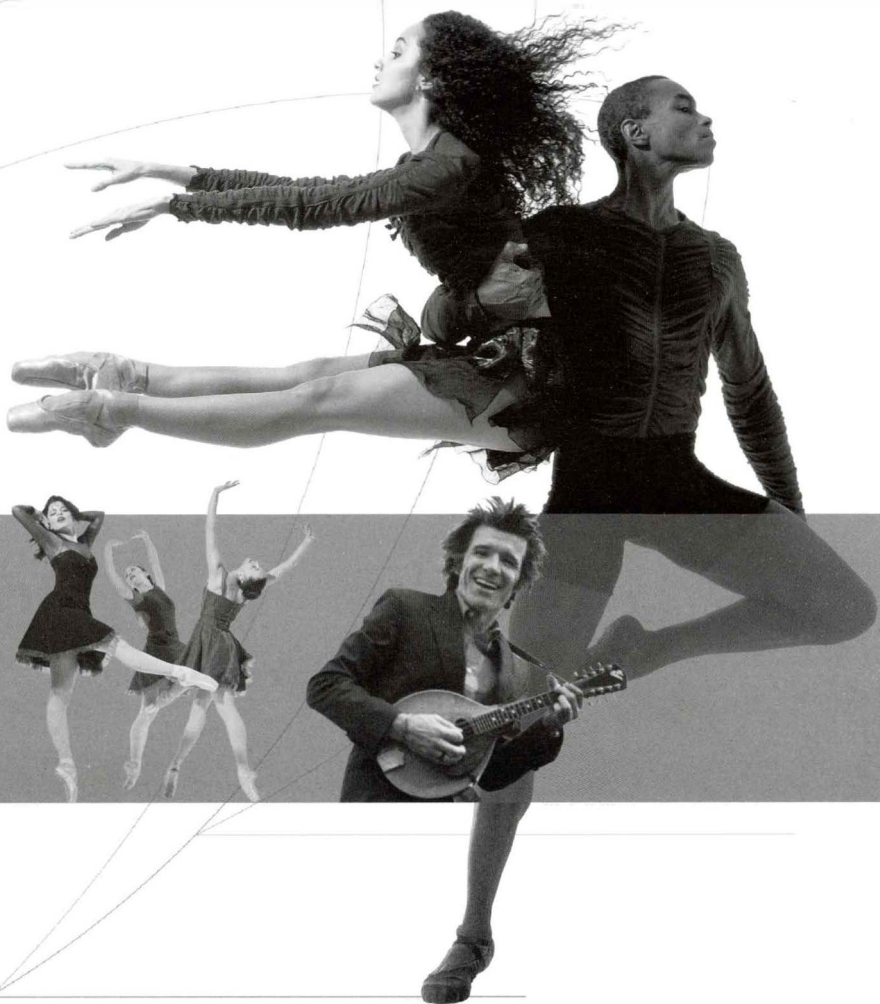




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MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

CRAIG BIESECKER JOE BOWIE CHARLTON BOYD
ELISA CLARK* 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

with the
MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE

Program
Rock of Ages
Peccadillos
Candleflowerdance
INTERMISSION
Three Preludes
Gloria

APRIL 15, 2006



Altria

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The Mark Morris Dance Group New Works Fund is supported by
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation.

The Mark Morris Dance Group's performances are made possible
with public funds from the
National Endowment for the Arts Dance Program
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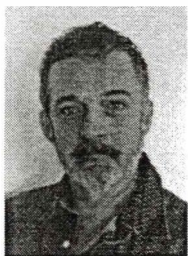
Additional funding has been received from
The Capezio/Ballet Makers Dance Foundation, Con Edison, Dance
Heritage Coalition, The Harkness Foundation for Dance, The Iovino
Family Foundation, Leon Lowenstein Foundation, Materials for the
Arts, McDermott, Will & Emery,
The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs,
and the Friends of the Mark Morris Dance Group.

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MARK MORRIS



DANCE GROUP



Mark Morris



Craig Biesecker



Joe Bowie



Charlton Boyd



Elisa Clark



Amber Darragh



Rita Donchue



Lorena Egan



Marjorie Folkman



Lauren Grant



John Heginbotham



David Leventhal



Bradon McDonald



Gregory Nuber



Maile Okamura



June Omura



Noah Vinson



Julie Worden



Michelle Yard

Choreography by Mark Morris

ROCK OF AGES

Music: Franz Schubert - *Piano trio in E flat, Adagio, D897 (1828)*

Costumes: Katherine McDowell, *Lighting:* Nicole Pearce

JENNIFER CURTIS, *violin*; WOLFRAM KOESSEL, *cello*;
STEVEN BECK, *piano*

CRAIG BIESECKER, RITA DONAHUE,
BRADON McDONALD, MICHELLE YARD

Commissioned in part by Cal Performances.

Premiere: October 28, 2004, Cal Performances, Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, CA

-pause-

PECCADILLOS

Music: Erik Satie

*Menus propos enfantins, Enfantillages pittoresques,
Peccadilles Importunes (1913)*

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

STEVEN BECK, *piano*

JOE BOWIE

Premiere: August 1, 2000

Howard Gilman Opera House, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY

-pause-

CANDLEFLOWERDANCE

Music: Igor Stravinsky – *Serenade in A (1925)*

Costumes: Katherine McDowell, *Lighting:* Nicole Pearce

STEVEN BECK, *piano*

CRAIG BIESECKER, CHARLTON BOYD, RITA DONAHUE,
MARJORIE FOLKMAN LAUREN GRANT, BRADON McDONALD

For Susan Sontag –

Commissioned in part by Cal Performances

Premiere: September 22, 2005, Cal Performances, Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, CA

Igor Stravinsky's *Serenade in A* is performed by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.,
sole agent in the United States, Canada and Mexico; for Editions Max Eschig,
a BMG Editions Company, publisher and copyright owner.

-Intermission-

THREE PRELUDES

Music: George Gershwin - *Three Piano Preludes* (1926)

Costumes: Isaac Mizrahi, *Lighting:* James F. Ingalls

STEVEN BECK, *piano*

BRADON McDONALD

Commissioned in part by Dance Umbrella, Boston

Premiere: June 2, 1992

Dance Umbrella, Emerson Majestic Theatre, Boston, MA

Prelude I, II, III, George Gershwin ©1927 (Renewed) WB Music Corp. (ASCAP)
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-pause-

GLORIA

Music: Antonio Vivaldi - *Gloria in D* (circa 1700)

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

CRAIG BIESECKER, JOE BOWIE,
CHARLTON BOYD, AMBER DARRAGH,
MARJORIE FOLKMAN, LAUREN GRANT,
DAVID LEVENTHAL, JUNE OMURA,
NOAH VINSON, MICHELLE YARD

Premiere: December 12, 1981

Bessie Schönberg Theater, Dance Theater Workshop, New York, New York

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

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 more than 120 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. Morris is also much in demand as a ballet choreographer. He has created six works for the San Francisco Ballet since 1994 and received commissions from American Ballet Theatre, and the Boston Ballet, among others. His work is in the repertory of the Geneva Ballet, New Zealand Ballet, Houston Ballet, English National Ballet, and The Royal Ballet, Covent Garden. Morris is noted for his musicality - he has been described as "undeviating in his devotion to music" - and for his "ability to conjure so many contradictory styles and emotions." He has worked extensively in opera, 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, Bowdoin College, and George Mason University. 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.

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 U.S. and in Europe, and in 1986 it made its first national television program for the PBS series *Dance in America*. In 1988, the Dance Group was invited to become the national dance company of Belgium, and spent three years in residence at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels. The company returned to the United States in 1991 as one of the world's leading dance companies, performing across the U.S. and at major international festivals. It has maintained and strengthened its ties to several cities around the world, most notably Berkeley, CA, where Cal Performances presents the company in two annual seasons, including engagements of *The Hard Nut* each December. It appears regularly in Boston, MA; Fairfax, VA; Seattle, WA; Urbana, IL; at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, MA and at BAM in Brooklyn, NY. 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 Zakir Hussain and jazz pianist Ethan Iverson of The Bad Plus. MMDG's film and television projects include *Dido and Aeneas*, *The Hard Nut*, and two documentaries for the U.K.'s *South Bank Show*. In fall 2001, the Dance Group opened the Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn, New York, the company's first permanent headquarters in the U.S., 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 U.S., U.K., 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.

CRAIG BIESECKER, from Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, received a B.S. in Music Education from West Chester University of Pennsylvania. 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 was born in Lansing, Michigan, and began dancing while attending Brown University where he graduated with honors in English and American Literature. In New York he has performed in the works of Robert Wilson and 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 the Inner City Ensemble Theater and Dance Company. He graduated from The Juilliard School. He went on to dance with the Limón Dance Company and appears in Jose Limón Technique Video, Volume 1, among other music videos. He first appeared with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1989 and became a company member in 1994.

ELISA CLARK received her early training from the Maryland Youth Ballet, and her B.F.A. from the Juilliard School, under the direction of Benjamin Harkarvy. She has danced with the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, the Nederlands Dans Theater, the Peridance Ensemble, and Battleworks Dance Company. Ms. Clark has staged works by Robert Battle, David Parsons, Igal Perry and Adam Houghland on various schools and Companies, including the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. She has been on the faculty of the American Dance Festival, and currently works closely with Carolyn Adams and the American Dance Legacy Institute, and serves on an advisory panel for Capezio. She first appeared with the MMDG in *L'Allegro* in August 2005.

JENNIFER CURTIS (violin) a recent graduate of The Juilliard School, gives her New York Debut at Carnegie Hall's Weil Recital Hall next May 6th, 2006. Jennifer recently performed Dutilleux's violin concert *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 concert master of the Juilliard Orchestra for Mahler's 9th symphony in Avery Fisher Hall. Jennifer is also a composer and her 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 2000-2001 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 is originally from Newport, Oregon, where she began her dance training with Nancy Mittleman. She received her B.F.A. from The Juilliard School in 1999 and then danced with the Limón Dance Company for two years. She is a recipient of the 2001 Princess Grace Award and has presented her own choreography both in New York and abroad. Amber joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2001.

RITA DONAHUE was born and raised in Fairfax, Virginia, and attended George Mason University, where she graduated with honors in Dance and English in 2002. She danced with bopi's black sheep/dances by kraig patterson and joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2003.

LORENA EGAN began her training at the Phoenix School of Ballet in Arizona. She graduated from the Juilliard School in 1998 and went on to dance with Buglisi/Foreman Dance and the Pascal Rioult Dance Theater (1999-2005). Lorena joined the MMDG as an apprentice in 2005.

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

LAUREN GRANT, raised in Highland Park, Illinois, has danced with the Mark Morris Dance Group since 1996. She has appeared in thirty-four of Mark Morris' dances, originating thirteen roles. She has played the role of Marie in *The Hard Nut* since 1998. At age 3 she began studying ballet and later, character dance. She attended New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, graduating with a B.F.A. She teaches master classes in ballet and modern technique, as well as Mark Morris repertory, at schools and universities around the world, at MMDG's school in Brooklyn, and for the company as well. She is married to fellow dancer David Leventhal.

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

WOLFRAM KOESSEL (cello) made his critically acclaimed debut at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 1994, since then he has performed as soloist and chamber musician in concert halls throughout the world. 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, Mass., has danced with the MMDG since 1997. He has appeared in thirty-five of Mark Morris's dances, including eleven premieres. He studied at Boston Ballet School and has danced with José Mateo's Ballet Theatre and the companies of Marcus Schulkind, Richard Colton/Amy Spencer, Zvi Gotheiner, Neta Pulvermacher, and Ben Munisteri. He graduated with honors in English Literature from Brown University in 1995. He teaches master classes in technique and repertory at schools and colleges around the country. He gives classes regularly at MMDG's school, including one for people with Parkinson's Disease. He is married to fellow dancer Lauren Grant.

BRADON McDONALD received his B.F.A. 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 MMDG in 2000.

GREGORY NUBER graduated from Arizona State University, where he studied acting and dance. He danced with Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre for three years; appeared as a guest artist with New York City Opera, Cleveland Opera and Tennessee Repertory Theatre; and worked with numerous New York-based choreographers. Gregory began working with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1998 and became a company member in 2001. He is on the faculty at the School at the Mark Morris Dance Center and teaches master classes in the United States and abroad.

MAILE OKAMURA is originally from San Diego, California. She was a member of Boston Ballet II in 1992-93 and Ballet Arizona in 1993-96. She has danced with choreographers Neta Pulvermacher, Zvi Gotheiner, and Gerald Casel, among others. Maile began working with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1998 and became a company member in 2001.

JUNE OMURA is originally from New York City and grew up in Birmingham, Alabama. She graduated from Barnard College in 1986 with honors in Dance and English; she first performed with Mark Morris that summer, as a workshop student. In 1988, June joined the Mark Morris Dance Group, and in 2005 she was awarded a New York Dance and Performance Award (Bessie) for her career with the company. June is also the proud mother of twin girls, born in 2003, and is grateful to her husband, her family and MMDG for their love and support.

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 began working with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2002 and became a company member in 2004.

JULIE WORDEN graduated from the North Carolina School of the Arts and joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1994.

MICHELLE YARD was born in Brooklyn, New York, and began her professional dance training at the New York City High School of the Performing Arts. Upon graduation she received the Helen Tamiris and B'nai Brith awards. For three years she was a scholarship student at the Alvin Ailey Dance Center, and attended New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where she graduated with a B.F.A.. Michelle joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1997. Mom, thank you.

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP STAFF

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Technical Director Johan Henckens
Music Director Wolfram Koessel
Lighting Supervisor Nicole Pearce
Wardrobe Supervisor Katherine McDowell
Sound Supervisor Jim Abdou

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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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