the official sponsor  
 of the Mark Morris Dance Group’s 2003–  
 2004 national tour. 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; The Gladys Kriebel Delmas  
 Foundation; and the May and Samuel Rudin  
 Family Foundation. The Mark Morris Dance  
 Group’s education and performance activities  
 are supported by Independence Community  
 Foundation. Major support for the Mark  
 Morris Dance Group is provided by Altria  
 Group, Inc. and The Shubert Foundation.

**MARK MORRIS** was born on August 29, 1956 in Seattle, 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 more than 100 works for the company. From 1988 to 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. Morris is also in demand as a ballet choreographer. He has created four works for 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 repertoire 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. 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. Mark 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 United States and in Europe, and in 1986 the company made its first national television program for the PBS series *Dance in America*. In 1988 Mark Morris 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 United States and at major international festivals. It has maintained and strengthened its ties to several cities around the world, most notably Berkeley, Calif., 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 at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, Mass. The company's London seasons have garnered two Laurence Olivier Awards. Mark Morris Dance Group 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 collaborated with the company on a number of projects, including the 1997 Emmy-winning film *Falling Down Stairs*, featuring 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. The company's film and television projects include *Dido and Aeneas*, *The Hard Nut* and two documentaries for the U.K.'s *South*

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*Bank Show.* In 2001 the Mark Morris Dance Center opened in Brooklyn. The 30,000-square-foot facility features three studios and a school for dance students of all ages. This is the company's second engagement at the Kimmel Center; their first appearance was in March 2002.

**CRAIG BIESECKER**, from Waynesboro, Pa., received a B.S. in music education from West Chester University. 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 his first year with the Mark Morris Dance Group.

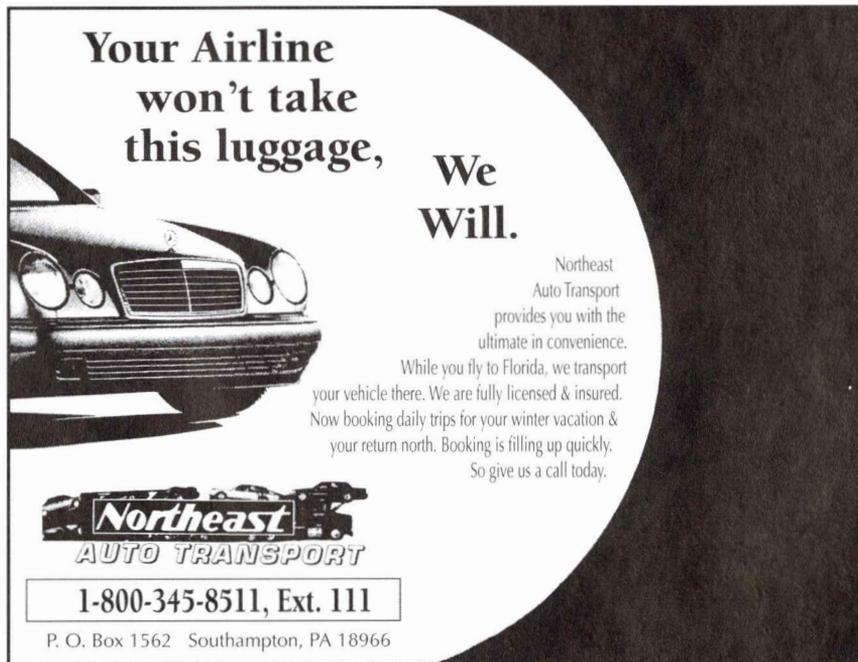
**JOE BOWIE**, born in Lansing, Mich., began dancing while attending Brown University. After graduating with honors in English and American literature, he moved to New York and performed in the works of Robert Wilson and Ulysses Dove. He danced with The Paul Taylor Dance Company for two

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.

**RITA DONAHUE** was born and raised in Fairfax, Va. 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 Kraig Patterson. She began working with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2003.

**OREN FADER** (guitar) is active as a performer of classical guitar repertoire, both traditional and contemporary. He has performed in London, Tokyo, Munich, Amsterdam, Montreal, Maui, Russia, Mexico and throughout the United



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States, and can be heard on more than 20 recordings. Recently completed recording projects include a new recording of an arrangement of “The Rite of Spring” performed with the Fireworks ensemble. Fader’s solo CD was released in the spring of 2003. Since 1994 he has been on the guitar faculty and has directed the Guitar Chamber Music program at the Manhattan School of Music. For more information, please visit [www.orenfader.com](http://www.orenfader.com).

**MARJORIE FOLKMAN** began dancing for Mark Morris in 1996. She graduated summa cum laude from Barnard College and has cherished dancing for many choreographers including Richard Colton, Amy Spencer, Kraig Patterson and Sara Rudner. Among her all-time favorite dances are Mark Morris’ *Dido and Aeneas* and Frederick Ashton’s *The Dream*.

**JONATHAN GANDELSMAN** (violin) recently performed with Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble at the Smithsonian Folk Life Festival in Washington, D.C. He also has 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 Gandelsman, the violist of the Fine Arts Quartet. Gandelsman’s recording of works by Bach and Bartók with Nigel Kennedy was released in January 2003 by EMI. He has been a student of Maya Glezarova since 1990, and in 1999 he graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music.

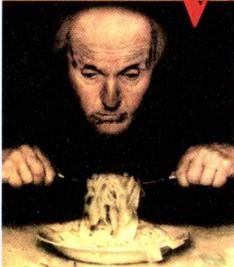
**LAUREN GRANT** was born in Highland Park, Ill., and began dancing at age 3. She continued training, primarily in classical ballet, through high school. At New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts, she received her modern dance training and graduated with a B.F.A. She joined MMDG in 1998.

**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. Recording artists Fischerspooner feature his choreography in their performances and music video for “Emerge.” 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. Based in New York City, 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, Koessel has performed the standard repertoire, as well as the unusual cello concerto, 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. A multi-faceted chamber musician, 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

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music series on New York's City Island. He was 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 2000.

**DAVID LEVENTHAL**, raised in Newton, Mass., has danced with the Mark Morris Dance Group since 1997. He has 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 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. He 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. He joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in April 2000.

**AMBER MERKENS** began her dance training with Nancy Mittleman in Newport, Ore. 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. She 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

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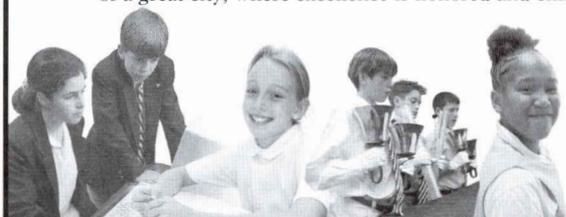
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Sunday, January 11 at 2pm  
Wednesday, February 11 at 7pm  
Wednesday, March 10 at 7pm



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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 many New York-based choreographers. He is a graduate of Arizona State University, where he studied acting and dance.

**MAILE OKAMURA** was born and raised in San Diego. 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. She began working with MMDG in 1998 and became a company member in 2001.

**JUNE OMURA** spent her first six years in New York City, then grew up in Birmingham. She returned to New York to attend Barnard College, graduating in 1986 with honors in dance and English, and has been dancing for Mark Morris since 1988. She is the proud mother of twin girls, born in July, and is indebted for their love and support to her husband, her family and the Mark Morris Dance Group.

**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, he 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 more than 30 different countries on the Crystal Symphony World Cruise. He has studied with Vernel Fournier, Marvin "Bugaloo" Smith, Kenny Washington, Lewis Nash and Bernard Purdie.

**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 also has appeared with the Apple Hill Chamber Players, Da Capo Chamber Players, Sospeso, Ensemble 21, Eberli Ensemble, Cygnus, Mostly

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Mozart and the Limón Dance Company. 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 Philippines. She has recorded for the Phoenix, CRI, and New World labels. A graduate of Yale, she also received an M.M. and Artist Diploma from the Cleveland Institute of Music and a D.M.A. from S.U.N.Y. Stony Brook.

**JESSICA TROY** (viola) has played for the Mark Morris Dance Group since 1998. A New York native, she holds degrees from Amherst, S.U.N.Y. Stony Brook and the Musikhochschule in Germany, where her major teachers were Philipp Naegele, Caroline Levine and Barbara Westphal. She has performed at many chamber music festivals, including Marlboro and Prussia Cove, with Felix Galimir, Nobuko Imai, Isidore Cohen, Siegfried Palm, Ida Levin and James Tocco, among others. She has worked with many composers on their own works, including Roger Reynolds, Oliver Knussen, Jacob Druckman 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. A member of the Brooklyn Philharmonic, she is also an active chamber musician and has performed with Sequitor, the Jupiter Symphony Chamber Players, the Eberli Ensemble, and the Acacia, Maia and Meridian string quartets.

**NOAH VINSON** received his B.A. in dance from Columbia College Chicago where he worked with Shirley Mordine, Jan Erkert and Brian Jeffrey. In New York he has danced with Teri and Oliver Steele and the Kevin Wynn Collection. He has danced with MMDG in *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* and *The Hard Nut*, and became an apprentice in 2003.

**JULIE WORDEN**, from Naples, Fla., 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. She began her professional dance training at the New York City High School of the Performing Arts. Upon graduation she received the Helen

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Tamiris and B'nai B'rith 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 and graduated with a B.F.A. She began dancing with Mark Morris in 1997.

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