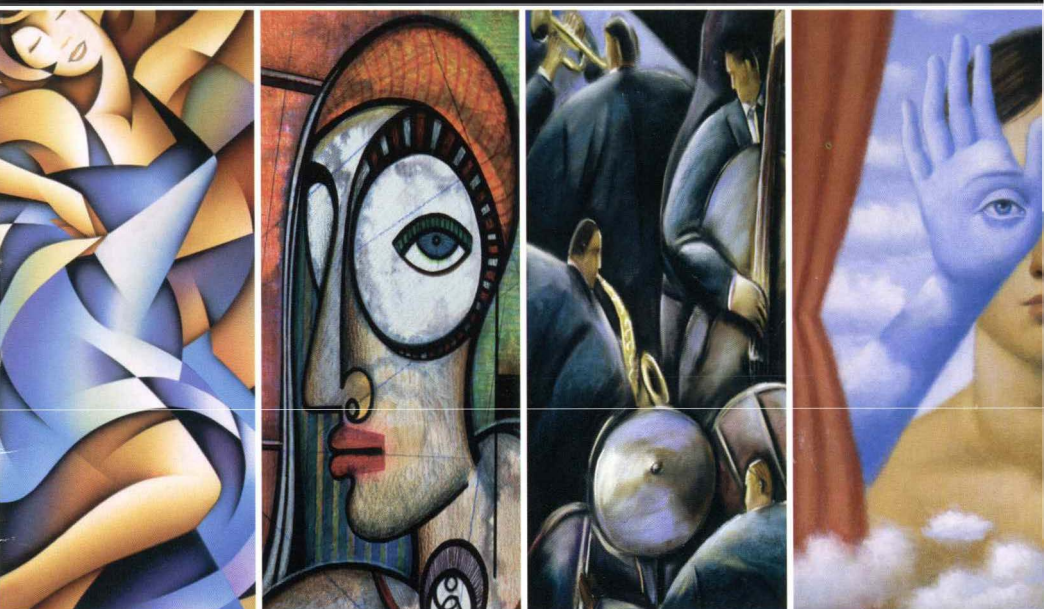


2006/2007 SEASON

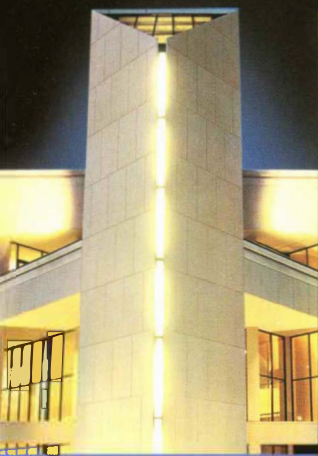


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JANUARY

Lorin Maazel Conducts the
Symphonica Toscanini
Friday, January 12 at 8 pm
\$55, \$47, \$27.50

Edgar Meyer, bass
Chris Thile, mandolin
Saturday, January 13 at 8 pm
\$44, \$36, \$22 **ff**

MOMIX - *Lunar Sea*
Saturday, January 20 at 8 pm
Sunday, January 21 at 4 pm
\$44, \$36, \$22 **ff**

Urban Bush Women
Wednesday, January 24 at 8 pm
\$36, \$28, \$18

The Bulgarian State Opera
Tosca
Friday, January 26 at 8 pm
\$44, \$36, \$22

BBC National Orchestra
of Wales
Thierry Fischer, conductor
Llyr Williams, pianist
Sunday, January 28 at 4 pm
\$55, \$47, \$27.50

FEBRUARY

Cirque Eloize - *Rain*
Friday, February 2 at 8 pm
Saturday, February 3 at 2 & 8 pm
\$44, \$36, \$22 **ff**

Virginia Opera - *Agrippina*
Friday, February 9 at 8 pm
Sunday, February 11 at 2 pm
\$86, \$72, \$44 - Friday
\$90, \$76, \$48 - Sunday

The Acting Company
Jane Eyre
Wednesday, February 14 at 8 pm
\$36, \$28, \$18

Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra
Swingin' with the Met
Saturday, February 17 at 8 pm
\$38, \$30, \$19 **ff**

Soweto Gospel Choir
Sunday, February 18 at 4 pm
\$38, \$30, \$19 **ff**

Mark Morris Dance Group
Friday, February 23 at 8 pm
Saturday, February 24 at 8 pm
\$44, \$36, \$22

Keyboard Conversations®
with Jeffrey Siegel
Schubert - On Wings of Song
Sunday, February 25 at 7 pm
\$38, \$30, \$19 **ff**

MARCH

Gewandhaus Orchestra of Leipzig
Riccardo Chailly, conductor
Yundi Li, pianist
Saturday, March 3 at 8 pm
\$60, \$52, \$30

Natalie MacMaster
Sunday, March 4 at 7 pm
\$42, \$34, \$21 **ff**

Hungarian State Folk Ensemble
Saturday, March 10 at 8 pm
\$44, \$36, \$22 **ff**

Moscow Festival Ballet
Don Quixote
Saturday, March 24 at 8 pm
Giselle
Sunday, March 25 at 2 pm
\$50, \$42, \$25 **ff**

Virginia Opera
Cavalleria Rusticana/1 Pagliacci
Friday, March 30 at 8 pm
Sunday, April 1 at 2 pm
\$86, \$72, \$44 - Friday
\$90, \$76, \$48 - Sunday

APRIL

Cherryholmes
Saturday, April 7 at 8 pm
\$44, \$36, \$22 **ff**

John Williams and
John Etheridge Duo
Together & Solo
Sunday, April 15 at 7 pm
\$44, \$36, \$22

Keyboard Conversations®
with Jeffrey Siegel
Liszt - The Devil Made Me Do It!
Sunday, April 22 at 7 pm
\$38, \$30, \$19 **ff**

Susan Shields Ballet Cocktail
*An Evening of
Contemporary Dance*
Saturday, April 28 at 8 pm
\$44, \$36, \$22

MAY

Shen Wei Dance Arts
Saturday, May 5 at 8 pm
\$44, \$36, \$22

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GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

 presents 

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

Friday, February 23, 2007, 8:00 p.m. &
Saturday, February 24, 2007 at 8:00 p.m.

CRAIG BIESECKER SAMUEL BLACK* JOE BOWIE
CHARLTON BOYD ELISA CLARK AMBER DARRAGH
RITA DONAHUE LAUREN GRANT JOHN HEGINBOTHAM
DAVID LEVENTHAL LAUREL LYNCH* BRADON McDONALD
DALLAS McMURRAY* MAILE OKAMURA JUNE OMURA
NOAH VINSON JENN WEDDEL*
JULIE WORDEN MICHELLE YARD

*apprentice

Artistic Director
MARK MORRIS

Executive Director
NANCY UMANOFF

MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE

Altra Group, Inc. is the Lead Sponsor of the Mark Morris Dance Group.

*MetLife Foundation is the Official Sponsor of the
Mark Morris Dance Group's National Tour.*

*Major support for the Mark Morris Dance Group is provided by Carnegie Corporation of
New York, JPMorgan Chase Foundation, The Howard Gilman Foundation,
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The Shubert Foundation, The Starr Foundation, and Target.*

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

*The Mark Morris Dance Group's performances are made possible with
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THE ARGUMENT

Music: Robert Schumann - *Fünf Stücke im Volkston*

Costumes: Elizabeth Kurtzman

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

- I. "Vanitas vanitatum." Mit Humor
- II. Langsam
- III. Nicht schnell, mit viel Ton zu spielen
- IV. Nicht zu rasch
- V. Stark und markirt
- VI. "Vanitas vanitatum." Mit Humor

WOLFRAM KOESSEL, *cello*

STEVEN BECK, *piano*

CHARLTON BOYD & JULIE WORDEN
JOHN HEGINBOTHAM & MICHELLE YARD
CRAIG BIESECKER & MAILE OKAMURA

Premiere: February 26, 1999 – Bank of America Celebrity Series,
The Wang Center for the Performing Arts, Boston, MA

— *PAUSE* —

SANG-FROID

Music: Frédéric Chopin – *Étude in a, Mazurka in a, Étude in G-flat, Mazurka in D, Berceuse in D-flat, Waltz in D-flat, Nocturne in f, Prelude in A, Étude in a*

Costumes: Elizabeth Kurtzman

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

STEVEN BECK, *piano*

JOE BOWIE, ELISA CLARK, LAUREN GRANT,
DAVID LEVENTHAL, BRADON McDONALD, MAILE OKAMURA,
NOAH VINSON, JULIE WORDEN, MICHELLE YARD

Commissioned by the American Dance Festival
through the Doris Duke Awards for New Work,
with additional support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Premiere: July 13, 2000 – Page Auditorium, Durham, NC

— *INTERMISSION* —

CANDLEFLOWERDANCE

Music: Igor Stravinsky – *Serenade in A*

Costumes: Katherine McDowell

Lighting: Nicole Pearce

STEVEN BECK, *piano*

CRAIG BIESECKER, CHARLTON BOYD, RITA DONAHUE,
LAUREN GRANT, BRADON MCDONALD, JULIE WORDEN

For Susan Sontag

Commissioned in part by Cal Performances

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

Music by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc. Publisher and copyright owner.

— PAUSE —

GRAND DUO

Music: Lou Harrison – *Grand Duo for Violin & Piano*

Costumes: Susan Ruddle

Lighting: Michael Chybowski

Prelude

Stampede

A Round

Polka

JESSE MILLS, *violin*

STEVEN BECK, *piano*

CRAIG BIESECKER, SAMUEL BLACK, ELISA CLARK,
AMBER DARRAGH, RITA DONAHUE,
LAUREN GRANT, JOHN HEGINBOTHAM,
DAVID LEVENTHAL, BRADON MCDONALD,
DALLAS MCMURRAY, MAILE OKAMURA, NOAH VINSON,
JULIE WORDEN, MICHELLE YARD

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

MEET THE ARTISTS

MARK MORRIS was born on August 29, 1956, in Seattle, WA, 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 also in the repertory of the Geneva Ballet, New Zealand Ballet, Houston Ballet, English National Ballet, and The Royal Ballet. 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, Bard College, Bates College, and George Mason University. In 2006, he received the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Mayor’s Award for Arts & Culture and a WQXR Gramophone Special Recognition Award for exposing thousands of people to classical music of the highest standard coupled with his own approach to dance. 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** 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, MMDG 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 its west coast home, Cal Performances in Berkeley, CA. It appears regularly in Boston, MA; Urbana, IL; Fairfax, VA; Seattle, WA; 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 been invited 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. MMDG collaborates with leading orchestras, opera companies, and musicians including cellist Yo-Yo Ma in the Emmy Award-winning film *Falling Down Stairs* (1997); Indian composer Zakir Hussain, Mr. Ma and jazz pianist Ethan Iverson in *Kolam* (2002); The Bad Plus in *Violet Cavern* (2004); pianists Emanuel Ax and Yoko Nozaki for *Mozart Dances* (2006); and with the English National Opera in *Four Saints in Three Acts* (2000) and *King Arthur* (2006), among others. MMDG’s film and television projects also include *Dido and Aeneas*, *The Hard Nut*, and two documentaries for the U.K.’s South Bank Show. In fall 2001, MMDG opened the Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn, NY, 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. The company's 25th Anniversary celebration included over 100 performances through 26 U.S. cities and ten U.K. cities; five world premieres; and Morris' conducting debut in a performance of *Gloria* at BAM.

The **MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE** formed in 1996, performs with the Dance Group at home and on tour and has become integral to the company's creative life. The core group, supplemented by musicians from a large roster of regular guests, has helped the Dance Group achieve an unprecedented streak of close to eight hundred performances with live music. 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. The Ensemble also presents concerts at the Mark Morris Dance Center and other venues, and participates in the Mark Morris Dance, Music and Literacy Project in the New York City public school system. Cellist Wolfram Koessel is the Ensemble's director.

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. He is an Artist Presenter and frequent performer of 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, PA, 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 MMDG in 2003.

SAMUEL BLACK is originally from Berkeley, CA, where he began studying tap at the age of 9 with Katie Maltsberger. He recently received his B.F.A. in Dance from SUNY Purchase, where he performed works by Mark Morris, Paul Taylor, Zvi Gotheiner, Sean Curran, and Kevin Wynn. During a semester at the Rotterdamse Dansacademie in Holland, Sam had the opportunity to dance in several Dutch cities and in Germany. He has performed in New York with David Parker, Takehiro Ueyama, and Nelly van Bommel. Sam first worked with MMDG in 2005, and joined the company as an apprentice in 2006.

JOE BOWIE was born in Lansing, MI, 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 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 MMDG 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 Harkavy. 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, as well as serves on an advisory panel for Capezio. She first appeared with MMDG in *L'Allegro* in August 2005.

AMBER DARRAGH is originally from Newport, OR, 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 MMDG in 2001.

RITA DONAHUE was born and raised in Fairfax, VA, 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 MMDG in 2003.

LAUREN GRANT, raised in Highland Park, IL, has danced with MMDG since 1996. Before graduating with a B.F.A. from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, Lauren studied ballet from the early age of 3. Later, she also trained in character dance, acting, and singing. She teaches master classes in ballet and modern technique at schools and universities around the world, at MMDG's school in Brooklyn, and for the company as well. Lauren is married to fellow dancer David Leventhal.

JOHN HEGINBOTHAM is from Anchorage, AK, 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 MMDG in 1998.

WOLFRAM KOESSEL (cello) made his debut at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 1994. Based in New York City, Koessel appears with a wide range of ensembles and chamber music groups, most notably the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and The Jupiter Symphony. As a soloist, Koessel has performed 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. 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 City's Island). He served until recently as cellist with the award-winning Meridian String Quartet. He has played with the MMDG Music Ensemble since 2000 and was named its Music Director in 2004.

DAVID LEVENTHAL, raised in Newton, MA, has danced with MMDG since 1997. 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.

LAUREL LYNCH began her dance training in Petaluma, CA. After a few too many Nutcrackers she moved to New York to attend The Juilliard School where she per-

formed works by Robert Battle, Margie Gillis, José Limón, and Ohad Naharin. Since graduation in May 2003, Laurel has danced for Dusan Tynek Dance Theatre, Sue Bernhard Danceworks, Pat Catterson, Stephan Koplowitz, and T.E.A. (Transpersonal Education and Art). She performed at the Festival Oltre Passo in Lecce, Italy and appeared as a guest artist with Petaluma City Ballet. Laurel joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2006.

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 MMDG in 2000.

DALLAS McMURRAY, from El Cerrito, CA, began dancing at age 4, studying jazz, tap, and acrobatics with Katie Maltzberger, and ballet with Yukiko Sakakura. He received a B.F.A. in dance from the California Institute of the Arts. Dallas performed with the Limón Dance Company in addition to works by Jiri Kylian, Alonzo King, Robert Moses, and Colin Connor. Dallas joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2006.

JESSE MILLS (violin) graduated with a B.M. from The Juilliard School in 2001. He has performed as a 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. He first performed with the MMDG Music Ensemble in 2005.

MAILE OKAMURA is originally from San Diego, CA. 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 MMDG in 1998 and became a company member in 2001.

JUNE OMURA was born in New York, grew up in Birmingham, AL, and graduated from Barnard College with honors in Dance and English. She first studied with Mark Morris in 1986; joined MMDG in 1988. In 2005, she received a New York Dance and Performance Award ("Bessie") for her career with the company. June and her husband are the proud parents of twin girls, born in 2003, and a new baby boy, born in September 2006. When in New Paltz, June studies with Peter Naumann at the New Paltz School of Ballet. She is grateful to her family, Mark Morris, 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 MMDG in 2002 and became a company member in 2004.

JENN WEDDEL grew up in Longmont, CO, and received her early training from Boulder Ballet Company. She holds a B.F.A. from Southern Methodist University and also studied at The Boston Conservatory, Colorado University and the Laban Center, London. Since moving to New York in 2001, Jenn has performed with RedWall Dance Theatre, Sue Bernhard Danceworks, Vencl Dance Trio, Rocha Dance Theatre and with various choreographers including Alan Danielson and Connie Procopio. She has presented her own work in Manhattan and continues to collaborate with TEA Dance Company under the direction of Ella Ben-Aharon and Sahar Javedani. Jenn joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2006.

JULIE WORDEN graduated from the North Carolina School of the Arts and joined MMDG in 1994.

MICHELLE YARD was born in Brooklyn, NY, 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 MMDG in 1997. Mom, thank you.

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP STAFF

PRODUCTION

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Music Director Wolfram Koessel
Assistant to the Choreographer Matthew Rose
Lighting Supervisor Leo Janks
Wardrobe Supervisor Katherine McDowell
Sound Supervisor Jim Abdou

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Orthopaedist David S. Weiss, M.D.
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Thanks to Maxine Morris.

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

Additional funding has been received from the American Music Center Live Music for Dance Program; Capezio Ballet Dancemakers Foundation; ConEdison; Dance Heritage Coalition; The Harkness Foundation for Dance; The Iovino Family Foundation; Leon Lowenstein Foundation; Materials for the Arts, NYC; McDermott, Will & Emery; The Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation; Virgil Thomson Foundation; The Untitled Foundation; USArtists International; and the Friends of the Mark Morris Dance Group.

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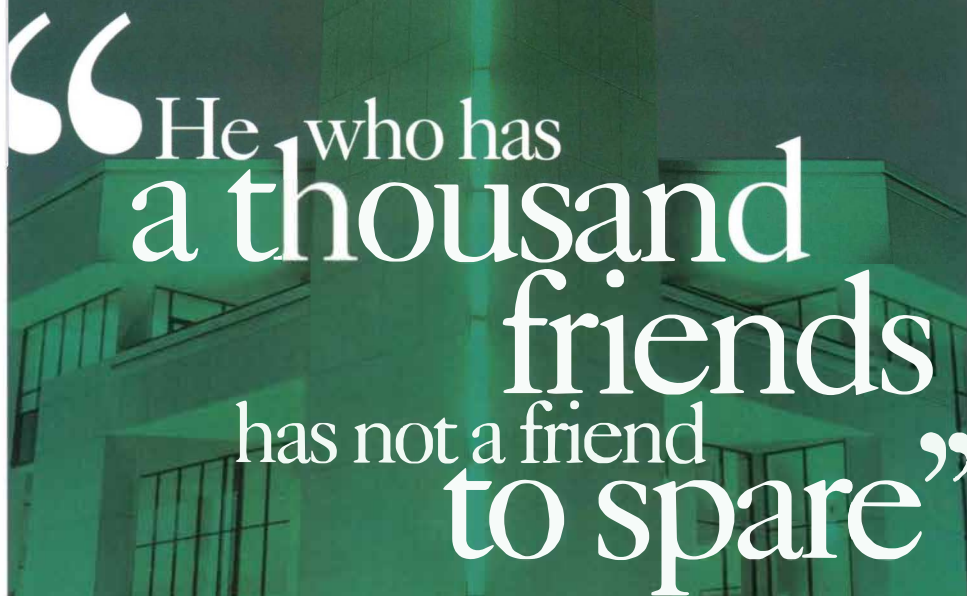
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a thousand
friends
has not a friend
to spare”

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

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