

2007

**SAMUEL H. SCRIPPS
AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL
AWARD**

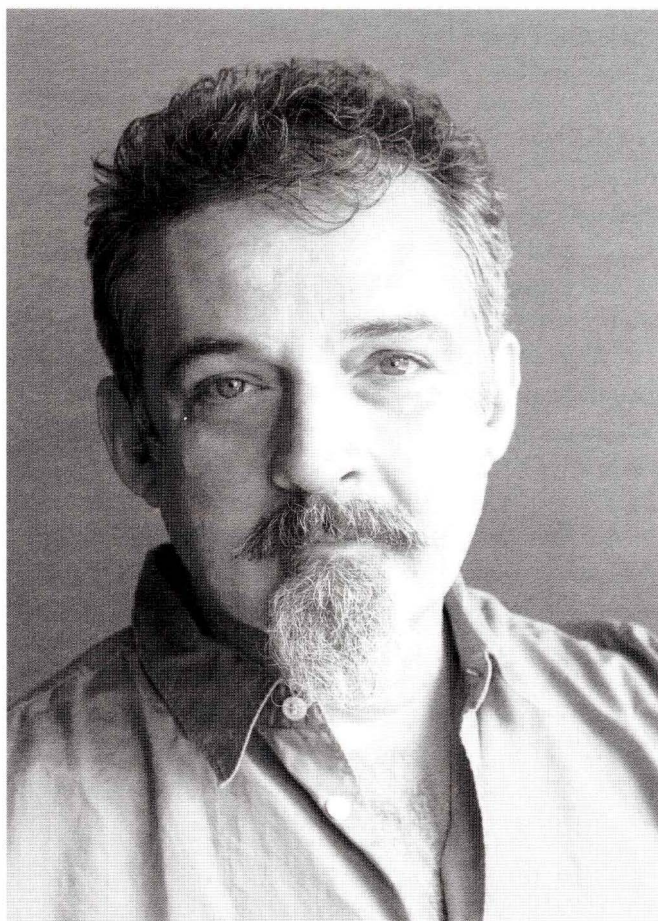
**ESTABLISHED TO HONOR
THOSE GREAT CHOREOGRAPHERS WHO
HAVE DEDICATED THEIR LIVES AND TALENT
TO THE CREATION OF OUR
MODERN DANCE HERITAGE**

To Mark Morris

The 2007 Award is presented to Mark Morris, whose imagination transforms a traditional musical score into a goldmine of new possibilities, whose incorrigible wit gives his dances such original humor, and whose vision and profound belief in the power of dance is apparent in his many accomplishments.

His genius and gift for drawing on all dance forms is evident in the broad range of his choreographic talent. Mark Morris' artistic generosity and energy, his irreverent creativity, and his searing honesty have encouraged new audiences for dance in all its forms and a new future for the art.

SAMUEL H. SCRIPPS
AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL
AWARD
to
MARK MORRIS



JULY 21, 2007
5 PM
PAGE AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM

VIDEO

Video includes excerpts from
Dance in America (1986),
Newshour with Jim Lehrer (2001),
Bloomberg Muse (2007)
and Mark Morris Dance Group Archives.

AWARD PRESENTATION

Introductory Remarks by
[Charles L. Reinhart](#)
[Jodee Nimerichter](#)
[Sebastian Scripps](#)

Presentation of the
2007 Samuel H. Scripps
American Dance Festival Award
to [Mark Morris](#) by [Mike Ross](#)

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 also in the repertoire of the Geneva Ballet, Dutch National 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 Metropolitan Opera, 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) and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 2001, Marlowe & Company published *Mark Morris’ L’Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato: A Celebration*, a volume of photographs and critical essays.

MIKE ROSS is Director of Krannert Center for the Performing Arts and Associate Dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign. Deeply committed to embracing the art of the past as well as the art of our time across disciplines, aesthetic sensibilities, and cultural legacies, he views the Center as a potent blending of classroom, laboratory, and public square. He is an active board member of numerous local, state, and national arts organizations and attributes his interest in the literary and visual arts and broader cultural history as major influences on the creative and collaborative nature of his work in arts administration.

Samuel H. Scripps
American Dance Festival
Award Recipients

Martha Graham	1981
Merce Cunningham	1982
Paul Taylor	1983
Hanya Holm	1984
Alwin Nikolais	1985
Katherine Dunham	1986
Alvin Ailey	1987
Erick Hawkins	1988
In memory of Doris Humphrey	1989
Charles Weidman, José Limón	
Twyla Tharp	1990
Anna Sokolow	1991
Donald McKayle	1992
Talley Beatty	1993
Trisha Brown	1994
In memory of Pearl Primus,	1995
Helen Tamiris	
Meredith Monk	1996
Anna Halprin	1997
Fayard & Harold Nicholas	1998
Pina Bausch	1999
Pilobolus Dance Theatre	2000
Garth Fagan	2001
Maguy Marin	2003
Eiko & Koma	2004
Bill T. Jones	2005
Murray Louis	2006

Selection Panel

Stuart Hodes
Anna Kisselgolf
Martha Myers
Jodee Nimerichter
Charles L. Reinhart
Judith Sagan
Sebastian Scripps

Photo by Amber Darragh

