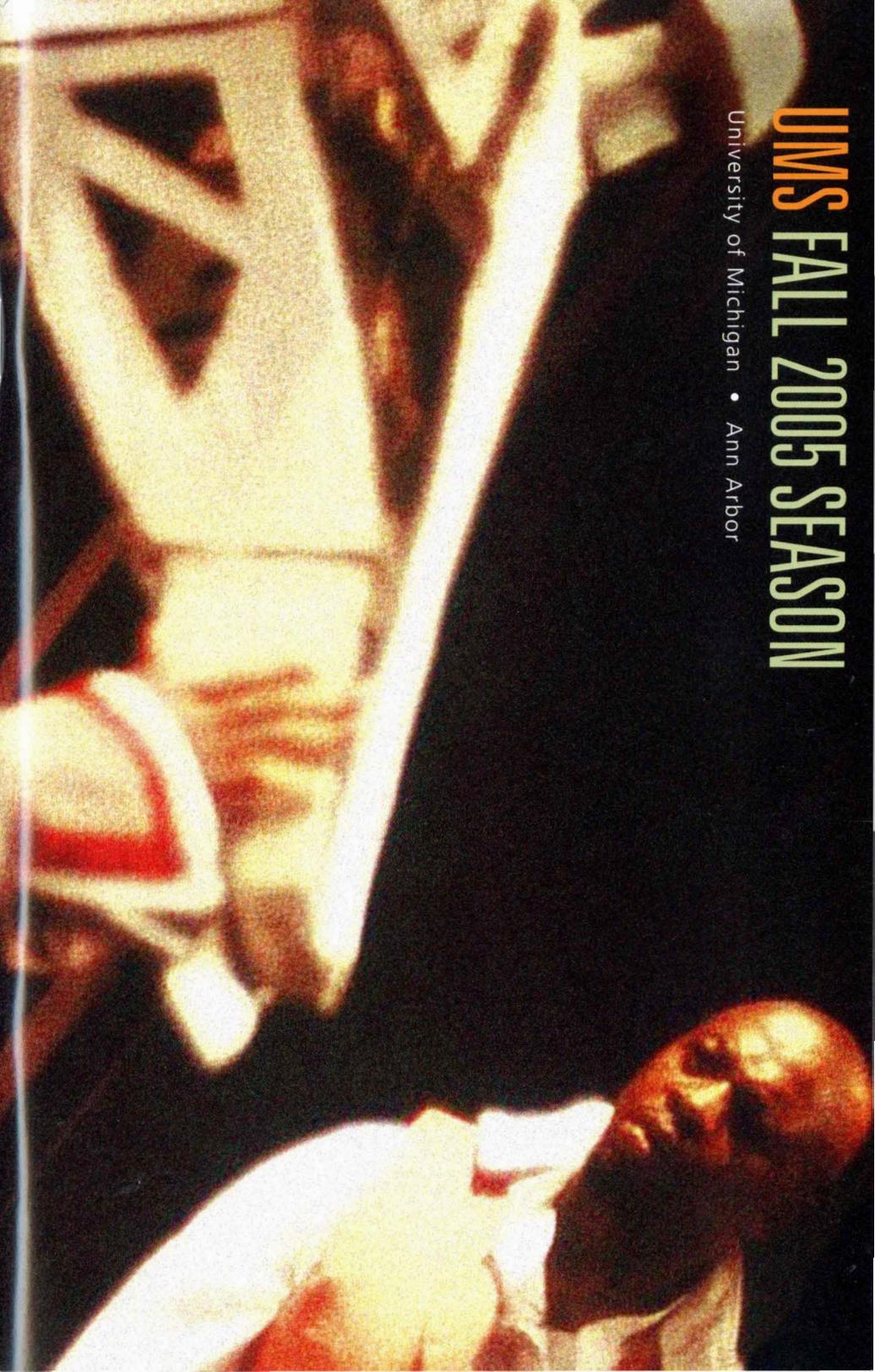


JMS FALL 2005 SEASON

University of Michigan • Ann Arbor



Mark Morris Dance Group

Dancers

Craig Biesecker Joe Bowie Charlton Boyd
 Amber Darragh Rita Donahue Lorena Egan* Marjorie Folkman
 Lauren Grant John Heginbotham David Leventhal Bradon McDonald
 Gregory Nuber Maile Okamura June Omura
 Noah Vinson Julie Worden Michelle Yard *apprentice

Artistic Director Mark Morris

Executive Director Nancy Umanoff

MMDG Music Ensemble

Program

Saturday Evening, September 17, 2005 at 8:00
 Power Center, Ann Arbor

The "Tamil Film Songs in Stereo" Pas de Deux (1983)

Pause

Mosaic and United (1993)

Intermission

Rock of Ages (2004)

Pause

V (2001)

Second Performance of
 the 127th Annual Season

15th Annual
 Dance Series

*The photographing or
 sound recording of this
 performance or posses-
 sion of any device for
 such photographing or
 sound recording is pro-
 hibited.*

Special thanks to Arts at Michigan for their generous support of the Mark Morris Dance Company Residency.

Media partnership for this performance provided by WDET 101.9 FM, Michigan Radio/Michigan Television, and Metro Times.

The Steinway piano used in this evening's performance is made possible by Hammell Music, Inc., Livonia, Michigan.

Altria Group, Inc. is the Premiere Sponsor of the Mark Morris Dance Group's 25th Anniversary Season.

MetLife Foundation is the official sponsor of the Mark Morris Dance Group's 25th Anniversary National Tour.

Major support for the Mark Morris Dance Group is provided by Carnegie Corporation of New York, MetLife Foundation, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, and Target.

The Mark Morris Dance Group New Works Fund is supported by The Howard Gilman Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and The Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation.

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

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.

Large print programs are available upon request.

The "Tamil Film Songs In Stereo" Pas De Deux

Choreography

Mark Morris

Music

Contemporary Indian

Lighting

Phil Sandstrom

Marjorie Folkman, Gregory Nuber

Première: December 15, 1983 — Bessie Schönberg Theater, Dance Theater Workshop, New York, NY

Mosaic And United

Choreography

Mark Morris

Music

Henry Cowell, *String Quartet No. 3*, "Mosaic," I-II-III-IV-V-III-I (1935)
and *String Quartet No. 4*, "United," I-II-III-IV-V (1936)

Costumes

Isaac Mizrahi

Lighting

Michael Chybowski

Jennifer Curtis, *Violin*

Marc Rovetti, *Violin*

Jessica Troy, *Viola*

Wolfram Koessel, *Cello*

**Joe Bowie, Lauren Grant, David Leventhal,
Craig Biesecker, June Omura**

Première: April 29, 1993 — Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY

String Quartet No. 3, (Mosaic Quartet) by Henry Cowell used by arrangement with Associated Music Publishers, Inc., publisher and copyright owner.

String Quartet No. 4 (United Quartet) by Henry Cowell used by arrangement with the publisher and copyright holder, C.F. Peters Corporation.

Photo: Stephanie Berger



Rock of Ages

Choreography

Mark Morris

Music

Franz Schubert, *Piano Trio in E-flat, D 897* (1828)

Adagio

Costumes

Katherine McDowell

Lighting

Nicole Pearce

Marc Rovetti, *Violin*

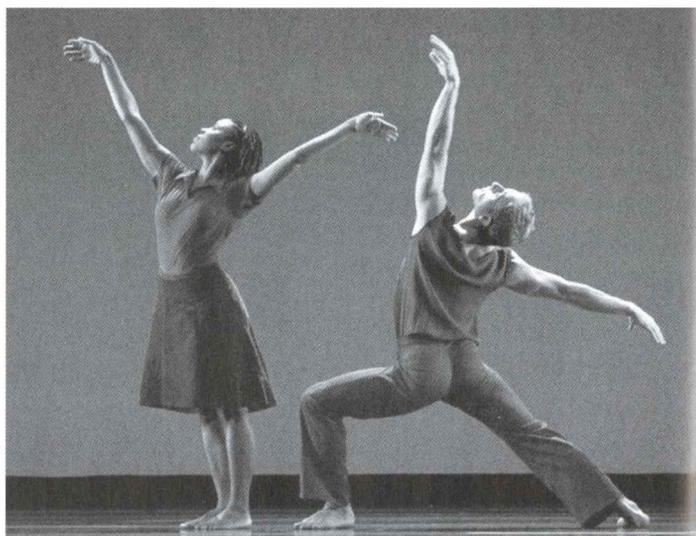
Wolfram Koessel, *Cello*

Steven Beck, *Piano*

Craig Biesecker, Joe Bowie, Rita Donahue, Julie Worden

Commissioned in part by Cal Performances, Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, California

Première: October 28, 2004 — Cal Performances, Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, California



V*Choreography*

Mark Morris

Music

Robert Schumann, *Quintet in E-flat for Piano and Strings*, Op. 44 (1842)

Allegro brillante

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

Scherzo molto vivace

Allegro, ma non troppo

Costumes

Martin Pakledinaz

Lighting

Michael Chybowski

Marc Rovetti, *Violin*

Jennifer Curtis, *Violin*

Jessica Troy, *Viola*

Wolfram Koessel, *Cello*

Steven Beck, *Piano*

Craig Biesecker, Joe Bowie, Charlton Boyd,
Amber Darragh, Marjorie Folkman, Lauren Grant,
John Heginbotham, David Leventhal,
Gregory Nuber, Maile Okamura, June Omura, Julie Worden,
Noah Vinson, Michelle Yard

Dedicated to the City of New York.

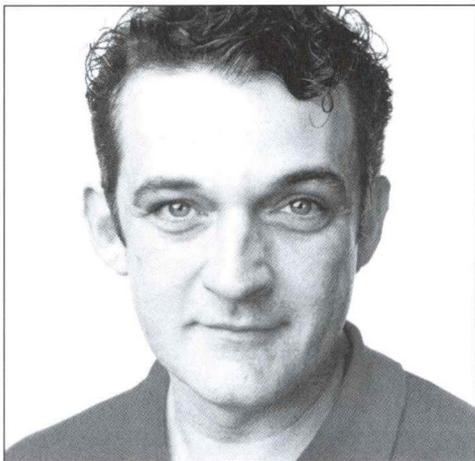
Première: October 16, 2001 — Dance Umbrella, Sadler's Wells, London, England

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. Between 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 five 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 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, Bowdoin College, and George Mason University. 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 (MMDG), now celebrating its 25th anniversary, 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 US 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 US 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 appears regularly in Boston, MA; Fairfax, VA; Seattle, WA; Urbana, IL; and at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, MA. MMDG made its debut at the Mostly Mozart Festival in 2002 and at the Tanglewood Music Festival in 2003 and has since returned to both festivals annually. 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* and the 2002 dance *Kolam*, created for The Silk Road Project in collaboration with Indian composer

Mark Morris



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 UK's *South Bank Show*. In fall 2001, the Dance Group opened the Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn, New York, the company's first permanent headquarters in the US, housing rehearsal space for the dance community, outreach programs for local children, as well as a school offering dance classes to students of all ages.

MMDG Music Ensemble was formed in 1996 and since that time has joined the Mark Morris Dance Group on tour throughout the US, UK, Australia, and Japan. The Ensemble's repertory ranges from 17th-century works by John Wilson and Henry Purcell to more recent scores by Lou Harrison and Henry Cowell. In addition, the Ensemble presents concerts at the Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn and other venues, and participates in the Mark Morris Dance, Music, and Literacy program in the New York City public school system. The Ensemble is under the direction of Wolfram Koessel.

Steven Beck (*Piano*) was born in 1978 and is a graduate of The Juilliard School, where his teachers were Seymour Lipkin and Peter Serkin. He made his debut with the National Symphony Orchestra and toured Japan as soloist with the New York Symphonic Ensemble. Other orchestras with which he has appeared include the New Juilliard Ensemble (under David Robertson), Sequitur, and the Virginia Symphony. Mr. Beck has performed as soloist and chamber musician at the Kennedy Center, Alice Tully Hall, Merkin Hall, Miller Theater, Steinway Hall, and Tonic, as well as on WNYC; summer appearances include the Aspen Music Festival, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, and the Woodstock Mozart Festival. He is an Artist Presenter and frequent performer at Bargemusic. He has worked with Elliott Carter, Henri Dutilleux, and George Perle, and has appeared with ensembles such as Speculum Musicae, Sospeso, Friends and Enemies of New Music, and Counterinduction, and is also a member of the notorious Knights of the Many-Sided Table. His recordings are on the Albany, Monument, and Annemarie Classics labels. He has played with the MMDG Music Ensemble since 2004.

UMS ARCHIVES

It comes as a great surprise for many UMS patrons to learn that UMS presentations of dance first appeared on the radar as recently as 1961. The 1961/62 season included visits to Ann Arbor by American Ballet Theater, Mazowse (from Poland), the Bayanihan Philippine Dance Company, and a Ukranian Dance Company from Kiev...all in Hill Auditorium!

Since that time, modern, contemporary, classical, and world dance have been an integral part of all UMS seasons. UMS strives to serve the larger Michigan community of dance lovers by making sure that what is happening in the international world of dance comes to Michigan.

MMDG is an important part of our recent history. The company first appeared in Ann Arbor in March of 1993 with two repertory programs in the Power Center, followed three seasons later with performances of Mr. Morris's masterful staging of Pucell's opera *Dido and Aeneas* in the Michigan Theater. Subsequent Power Center performances have included Brahms's *Liebeslieder Waltzes* in October 1996 (*New Love Song Waltzes* and *Love Song Waltzes*) and repertory programs in April 2001.

This weekend's performances mark the Mark Morris Dance Group's ninth and 10th appearances under UMS auspices.

Craig Biesecker, from Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, received a BS 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. Craig joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2003.

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.

Jennifer Curtis (*Violin*) a recent graduate of The Juilliard School, gives her New York debut at Carnegie Hall's Weil Recital Hall in May 2006. Jennifer recently performed Dutilleux's violin concerto *l'Arbre des Songes*, in Alice Tully Hall with the Juilliard Orchestra. Last fall the *New York Times* recognized Jennifer's "fine solos" from her performance as concertmaster of the Juilliard Orchestra for Mahler's *Symphony No. 9* in Avery Fisher Hall. Jennifer is also a composer whose music has been performed throughout the US, Central America, and Europe. Her recent endeavor, Tres Americas Project, began with a tour in Panama, where Jennifer performed several of her own works for violin, mandolin, guitar, and vocals. In the 00/01

season Jennifer was the percussionist for Strong Current Dance Company in San Francisco, California. This is Jennifer's first season with the MMDG Music Ensemble.

Amber Darragh 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 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 2001.

Rita Donahue was born and raised in Fairfax, Virginia. She graduated with honors with a BFA in dance and a BA in English from George Mason University in 2002 and joined bopi's black sheep, dances by Kraig Patterson. Rita began working with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2003.

Lorena Egan began her training at the Phoenix School of Ballet in Arizona. She received her BFA from The Juilliard School in 1998. Lorena joined the Pascal Rioult Dance Theater in 1999 and was an integral part of the company for five years before joining MMDG as an apprentice in February 2005. She is very excited and honored to be working with MMDG.

Marjorie Folkman began dancing for Mark Morris in 1996. She graduated *summa cum laude* from Barnard College and has attended Columbia University's Graduate Program in American Studies. She has also danced with Amy Spencer and Richard Colton, Kraig Patterson, Neta Pulvermacher, Sally Hess, Ellen Cornfield, the Repertory Understudy Group for the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, and Sara Rudner.

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 is from Anchorage, Alaska, and graduated from The Juilliard School in 1993. He has performed with 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, and since then has performed as soloist and chamber musician in concert halls throughout the world. 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 with the MMDG Music Ensemble since 2000 and was named its Music Director in 2004.

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 BFA from The Juilliard School in 1997. He danced with the Limón Dance Company for three years and was the recipient of the 1998 Princess Grace Award. He has choreographed and presented his own works internationally, served as choreographer for seven Juilliard Opera Company productions under director Frank Corsaro, and was the choreographic assistant to Donald McKayle at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Bradon joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2000.

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, and Gerald Casel. 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 moved to Birmingham, Alabama. 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 2003, and is indebted to her husband, her family, and MMDG for their love and support.

Marc Rovetti (*Violin*) recently appeared with the Sacramento Philharmonic in addition to performing at the Kennedy Center and the Terri Cultural Institute at New York University. Mr. Rovetti is a member of the International Contemporary Ensemble and the Rothko String Quartet, and the winner of the Third Prize of the Fiscoff National Chamber Music Competition of 2004. He has attended the Tanglewood Music Center for the past four summers, most recently as a member of the New Fromm Players, the resident contemporary ensemble. Mr. Rovetti's 2003 performance of Augusta Read Thomas' violin concerto *Spirit Musings* was included on a CD celebrating the 10th anniversary of Seiji Ozawa Hall. Marc Rovetti recently completed an Advanced Certificate from NYU as a student of Pamela Frank and as a recipient of the Alberto Vilar Global Fellowship in the Performing Arts. Mr. Rovetti has also attended The Juilliard School where he received both his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees as a student of Ronald Copes while receiving chamber music coaching from the Juilliard String Quartet. At Juilliard, Mr. Rovetti served as concertmaster of the Juilliard Orchestra numerous times under Sir Roger Norrington, David Atherton, and Julius Rudel. This is his first season performing with MMDG as a member of the MMDG Music Ensemble.

Jessica Troy (*Viola*) has played for MMDG 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. She has had the opportunity to work

with many composers on their own works, including Roger Reynolds, Jacob Druckman, Oliver Knussen, and Gyorgy Kurtág; 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, performing with Sequitor, the Jupiter Symphony Chamber Players, and the Eberli Ensemble, as well as with the Acacia, Maia, and Meridian String Quartets.

Noah Vinson received his BA 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 been working with MMDG since 2002 and became a company member in 2004.

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 BFA. Michelle began dancing with MMDG in 1997. Mom, thank you.

Mark Morris Dance Group Staff**Production**

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 Matthew Eggleton, *Production Manager*
 Wolfram Koessel, *Music Director*
 Nicole Pearce, *Lighting Supervisor*
 Katherine McDowell, *Wardrobe Supervisor*
 Jim Abdou, *Sound Supervisor*

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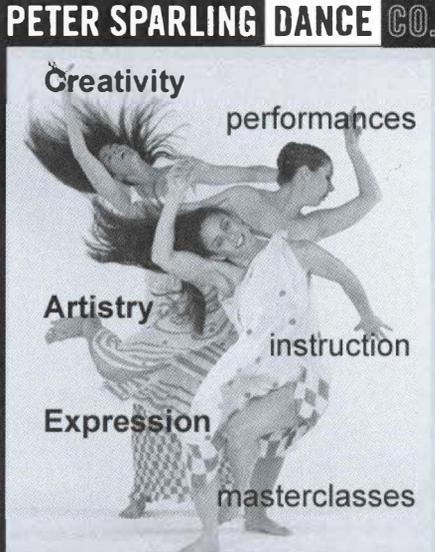
Thanks to Maxine Morris.

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

For further information on MMDG please contact:
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