

dance



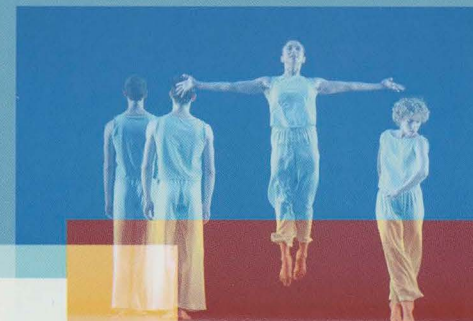
umbrella

on tour

In association with
The Dance Consortium

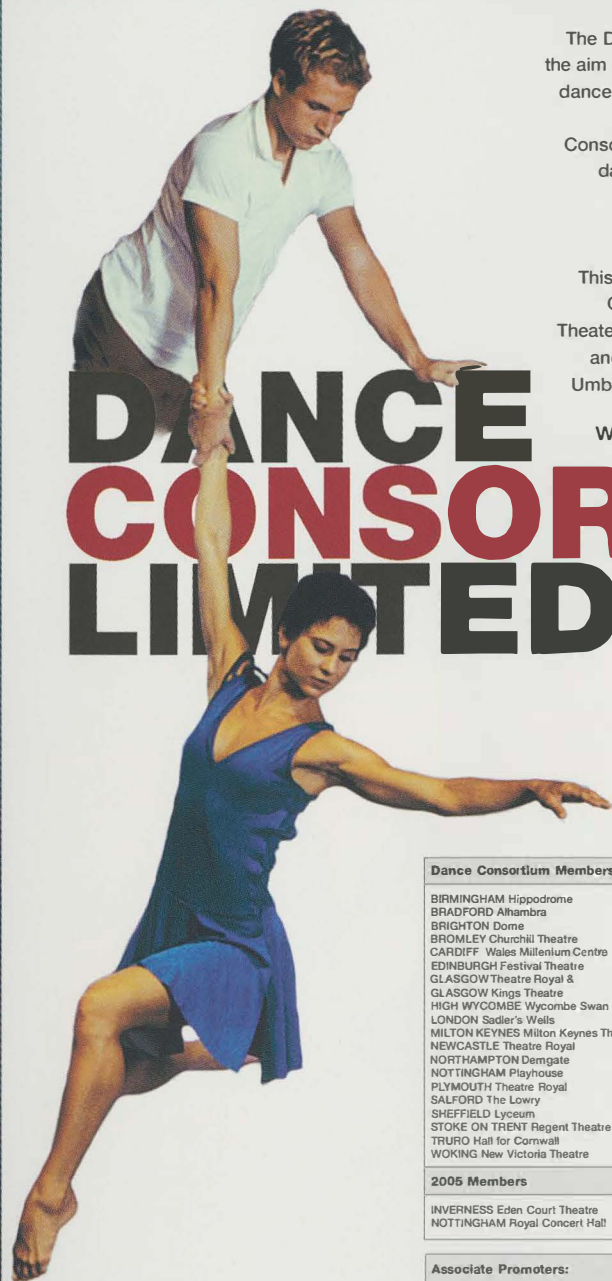
presents

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP



THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR

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DANCE CONSORTIUM LIMITED

The Dance Consortium was formed in 2000 with the aim of enriching the presentation of high quality dance in the UK by presenting regular tours from international companies. A core aim of the Consortium is the development of audiences for dance in the UK, demystifying dance to new attenders and promoting the art form as a source of enjoyment and entertainment.

This year the Consortium has presented Grupo Corpo, Compagnie Kafig, Nederlands Dans Theater 2 and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and is delighted to be associated with Dance Umbrella's Mark Morris Dance Group's UK tour.

www.WorldWideDanceUK.com

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PHOTO: COMPANHIA DE DANÇABORAH COLVER

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY UK TOUR

THEATRE ROYAL, NEWCASTLE

0870 905 5060

Mon 10 & Tue 11 October, 7.30pm

From Old Seville, Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight, Candleflowerdance, The "Tamil Film Songs in Stereo" Pas de Deux, Grand Duo

WALES MILLENNIUM CENTRE, CARDIFF

0870 040 2000

Fri 14 October, 7.30pm and Sat 15 October, 1.30pm & 7.30pm

Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight, All Fours, From Old Seville, Grand Duo

SADLER'S WELLS, LONDON

0870 737 7737

Tue 18, Thu 20 & Sat 22 October, 7.30pm

Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight, All Fours,

The "Tamil Film Songs in Stereo" Pas de Deux, Grand Duo

Wed 19 & Fri 21 October, 7.30pm and Sat 22 October 2.30pm

From Old Seville, Mosaic & United, Candleflowerdance, V

BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME

0870 730 1234

Tue 25 & Wed 26 October, 7.30pm

Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight, All Fours, Candleflowerdance, Grand Duo

THE LOWRY, SALFORD

0870 787 5790

Fri 28 & Sat 29 October, 7.30pm

Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight, All Fours, Candleflowerdance, V

THEATRE ROYAL, GLASGOW

0141 240 1133

Tue 1 & Wed 2 November, 7.30pm

Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight, All Fours,

The "Tamil Film Songs in Stereo" Pas de Deux, Grand Duo

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL THEATRE

0131 529 6000

Fri 4 & Sat 5 November, 7.30pm

Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight, All Fours,

From Old Seville, Grand Duo

SNAPE MALTINGS CONCERT HALL, NR. ALDEBURGH

01728 687110

Fri 11 & Sat 12 November, 7.30pm and Sun 13 November, 4pm

Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight, All Fours, Candleflowerdance, V

WYCOMBE SWAN, HIGH WYCOMBE

01494 512000

Tue 15 & Wed 16 November, 7.30pm

Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight, All Fours, Candleflowerdance, Grand Duo

NEW VICTORIA THEATRE, WOKING

01483 545900 (bkg fee)

Fri 18 & Sat 19 November, 7.30pm

Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight, All Fours, Candleflowerdance, Grand Duo

The Dance Consortium would like to acknowledge and thank the support it receives from:





MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

25TH ANNIVERSARY UK TOUR Autumn 2005

Artistic Director
MARK MORRIS
Executive Director
NANCY UMANOFF

DANCERS

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

MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE

John Kelly Andersen
Steven Beck
Jesse Blumberg
Margaret Bragle
Eileen Clark
Gregory Davidson
Yosuke Kawasaki
Wolfram Koessel
Alexandra Mackenzie
Jesse Mills
Jessica Troy

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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.

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The Sunday Times

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MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP (USA)

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HERMAN DIEPHUIS (FRANCE)

The Place • Sat 22 & Mon 24 Oct

COMPAGNIE MAGUY MARIN (FRANCE)

South Bank Centre: Queen Elizabeth Hall • Sat 22 & Sun 23 Oct

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LA RIBOT (UK)

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The Place • Sat 5 & Sun 6 Nov

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The Place • Sat 5 & Sun 6 Nov

TOM RODEN & PETE SHENTON / NEW ART CLUB (UK)

The Place • Tue 8 Nov

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WRITER DONALD HUTERA CAUGHT UP WITH MARK MORRIS FOR A QUICK CHAT BEFORE THE COMPANY EMBARKED ON ITS BUSY 25TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR.

'Fabulous!' The exclamatory adjective falls frequently from choreographer Mark Morris' lips. It isn't just empty excess. The truth is, a streak of genuine fabulousness runs through this renowned and prolific American choreographer's life and work. It's there in the dances he makes, the people who dance them and the music to which they dance. It's also very much present in the place where the dances get made.

The Mark Morris Dance Center enjoys a prime location just over the river from Manhattan and across the street from the monumental Brooklyn Academy of Music. Since opening its doors in 2001, the Dance Center has become a major cultural resource for Brooklyn and scores of dance companies and solo artists. In addition to being home base for the Mark Morris Dance Group, it houses a school for children and adults, offers rehearsal space to dance professionals at deeply subsidised rates and serves as a meeting place for community groups.

'I'm going to work here for the rest of my life,' Lauren Cherubini, MMDG's Director of Development, spontaneously remarked as she escorted me around the facilities

last May. No wonder. Distributed across five storeys, the Dance Center is bright, handsome, spacious and fully-equipped. The Dance Group has its own audio-visual and wardrobe departments, an archive room and a well-planned communal dressing room. The crowning glory amongst the building's three studios (with two more on a wish-list) is the 60' by 60' space at the top. Dubbed the James and Martha Duffy Performance Space, it converts into a 140-seat theatre complete with a full lighting plot.

With red and green as predominant colours, Morris' office is a sight unto itself. A bath tub is situated just off the centre of the room. The walls and shelves are adrip with delicious items, from exotic masks to toys (including a robot kitty) to bric-a-brac (snow globes, sports trophies). Here are hung honorary degrees, while there atop the TV sits a false arm. 'It's very Frida Kahlo,' I blurt out. 'No,' Cherubini gently corrects. 'It's so Mark. He's not derivative of anybody.'

The Mark Morris Dance Center is an altogether distinctive and inspiring place. Naturally, the man it's named after agrees. 'It's nice,' he says, speaking mid-summer by phone from his wacky yet, somehow, tasteful inner sanctum. 'It's where we work every day.' Morris' tone is, initially, uncharacteristically laid-back. But ask about the repertory he's bringing to the UK on a six-week, Dance Umbrella-presented tour (which is also part of his company's 25th anniversary) and the superlatives, as they should, spring up like daisies.

Of *Mosaic & United*, dating from 1993, Morris enthuses, 'It's so beautiful!' He is, as his wont, probably referring at least initially to the music. Danced to a couple of string quartets by American composer Henry Cowell,

the piece was originally choreographed for both the MMDG and Mikhail Baryshnikov's White Oak Dance Project. Morris' biographer, Joan Acocella, has written about this dance's atmosphere as being 'wholly new to his work: eerie and deluxe, like a spider's web strung across a void.'

About *All Fours*, made a decade later, Morris offers, 'It's such an unbelievably genius piece of music, and hard to learn.' The music is Béla Bartók's 4th String Quartet. Morris has carried its densely buzzy, intricate sounds around with him for decades; he even choreographed one movement of it in his very first New York show a quarter-century ago. The physical movement he later devised to go with the full score is nuanced and complex, with an allegorical undertow.

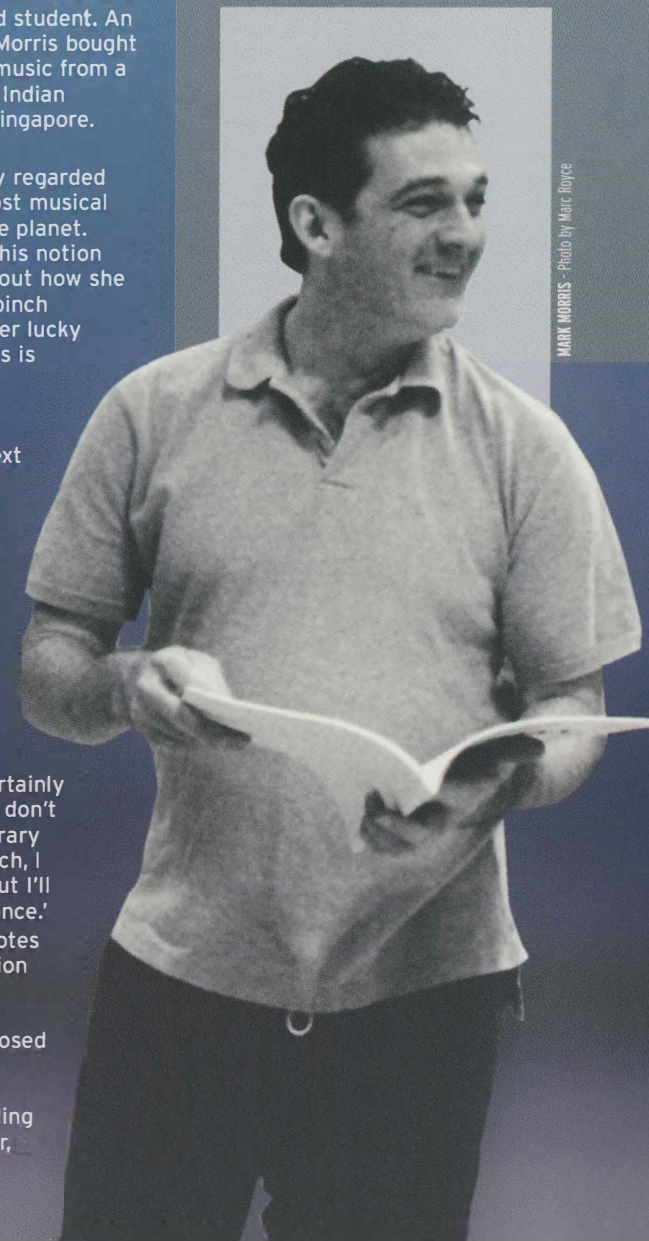
Candleflowerdance, a 2005 commission from the University of California at Berkeley, also excites Morris. 'It's only my second Stravinsky dance. It's gorgeous!' The music is Stravinsky's *Serenade in A*, for piano. 'It was commissioned by a record company in the '20s. Each movement is three minutes long, so it could fit on one side of a 78rpm record.' The dance itself Morris characterises as 'friendly, beautiful, neo-classical.'

The other British-bound dances on his company's mixed bills run a gamut from 2001's Olivier-winning *V*, a pensive yet exultant marvel set to Robert Schumann's Quintet in E-Flat for Piano and Strings, and *Grand Duo*, a 1993 tour-de-force of mystical, primal vigour cued to Lou Harrison's score for violin and piano. The musical source of *Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight*, made two years later, is songs written during America's Civil War era by Stephen Foster. Morris melts away their associations with slavery and minstrel shows. What emerges, he says, is a dance that is emotionally

'very direct, and all about love, sleep, death and romance.' Morris himself performs in *From Old Seville*, a very funny nightclub scene set to Spanish music. Made in 2001, he dubs it a 'piece d'occasion' originally fashioned 'for the tiniest stage in the world.' The oldest dance is 1983's *The "Tamil Film Songs in Stereo" Pas de Deux*, a comic drama about a tyrannical dance teacher and his beleaguered student. An amusing footnote: Morris bought the cassette of its music from a street vendor in an Indian neighbourhood in Singapore.

Morris is commonly regarded as probably the most musical dance-maker on the planet. Cherubini echoed this notion when she spoke about how she sometimes has to pinch herself regarding her lucky work situation. 'This is the Mozart of our time,' she quipped, 'and he's eating a salami sandwich next to me!' Since 1996 his company has only danced to live music. Impressively, that amounts to an unparalleled 700-plus performances. Is Morris voracious in his aural appetites? 'I guess so,' he replies. 'I certainly have preferences. I don't invest in contemporary pop music very much, I can tell you that. But I'll listen to anything once.' Looking over the notes from my conversation with him, I find I've scribbled this: 'Everything is supposed to be brilliant. Few things are.' Morris might've been alluding to the Dance Center,

the Dance Group or its repertory. It doesn't really matter because, as audiences across the country will discover, with him and all aspects of his work, brilliance is just about guaranteed.



MARK MORRIS - Photo by Marc Royce

All works choreographed by Mark Morris

ALL FOURS

Music: **Béla Bartók - String Quartet No. 4 (1928)**
Costumes: **Martin Pakledinaz**
Lighting: **Nicole Pearce**

Yosuke Kawasaki, violin (Cardiff, London, Birmingham); Jesse Mills, violin (Salford, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Snape Maltings, High Wycombe, Woking); John Kelly Andersen, violin; Jessica Troy, viola; Wolfram Koessel, cello (Cardiff, London, Birmingham; Salford, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Snape Maltings); Alexandra Mackenzie, cello (High Wycombe, Woking)

I. ALLEGRO

Joe Bowie, Amber Darragh, Rita Donahue, Lorena Egan (all except Cardiff, London), John Heginbotham, David Leventhal, Maile Okamura, June Omura (Cardiff, London), Noah Vinson

II. PRESTISSIMO, CON SORDINO

Craig Biesecker, Bradon McDonald

III. NON TROPPO LENTO

Craig Biesecker, Marjorie Folkman, Bradon McDonald, Julie Worden (Cardiff, London, Edinburgh, Snape Maltings)
Craig Biesecker, Lauren Grant, Bradon McDonald, Michelle Yard (Birmingham, Salford, Glasgow, High Wycombe, Woking)

IV. ALLEGRETTO PIZZICATO

Marjorie Folkman, Julie Worden (Cardiff, London, Edinburgh, Snape Maltings)
Lauren Grant, Michelle Yard (Birmingham, Salford, Glasgow, High Wycombe, Woking)

V. ALLEGRO MOLTO

Joe Bowie, Amber Darragh, Rita Donahue, Lorena Egan (all except Cardiff, London), John Heginbotham, David Leventhal, Maile Okamura, June Omura (Cardiff, London), Noah Vinson

Commissioned in part by Cal Performances.

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

String Quartet No 4 is performed by arrangement with Universal Edition (London) Ltd

CANDLEFLOWERDANCE

Music: **Igor Stravinsky - Serenade In A (1925)**
Costumes: **Katherine McDowell**
Lighting: **Nicole Pearce**

Steven Beck, piano

Craig Biesecker, Charlton Boyd, Rita Donahue, Lauren Grant, Bradon McDonald, Julie Worden

Commissioned in part by Cal Performances.

Premiere: September 22, 2005 - Cal Performances, Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, California

Serenade in A is performed by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers Limited.



FROM OLD SEVILLE

Music: **Manuel Requiebro - *A Esa Mujer***
Lighting: **Nicole Pearce**

Lauren Grant, John Heginbotham, Mark Morris

Premiere: January 20, 2001 - Martha @ Town Hall, New York, New York



GRAND DUO

Music: **Lou Harrison - *Grand Duo for Violin and Piano* (1988)**
Prelude
Stampede
A Round
Polka

Costumes: **Susan Ruddle**
Lighting: **Michael Chybowski**

Yosuke Kawasaki, violin (Newcastle, Cardiff, London, Birmingham);
Jesse Mills, violin (Glasgow, Edinburgh, High Wycombe, Woking); Steven Beck, piano

Craig Biesecker, Joe Bowie, Charlton Boyd, Amber Darragh,
Rita Donahue (all except Cardiff, London), Marjorie Folkman,
Lauren Grant, John Heginbotham, David Leventhal,
Bradon McDonald, Gregory Nuber, Maile Okamura,
June Omura (Cardiff, London), Julie Worden, Michelle Yard

Premiere: February 16, 1993 - Fine Arts Center, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

MOSAIC & UNITED

Music: Henry Cowell-
String Quartet No 3, Mosaic, I-II-III-IV-V-III-I (1935)
String Quartet No 4, United, I-II-III-IV-V (1936)

Costumes: Isaac Mizrahi
Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Yosuke Kawasaki, violin; John Kelly Andersen, violin; Jessica Troy, viola;
Wolfram Koessel, cello

Joe Bowie, Lauren Grant, David Leventhal, Bradon McDonald, June Omura

Premiere: April 29, 1993 - Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY

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String Quartet No. 4 (United Quartet) licensed by arrangement with Peters Edition
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SOMEBODY'S COMING TO SEE ME TONIGHT

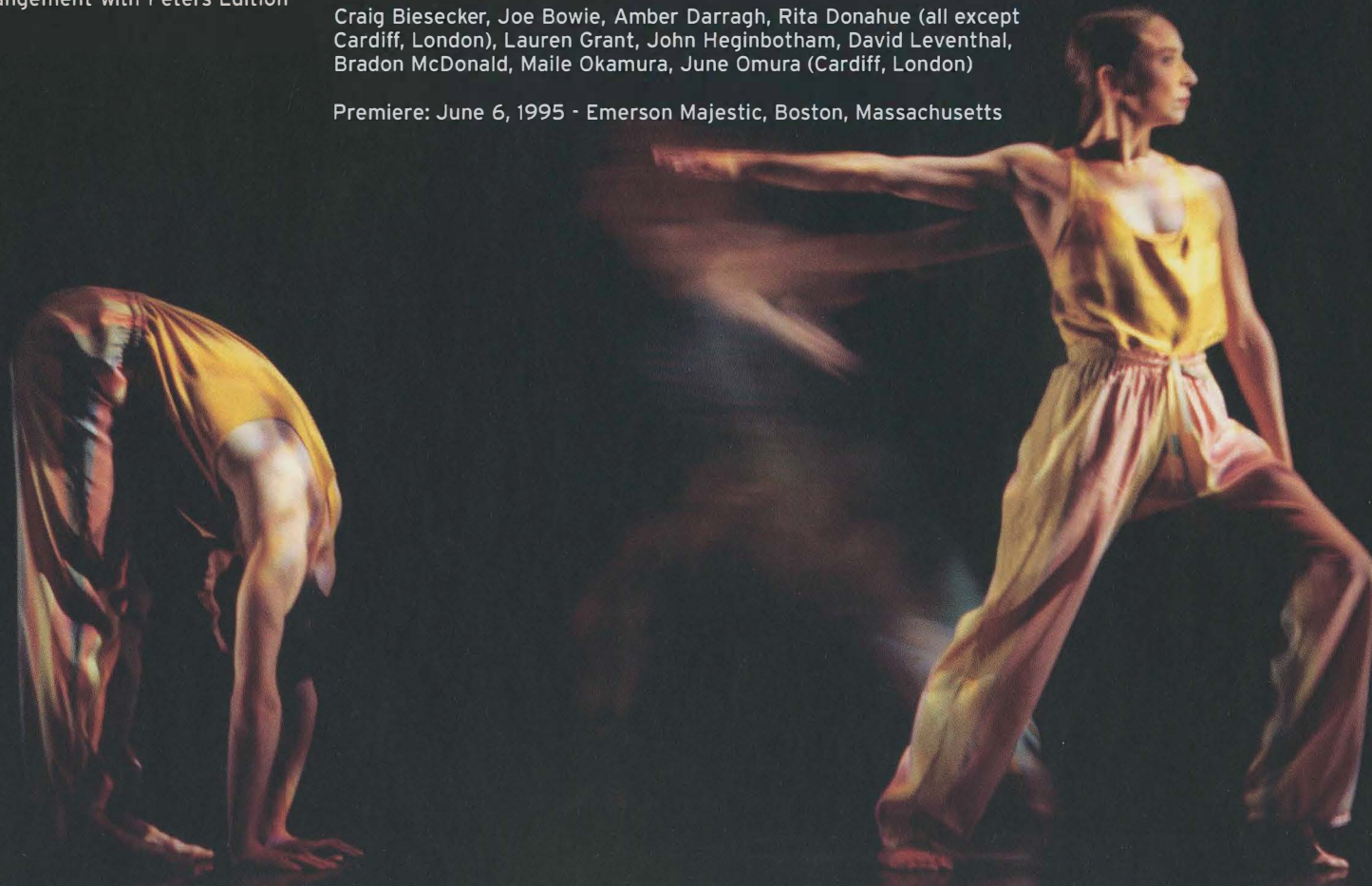
Music: Stephen Foster -
The Hour for Thee and Me, Beautiful Dreamer, Gentle Annie, Soirée Polka,
Somebody's Coming To See Me Tonight, Linger In Blissful Repose,
Wilt Thou Be Gone, Love?, Katy Bell, Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming (1850-1864)

Costumes: Susan Ruddle
Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Eileen Clark, soprano; Jesse Blumberg, baritone; Margaret Bragle, alto; Gregory Davidson, tenor; Yosuke Kawasaki,
violin (Newcastle, Cardiff, London, Birmingham); Jesse Mills, violin (Salford, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Snape Maltings,
High Wycombe, Woking); John Kelly Andersen, violin; Wolfram Koessel, cello; (Newcastle, Cardiff, London,
Birmingham, Salford, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Snape Maltings); Alexandra Mackenzie, cello (High Wycombe, Woking);
Steven Beck, piano

Craig Biesecker, Joe Bowie, Amber Darragh, Rita Donahue (all except
Cardiff, London), Lauren Grant, John Heginbotham, David Leventhal,
Bradon McDonald, Maile Okamura, June Omura (Cardiff, London)

Premiere: June 6, 1995 - Emerson Majestic, Boston, Massachusetts



V

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

Yosuke Kawasaki, violin (London); Jesse Mills, violin (Salford, Snape Maltings); John Kelly Anderson, violin; Jessica Troy, viola; Wolfram Koessel, cello; Steven Beck, piano

Craig Biesecker, Joe Bowie, Charlton Boyd, Amber Darragh, Rita Donahue (Salford, Snape Maltings), Marjorie Folkman, Lauren Grant, John Heginbotham, David Leventhal, Bradon McDonald, Gregory Nuber, Maile Okamura, June Omura (London), Julie Worden, Michelle Yard

Dedicated to the City of New York.
 Premiere: October 16, 2001 - Dance Umbrella, Sadler's Wells, London, England

THE "TAMIL FILM SONGS IN STEREO" PAS DE DEUX

Music: Contemporary Indian
 Lighting: Phil Sandstrom

Marjorie Folkman, Gregory Nuber (Newcastle, London - October 18 & 22)
 Gregory Nuber, Maile Okamura (London - October 20)
 Charlton Boyd, Maile Okamura (Glasgow)

Premiere: December 15, 1983 - Bessie Schönberg Theater, Dance Theater Workshop, New York, NY





1980 Mark Morris gets together some friends and colleagues, calls them the Mark Morris Dance Group, and puts on a show at the Merce Cunningham Studio in New York City.

1984 Presented by Dance Umbrella, the Mark Morris Dance Group makes its London debut at The Place. MMDG presents its first of twenty seasons at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

1985 MMDG appears in Paris at the American Center, returns to the U.K. for performances in London and Alsager, and debuts at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC.

1986 The Dance Group makes its debut in Vienna and performs at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival for the first time (2005 marked the company's eighteenth Jacob's Pillow season). The company makes its first television special for PBS's "Great Performances—Dance in America"

1987 Mr. Morris choreographs John Adams's *Nixon in China* (which can be seen at the English National Opera along with the world premiere of Purcell's *King Arthur in June 2006*).

1988 The Mark Morris Dance Group moves to Brussels for three years to become the official dance company of the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, the national opera house of Belgium.

1990 Mark Morris founds the White Oak Dance Project with Mikhail Baryshnikov. *The Hidden Soul of Harmony*, a documentary focusing on MMDG's Belgium years, is broadcast on London Weekend Television's "South Bank Show."

1991 *The Hard Nut*, Morris's version of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*, premieres in Brussels and is filmed for PBS's "Great Performances—Dance in America." Mr. Morris is named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation and receives the Dance Magazine Award.

1992 MMDG makes the first of six consecutive appearances at the Edinburgh International Festival. Over the years, MMDG will perform a total of 27 pieces at the festival, including five major evening-length productions: *Dido and Aeneas*; *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*; *The Hard Nut*; *Platée*; and *Orfeo ed Euridice*.

1993 The biography *Mark Morris* by Joan Acocella is published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

1994 MMDG makes its first appearance in Australia with a month-long engagement at the Adelaide Festival. San Francisco Ballet premieres *Maelstrom*, Mr. Morris's first of six commissions for that company.

1995 Dance Umbrella presents MMDG on its first of four major U.K. tours with performances in Woking, Canterbury, Birmingham, Newcastle, Blackpool and Snape Maltings. The Dance Group receives the Hamada Prize, the Edinburgh Festival's highest honor. The company films *Dido and Aeneas* and makes its Lincoln Center debut, performing *L'Allegro* at the New York State Theater.

1996 MMDG makes a commitment to perform exclusively with live music.

1997 MMDG premieres Morris's production of *Platée* with the Royal Opera, Covent Garden and wins a Laurence Olivier Award for the British premiere of *L'Allegro*. Howard Hodgkin designs the set for *Rhymes With Silver*, the first of three collaborations with the company. MMDG makes its Asian debut at the Hong Kong Festival and Mr. Morris receives the Capezio Award.

1998 Yo-Yo Ma and Mark Morris collaborate on the Emmy award winning film for television, *Falling Down Stairs*, set to Bach's Third Suite for Unaccompanied Cello.

1999 MMDG goes on its second multi-city tour of the U.K with engagements in London, Canterbury, Birmingham, Woking, High Wycombe and Stoke-on-Trent. Mr. Morris receives an honorary doctorate from the Juilliard School.

2000 MMDG presents *Dido & Aeneas*, *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* and premieres *Four Saints in Three Acts* with the English National Opera at the London Coliseum. *Four Saints* is the subject of MMDG's second "South Bank Show" documentary.

2001 As part of its 20th-anniversary season, MMDG's third multi-city tour of the U.K includes engagements in London, Woking, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Snape Maltings, Milton Keynes, Glasgow,

Salford and High Wycombe. The company receives a Laurence Olivier Award for its London season featuring the world premiere of *V*. A volume of photographs and critical essays, *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato – A Celebration* is published by Marlowe & Company. The Mark Morris Dance Center, which houses the company, a school and community programs opens in Brooklyn, NY

2002 MMDG tours Japan with Yo-Yo Ma and makes its debut as the first dance company to perform at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival. English National Ballet performs Morris's *Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes* and the Royal Ballet performs Morris's *Gong*.

2003 Mr. Morris creates a dance on four of the leading men of American Ballet Theatre for PBS television. MMDG becomes the first dance company to appear at the Tanglewood Music Festival, conducting a weeklong residency and performing with Yo-Yo Ma.

2004 *The Hard Nut* makes its first London appearance co-produced by Dance Umbrella and Sadler's Wells. MMDG debuts at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin. San Francisco Ballet commissions a full-evening ballet by Mark Morris, resulting in the first-ever American production of Léo Delibes' *Sylvia*.

2005 MMDG inaugurates the James & Martha Duffy Performance Space, a 140-seat black-box theater at the Mark Morris Dance Center. MMDG commemorates its 25th Anniversary with a year-long celebration which includes more than 100 performances, five world premieres in opera and dance, a six-week tour of the U.K., and a series of engagements and events around the world.

MARK MORRIS

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 six 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 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. 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 - Photo by Marc Royce

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

THE MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP, 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 programme 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 1998 Emmy Award-winning film *Falling Down Stairs* 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 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 programmes for local children, as well as a school offering dance classes to students of all ages.

MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE

MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE was formed in 1996 and since that time has joined the Mark Morris Dance Group on tour throughout the U.S., U.K., Australia and Japan. The Ensemble's repertoire 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 programme in the New York City public school system. The Ensemble is under the direction of Wolfram Koessel.

JOHN KELLY ANDERSEN

JOHN KELLY ANDERSEN (violin) has performed with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, the Concord Chamber Orchestra, and the Ottumwa Symphony among others. As a chamber musician and recitalist he has performed in New York, Chicago, Houston, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St Paul, and Princeton, as well as at Japan's Pacific Music Festival, Aspen's Starling Recital Series, Tanglewood's Ozawa Hall, and Interlochen. He has also performed at Israel's Classical Winter Festival, the Cabrillo Music Festival in California, Italy's Gubbio Festival, and twice in the New York String Orchestra Seminar at Carnegie Hall. His teachers have included Lucia Lin, Efim Boico, Dorothy DeLay, and Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg. He is a graduate of New York University's Gallatin School of Individualized Study and is an award recipient of the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. He has played with the MMDG Music Ensemble since 2004.

STEVEN BECK

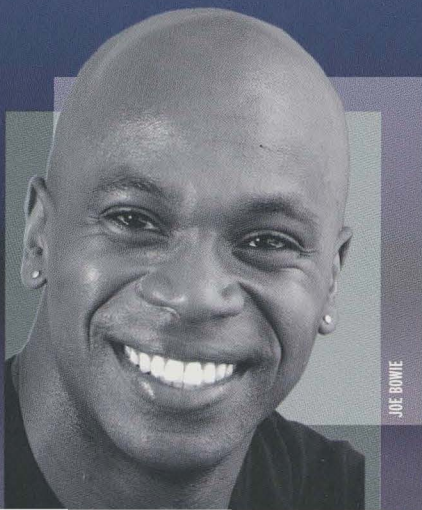
STEVEN BECK (piano) was born in 1978 and is a graduate of the Juilliard School, where his teachers were Seymour Lipkin and Peter Serkin. He made his debut with the National Symphony Orchestra and toured Japan as soloist with the New York Symphonic Ensemble. Other orchestras with which he has appeared 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.

CRAIG BIESECKER

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.



CRAIG BIESECKER



JOE BOWIE

JESSE BLUMBERG

JESSE BLUMBERG (baritone) recently returned from his second season at Glimmerglass Opera, where he performed the role of the Hotel Waiter in Britten's *Death in Venice*. Equally at home on opera and concert stages, he has been recognised in several vocal competitions, including the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and the International Johannes Brahms Competition. In addition to his debut with MMDG, this season Mr Blumberg also joins the artist roster of the Marilyn Horne Foundation, which will present him on its *On Wings of Song* series. He will give additional recitals in New York City and Washington, DC.

JOE BOWIE

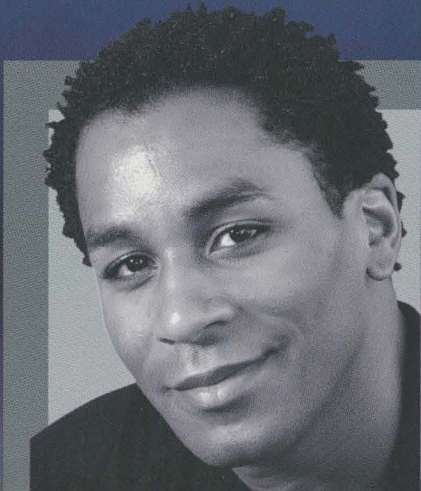
JOE BOWIE, born in Lansing, Michigan, began dancing while attending Brown University. After graduating with honors in English and American Literature, he moved to New York and performed in the works of Robert Wilson, Ulysses Dove, and danced with the Paul Taylor Dance Company for two years before going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

CHARLTON BOYD

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.

MARGARET BRAGLE

MARGARET BRAGLE (mezzo-soprano) made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2002 singing Handel's *Messiah* with the Masterwork Chorus. She was the winner of the first Young American Singer Competition awarded by the American Bach Society and the Bethlehem Bach Festival, and the recipient of an Adams Fellowship to the Carmel Bach Festival in 1999. Other recent highlights include performances with the Charlotte Symphony, the San Antonio Symphony, Dallas Bach Society, Apollo's Fire, Masterwork Chorus, the Choral Arts Society of Philadelphia, the North Carolina and Canton Symphonies, Seattle Baroque, and New York's Ensemble for Early Music. Ms Bragle was featured in the world premiere performance and recording of Toby Twining's *Chrysalid Requiem*, and sang in the 2002 Carnegie Hall Festival *When Morty met John*. Ms Bragle can be heard in recordings with Apollo's Fire in Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* and *Vespers of 1610* as well as the Mozart *Requiem*, available from Eclectra. She is featured on the Musica Omnia recording of the complete works of Chiara Margarita Cozzolani; she can also be heard on the Charlotte Symphony Oratorio Singers CD *Sacred Voices of America* singing Copland's *In the Beginning*.



CHARLTON BOYD



AMBER DARRAGH

EILEEN CLARK

EILEEN CLARK (soprano) has sung with the MMDG Music Ensemble since 1997 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).

AMBER DARRAGH

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.

GREGORY DAVIDSON

GREGORY DAVIDSON (tenor) has appeared operatically as Ferrando in *Cos fan Tutte*, Nemorino in *L'Elisir d'Amore* and King Kaspar in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, among others. His musical theatre credits include *Most Happy Fella* (Doc), *Kismet* (Caliph) and *My Fair Lady* (Freddy). Davidson has also performed with the major choral organisations in New York, including the Metropolitan Opera Chorus, Voices of Ascension, Musica Sacra and the Gregg Smith Singers. Previously, he has appeared with the Mark Morris Dance Group, performing the Brahms Liebeslieder Waltzes, and, earlier this year at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in *Somebody's Coming to See Me Tonight*. Davidson was born in Ohio, reared and educated in Colorado and, since 1985, had made his home in New York City.

RITA DONAHUE

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

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

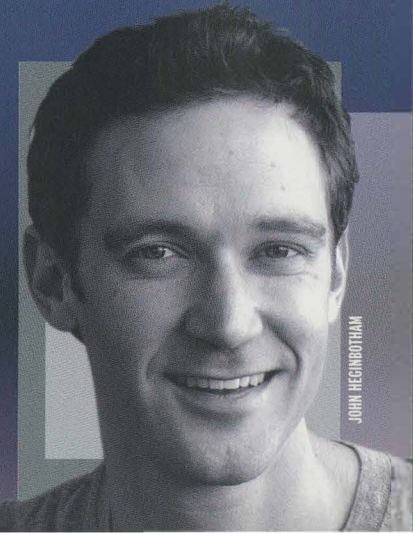
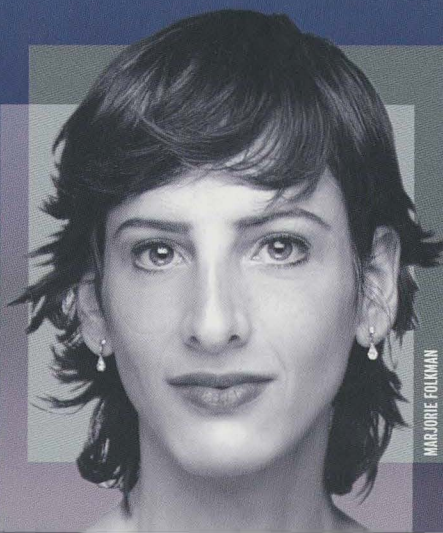
MARJORIE FOLKMAN began dancing for Mark Morris in 1996. She graduated *summa cum laude* from Barnard College and has attended Columbia University's Graduate Program in American Studies. She has also danced with Amy Spencer and Richard Colton, Kraig Patterson, Neta Pulvermacher, Sally Hess, Ellen Cornfield,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

LAUREN GRANT

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. She began performing with MMDG in 1996 and joined the company in 1998. Lauren is married to fellow dancer David Leventhal.

JOHN HEGINBOTHAM

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.



YOSUKE KAWASAKI

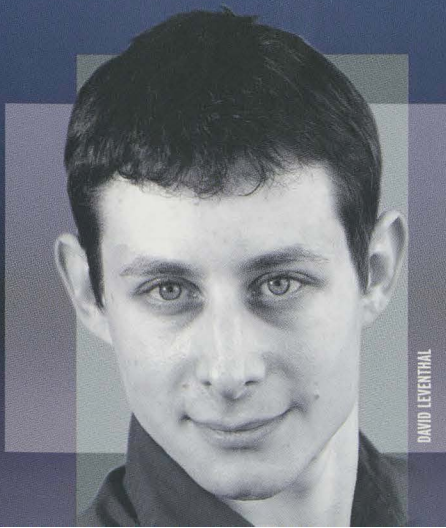
YOSUKE KAWASAKI (violin) is currently the co-concertmaster of the Saito Kinen Orchestra and the Mito Chamber Orchestra of Japan. He was the former concertmaster of the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra from 1999 to 2001. As an active chamber musician, Kawasaki has worked with artists such as Lukas Foss, 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. He has been playing with the MMDG Music Ensemble since 2002.

WOLFRAM KOESSEL

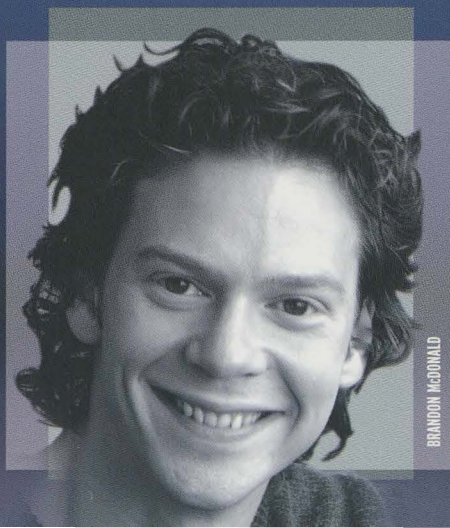
WOLFRAM KOESSEL (cello) made his critically acclaimed debut at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 1994. Since then he has performed as soloist and chamber musician in concert halls throughout the world. Based in New York City, Mr. Koessel appears with a wide range of ensembles and chamber music groups, 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

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. David is married to fellow dancer Lauren Grant.



DAVID LEVENTHAL



BRADON McDONALD

ALEXANDRA MACKENZIE

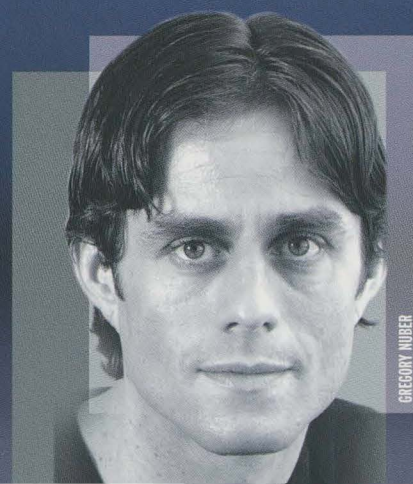
ALEXANDRA MACKENZIE (cello) made her professional debut at ten years of age performing string trios at London's Royal Albert Hall. Since then she has toured throughout Europe and North America as a soloist, recitalist and chamber musician. Alexandra is passionately committed to exploring all aspects of the cello repertoire and her concerto performances range from Haydn and Elgar through to Lutoslawski, Godard and Wagenseil. An advocate of contemporary music, Alexandra can frequently be heard with the Construction Company Sting Quartet, the SEM ensemble, the Downtown Ensemble and Ensemble Sospeso. This is her first season with the MMDG Music Ensemble.

BRADON McDONALD

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.

JESSE MILLS

JESSE MILLS (violin) graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree from the Juilliard School in 2001. He has performed as soloist with the Juilliard Pre-College Chamber Orchestra, the Teatro Argentino Orchestra in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the New Jersey Symphony, the Sarah Lawrence College Symphony, the Plainfield Symphony, the Hudson Valley Philharmonic and Aspen Music Festival's Sinfonia Orchestra as winner of the Festival's E. Nakamichi Violin Concerto Competition. Mills received an Aspen Music Festival String Fellowship in 1997. As a chamber musician Mills has performed at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, New York City's Merkin Concert Hall and Bargemusic, the Rising Stars series at Caramoor, the Ravinia Festival's Bennett-Gordon Hall, and at the Marlboro Music Festival. He has performed chamber music with such artists as Richard Goode, David Soyer, Donald Weilerstein, Anton Kuerti, Peter Wiley, Miriam Fried, Claude Frank and Fred Sherry. He was a member of the FLUX Quartet from 2001-2003. Currently, Mills is a member of Nurse Kaya, an ensemble comprised of string quartet plus bass and drums which exclusively plays compositions written by its members. Mills is also a member of the Denali Trio, with cellist Sarah Carter and pianist Ashley Wass. This is his first season performing with the MMDG Music Ensemble.



GREGORY WEBER



MAILE INAMURA

GREGORY NUBER

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

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.

JUNE OMURA

JUNE OMURA, recipient of a 2005 New York Dance and Performance Award (Bessie), spent her first six years in New York City, then grew up in 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.

JESSICA TROY

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. A member of the Brooklyn Philharmonic, she is also an active chamber musician, including performances with Sequitor, the Jupiter Symphony Chamber Players and the Eberli Ensemble, as well as with the Acacia, Maia, and Meridian String Quartets.

NOAH VINSON

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 the Mark Morris Dance Group since 2002 and became a company member in 2004.

JULIE WORDEN

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.

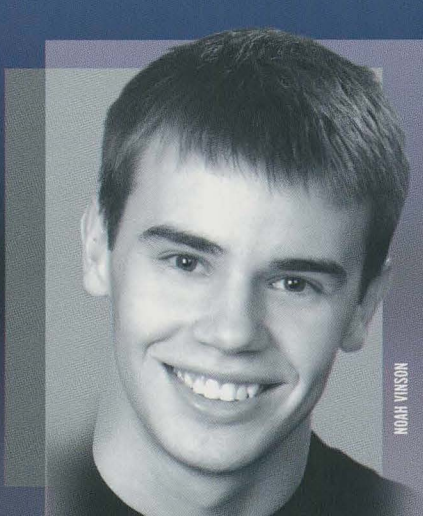
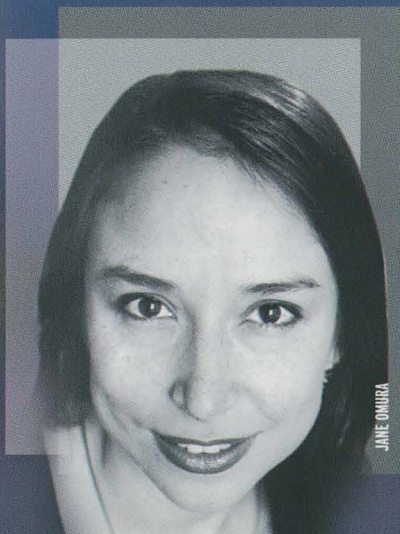
MICHELLE YARD

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. Mom, thank you.

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AMERICAN AIRLINES in the UK has been supporting the work of the Mark Morris Dance Group for over a decade. By providing a safe passage for Mark Morris and his company of dancers, musicians and technicians from New York to London, American Airlines has helped ensure that thousands of people throughout the UK have been able to enjoy world class dance. Via Dance Umbrella, American Airlines has supported and sponsored the Mark Morris Dance Group's 1995 and 2001 UK tours and the two and half week run of *The Hard Nut* at Sadler's Wells during Dance Umbrella 2004. In 1997 American Airlines supported the UK premiere performances of *L'Allegro* and performances of *Nixon in China*, *L'Allegro* and *Four Saints in Three Acts* in 2000 at The Coliseum with English National Opera. 2005 marks the third time that American Airlines has sponsored the Mark Morris Dance Group on tour in the UK.

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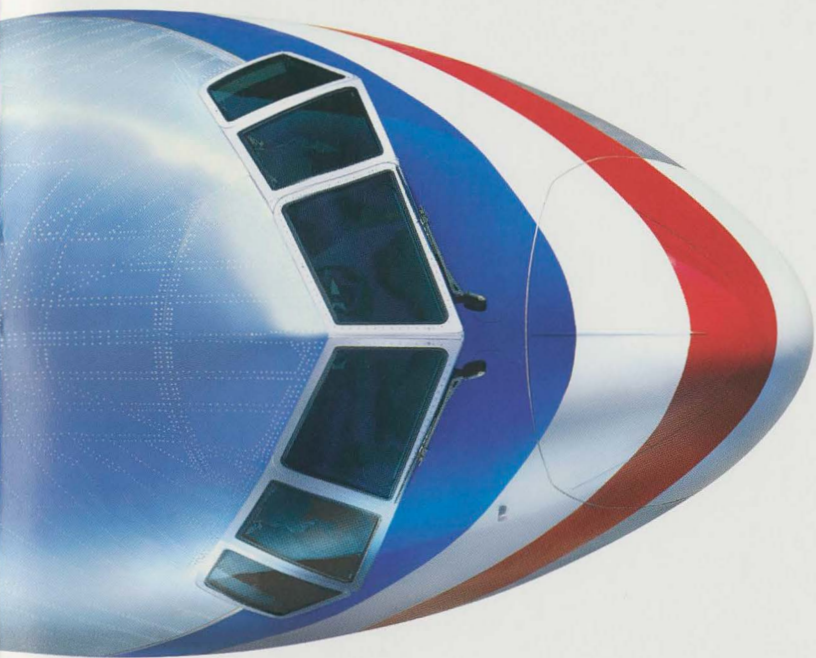
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Thanks to **Maxine Morris**.
Sincerest thanks to all the dancers for their dedication,
support and incalculable contribution to the work.



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The Sunday Times

Dance Umbrella was founded in 1978 with the aim of reflecting and encouraging the burgeoning interest in contemporary dance in Britain. From modest beginnings as a showcase for emerging choreographers, Dance Umbrella's annual London festival is now recognised as one of the leading international dance festivals in Europe. One of Britain's most adventurous dance promoters, Dance Umbrella also organises regional tours for overseas companies.

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Financial support from individual supporters plays a significant role in ensuring the success of Dance Umbrella's artistic programme. Every donation made through our Supporters' Scheme is crucial to us, helping us to nurture new talent and bring exceptional work to an even wider audience.

For more information about supporting Dance Umbrella contact: Fern Potter, Head of Development on (44) 208 8741 4040 or email: fern@danceumbrella.co.uk

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