

MARK MORRIS

DANCE GROUP



PHOTO BY: ROBBIE JACK

WED., APRIL 19
ARLENE SCHNITZER CONCERT HALL

PRESENTED BY:



White Bird extends a special thanks to the sponsor of tonight's performance



STOP BY OUR LOBBY TABLES AND ENTER OUR AMAZING DRAWING

If you have not yet entered our drawing, now's your chance. We will have tables both in the main lobby as well as on the mezzanine level to make it easy for you to buy tickets. Our exciting prizes include **two trips to Germany on Lufthansa, including travel on the Autobahn with Enterprise Rent-A-Car, stunning Tiffany jewelry and 12 dinners at 10 of Portland's best restaurants.** We will announce the four winners on May 4, noon, in the rotunda of Performing Arts Center building. Enormous thanks to our sponsors for their donations to our drawing that supports White Bird's mission of bringing excellence in dance to Portland.

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION REMINDER:

Ride the bus, MAX or Streetcar to the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.



Plan your trip at trimet.org



photo: Thomas Oliver

WALTER JAFFE, PAUL KING, & BARNEY

WELCOMING MARK MORRIS TO OUR MONTH OF MOZART

Tonight marks the return of one of America's greatest choreographers, **Mark Morris**. We welcome him and his remarkable company of dancers and musicians to **Portland's Month of Mozart**—which is wholly appropriate since he has been dubbed by *The Washington Post* as "the Mozart of modern dance." He, along with the late George Balanchine, are widely considered the most musical of choreographers, and you will certainly experience that tonight with an exhilarating program set to Bartók, Requiebro, Schumann, and yes, Mozart.

The irony is that when we were planning the collaborative Month of Mozart celebration with Portland's leading arts organizations and we approached Mark Morris to include a Mozart work, there was none in the active repertory. Mark kindly agreed to remount his "Rondo" from 1994, and we were delighted. We are proud to commission this revival through our newly established **White Bird/MKG Financial Group New Works Fund**.

We are thrilled to have Mark and his company here for tonight's performance. We also thank Mark for his participation last night in a wonderful Cooking with the Choreographers at **Gotham Bldg. Tavern** with **Chef Tommy Habetz**. This is the second sold-out Cooking event we have had this year, and we extend tremendous thanks to **Michael and Naomi Hebberoy**, the geniuses behind **ripe, clarklewis and Gotham**, for hosting this event. Also many thanks to **Magaur Video Media** for contributing to this memorable evening.

OUR NEW SEASON

Please stop by the White Bird table to pick up our new season brochure, hot off the press. Our 9th season will abound with international companies, including the return of Israel's **Batsheva Dance Company** and Australia's **Sydney Dance Company**. Our PSU series celebrates international women choreographers with four Portland debuts. We are especially thrilled to bring back two nights of **Savion Glover** in mid-September with his critically acclaimed "Classical Savion." White Bird subscribers receive advance priority seating to the tap king's performances before tickets go on sale in August.

NEXT UP

Don't miss our final show of the season—the Portland debut of Israel's **Inbal Pinto Dance Company** on May 3. Inbal and her partner Avsholom Pollak are among the rising stars of international dance, and they will share their dazzling "Oyster" with you.

Paul King

Walter Jaffe



presents

M A R K M O R R I S  D A N C E G R O U P

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



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Major Support for the Mark Morris Dance Group is provided by Carnegie Corporation of New York, JP Morgan Chase Foundation, The Howard Gilman Foundation, Independence Community Foundation, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, The Starr Foundation, and Target.

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 and the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency.

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.

The use of cameras, camcorders, tape recorders and cell phones is strictly forbidden during the performance.

Choreography by Mark Morris

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

-pause-

RONDO

Music: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart –
Rondo in A Minor (1787)
Lighting: Michael Chybowski
STEVEN BECK, piano

AMBER DARRAGH

White Bird/MKG Financial Group New Works Fund has
commissioned the revival of *Rondo*.

Commissioned, in part, by the American Dance Festival
as part of its 60th Anniversary season with a generous
contribution from the John S. and James L. Knight
Foundation.

Premiere: July 14, 1994 - American Dance Festival, Page
Auditorium, Duke University, Durham, NC

-pause-

ALL FOURS

Music: Béla Bartók - *String Quartet No. 4*
(1928)

Costumes: Martin Pakledinaz
Lighting: Nicole Pearce

GEORGY VALTCHEV, *violin*;
SARAH KAPUSTIN, *violin*;
JESSICA TROY, *viola*;
WOLFRAM KOESSEL, *cello*

I. Allegro

JOE BOWIE, AMBER DARRAGH,
RITA DONAHUE, JOHN HEGINBOTHAM,
DAVID LEVENTHAL, MAILE OKAMURA,
JUNE OMURA, NOAH VINSON

II. Prestissimo, con sordino

CRAIG BIESECKER, BRADON McDONALD

III. Non troppo lento

CRAIG BIESECKER, LAUREN GRANT,
BRADON McDONALD, MICHELLE YARD

IV. Allegretto pizzicato

LAUREN GRANT, MICHELLE YARD

V. Allegro molto

JOE BOWIE, AMBER DARRAGH,
RITA DONAHUE, JOHN HEGINBOTHAM,
DAVID LEVENTHAL, MAILE OKAMURA,
JUNE OMURA, NOAH VINSON
Commissioned in part by Cal Performances.

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

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

-INTERMISSION-

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

SARAH KAPUSTIN, *violin*; GEORGY
VALTCHEV, *violin*; JESSICA TROY, *viola*;
WOLFRAM KOESSEL, *cello*;
STEVEN BECK, *piano*

CRAIG BIESECKER, JOE BOWIE,
CHARLTON BOYD, AMBER DARRAGH,
RITA DONAHUE, MARJORIE FOLKMAN,
LAUREN GRANT, JOHN HEGINBOTHAM,
DAVID LEVENTHAL, BRADON McDONALD,
GREGORY NUBER, MAILE OKAMURA,
JUNE OMURA, MICHELLE YARD

Dedicated to the City of New York.

Premiere: October 16, 2001 – Dance Umbrella,
Sadler's Wells, London, England

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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 also 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

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[PROGRAM NOTES]

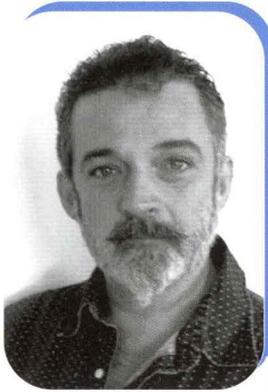


Photo by: Robbie Jack



PROGRAM NOTES SPONSORED BY **eliot**
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ABOUT MARK MORRIS



Mark Morris. Photo by Amber Darragh.

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 repertoire 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



V. Photo by Robbie Jack.

“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



Violet Cavern. Photo by Susana Millman.

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.

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP STAFF

PRODUCTION

Technical Director Johan Henckens
Dance Center Production Manager Matthew Eggleton
Music Director Wolfram Koessel
Lighting Supervisor Nicole Pearce
Wardrobe Supervisor Katherine McDowell
Sound Supervisor Jim Abdou

OPERATIONS

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Studio Manager Karyn Treadwell
Administrative Assistant Kathleen Cannucci
Management Assistant Adrienne Bryant
Facility Manager José Suarez
Maintenance David Baez
Office Assistant Jay Selinger

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 (NYU-HJD Department of Orthopaedic Surgery)

Thanks to Maxine Morris.

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

For information contact:
 Mark Morris Dance Group
 3 Lafayette Avenue
 Brooklyn, NY 11217-1415
 Tel: (718) 624-8400 Fax: (718) 624-8900
 info@mmdg.org www.mmdg.org

1980

On November 28, the Mark Morris Dance Group puts on its first show at the Merce Cunningham Studio in New York City.

1981

Morris choreographs *Gloria*. MMDG debuts at New York City's Dance Theater Workshop.



Gloria. Photo by Stephanie Berger.

1984

MMDG premieres in London at The Place, presented by Dance Umbrella. The company performs the first of twenty seasons at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

1985

MMDG begins its life as a touring company, performing at the Kennedy Center and in Paris at the American Center, with additional engagements in Boston and Portland, and at the Spoleto Festival U.S.A. and PepsiCo Summerfare.



Marble Halls. Photo by Nannette Melville.

1986

MMDG debuts in Vienna. Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival presents the first of eighteen appearances. The company appears in its first television program, for PBS's *Great Performances—Dance in America*. Morris choreographs *Mort Subite* for the Boston Ballet

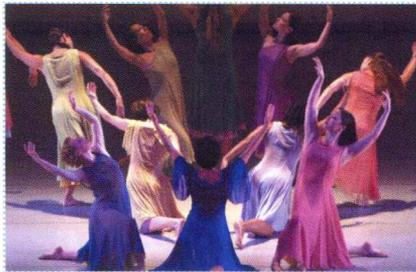
and *Esteemed Guests* for the Joffrey Ballet.

1987

Morris choreographs John Adams's *Nixon in China*, the first of numerous collaborations with director Peter Sellars, set designer Adrienne Lobel, and lighting designer James F. Ingalls.

1988

The company moves to Brussels. The Monnaie Dance Group/Mark Morris debuts as the official dance company of the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, the Belgian national opera house, with the premiere of *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*.



L'Allegro. Photo by Jim Steere.

1989

Dido and Aeneas receives its world premiere in Brussels and its American premiere in Boston.

1990

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



Going Away Party. Photo by Rosalie O'Connor.

1991

The Hard Nut, Morris's *Nutcracker*, premieres in Brussels. MMDG returns to the United States.



The Hard Nut – Snow 5c. Photo by Peter DaSilva.

1992

MMDG conducts the first of three annual six-week residencies in Boston. The company makes the first of six consecutive appearances at the Edinburgh International Festival. *The Hard Nut* has its American stage premiere at BAM and its television premiere on PBS's *Great Performances*.

1993

Mark Morris, a biography by Joan Acocella, is published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

1994

MMDG debuts in Australia with a month-long engagement at the Adelaide Festival. The San Francisco Ballet premieres *Maelstrom*, the first of six commissions.



Jesu, Meine Freude. Photo by Nannette Melville.

1995

MMDG makes its debut at Lincoln Center's New York State Theater. The company films *Dido and Aeneas*. MMDG embarks on its first major U.K. tour. MMDG receives the Hamada Prize, Edinburgh Festival's highest honor.

1996

MMDG makes a commitment to perform exclusively with live music.

1997

London premiere of *L'Allegro, il Moderato ed il Penseroso* with English National Opera wins a Laurence Olivier Award. *Lucky Charms* is performed for PBS's Evening at Pops. British painter Howard Hodgkin designs the set, his first of three collaborations with MMDG, for *Rhymes With Silver* which premieres at Cal Performances in Berkeley, CA, with Yo-Yo Ma performing a commissioned score by composer, Portland-born Lou Harrison.

1998

Yo-Yo Ma and Mark Morris collaborate on *Falling Down Stairs*, an Emmy-award-winning television film. MMDG launches a \$7.4 million capital campaign to build a dance center in Fort Greene, Brooklyn.

1999

MMDG goes on a multi-city U.S. tour with Yo-Yo Ma. The San Francisco Ballet premieres *Sandpaper Ballet*, Morris's third commission for this company.



The Argument. Photo by Marc Royce.

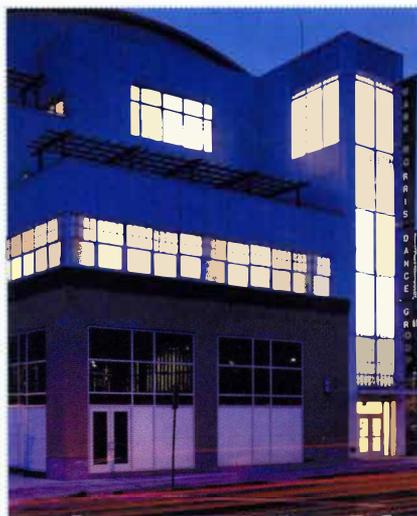
2000

After 15 years, MMDG returns to Portland presented by White Bird. MMDG collaborates with New York City Opera, presenting the New York premiere of *Platée*. The company premieres *Four Saints in Three Acts* with ENO at the London Coliseum. *Four Saints* is the sub-

ject of the second South Bank Show documentary about the company.

2001

The company's 20th anniversary is celebrated with a three-week BAM retrospective. *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato: A Celebration* is published by Marlow & Company. The Krannert Center in Urbana, Illinois, makes a multi-year commitment to present the company annually. The Mark Morris Dance Center at the Erickson Building opens in Brooklyn.



Mark Morris Dance Center. Photo by Elizabeth Fellicella.

2002

Cal Performances in Berkeley becomes the company's official second home. *Resurrection*, set to Richard Rodgers's *Slaughter on Tenth Avenue*, is filmed for PBS's Evening at Pops. MMDG is the first dance company to perform at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival. The company tours Japan with Yo-Yo Ma.



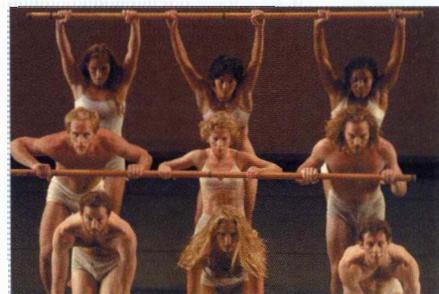
Resurrection Photo by Bruce Freely.

2003

MMDG returns to Portland as part of White Bird's 5th anniversary celebrations. Morris creates *Non Troppo* on four leading men of American Ballet Theatre for PBS television. MMDG is the first dance company to appear at the Tanglewood Music Festival, conducting a week-long residency and performing with Yo-Yo Ma.

2004

Violet Cavern, a collaboration with sculptor Stephen Hendee and jazz trio The Bad Plus, premieres at BAM. MMDG debuts at Dublin's Abbey Theatre. San Francisco Ballet commissions the first American production of *Sylvia*, a ballet in three acts.



Cargo. Photo by Katsuyoshi Tanaka.

2005

The James & Martha Duffy Performance Space, a 140-seat black-box theater opens at the Dance Center. MMDG commemorates its twenty-fifth anniversary with a year-long celebration, beginning with the world premiere of *Cargo*, the first-ever Boston Symphony Orchestra dance commission.

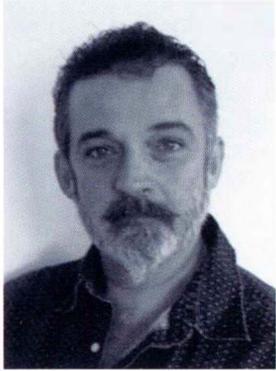
2006

MMDG celebrates at home with a month-long Brooklyn season; highlights include Morris' conducting debut. As part of Portland's Month of Mozart celebration, White Bird/MKG Financial Group New Works Fund commissions the revival of Mark Morris's *Rondo*.

M A R K M O R R I S



D A N C E G R O U P



Mark Morris



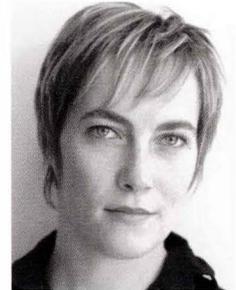
Craig Biesecker



Joe Bowie



Charlton Boyd



Elisa Clark



Amber Darragh



Rita Donahue



Lorena Egan



Marjorie Folkman



Lauren Grant



John Heginbotham



David Leventhal



Bradon McDonald



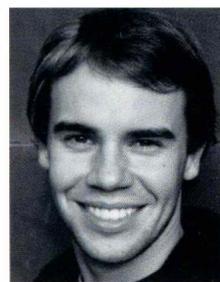
Gregory Nuber



Maile Okamura



June Omura



Noah Vinson



Julie Worden



Michelle Yard

Continued from page 6

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 Hougland 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, as well as serves on an advisory panel for Capezio. She first appeared with the MMDG in *L'Allegro* in August 2005.

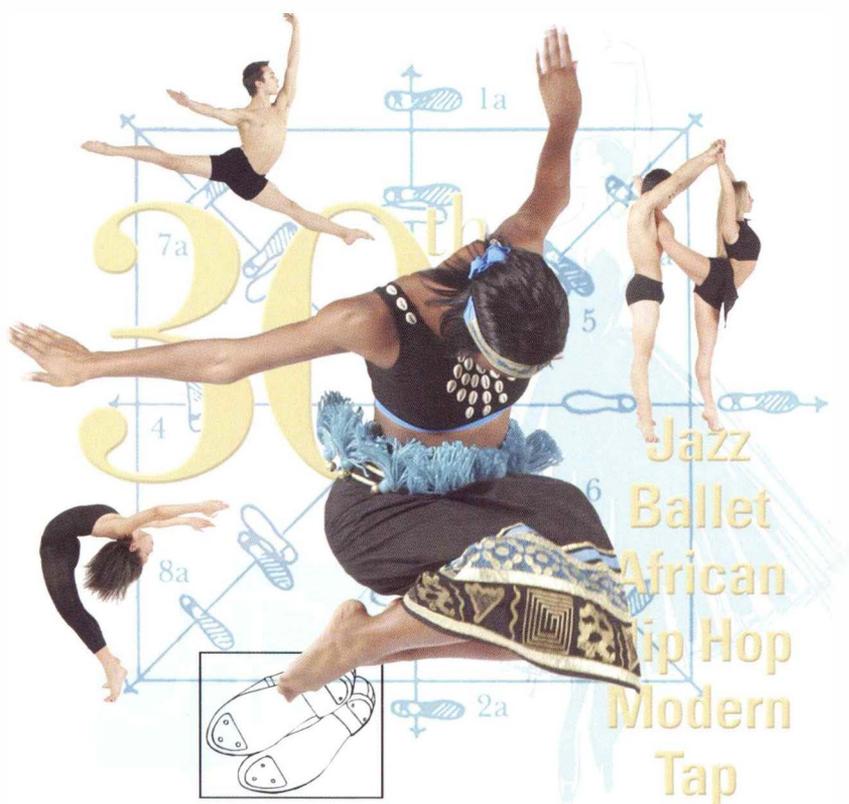
AMBER DARRAGH is originally from Newport, Oregon, where she began her dance training with Nancy Mittleman. She received her B.F.A. from The Juilliard School in 1999 and then danced with the Limón Dance Company for two years. She is a recipient of the 2001 Princess Grace Award and has presented her own 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 Mark Morris Dance Group 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.



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WHO'S WHO

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.

SARAH KAPUSTIN's (violin) musical activities have taken her across North America, Europe and Australia, in performances as both soloist and chamber musician. Born in 1981 in Milwaukee, WI, she has performed with such orchestras as the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Indiana University Philharmonic, Orquesta del Festival at Sala Nezahualcoyotl in Mexico City, and the Pasadena Symphony, and has participated in masterclasses with many distinguished musicians, including Joshua Bell, Midori, Leonidas Kavakos and William Preucil. An avid chamber musician, Sarah has participated in Marlboro and Sarasota festivals, and the Giverny Hors Les Murs chamber music festival in France. She is currently a member of the Atlas Piano Trio, which made its New York recital debut in Nov. 2005, and she also performs regularly in Boston with the Arcturus Chamber Ensemble. Sarah received a Masters degree in violin performance at The Juilliard School with Robert Mann in May 2005, and previously studied with Mauricio Fuks at Indiana University. Future engagements include appearances with the Atlas Trio, performances with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and a tour with the Brandenburg Ensemble in March 2006.

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, Massachusetts, has danced with the Mark Morris Dance Group 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 Mark Morris Dance Group in 2000.

GREGORY NUBER graduated from Arizona State University, where he studied acting and dance. He danced with Pascal Riout Dance Theatre for three years; appeared as a guest artist with New York City Opera, Cleveland Opera and Tennessee

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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.

JESSICA TROY (viola), a native New Yorker, has played with the Mark Morris Dance Group Music Ensemble since 1998. She wears a wide variety of freelance hats; a member of the Brooklyn Philharmonic, she has recently performed with Sequitur, the new music ensemble, on baroque viola with Renee Fleming on the David Letterman Show, and everything in between. She has participated at many illustrious chamber music festivals, including Prussia Cove and Marlboro— she can be heard on the latter's 50th anniversary CD. She is a proud resident of MMDG's own Fort Greene neighborhood in Brooklyn.

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WHO'S WHO

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.

Ethel
Sunday, April 23
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photo: Steve J. Sherman

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