

THE EDGE International Arts Season presents

Mark Morris Dance Group

MOZART DANCES

with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra



22 to 29 August

Wed to Sat 8pm

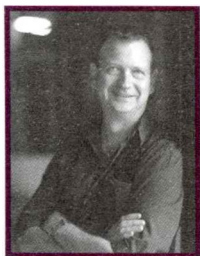
Sun 7pm

The Civic, THE EDGE®

Photo: MMDG / Stephanie Berger

THE EDGE

International
ARTS SEASON
2008



ROBBIE MACRAE

"There is no more musical, inventive, volatile or entertaining dance maker currently afoot. Morris alone is infusing American modern dance with the freshness that may rescue it from a weary formula and resuscitate it for a younger generation." Allan Ulrich, San Francisco Examiner

And it is with that thought that I am thrilled to welcome the Mark Morris Dance Group to Auckland with *Mozart Dances* as part of THE EDGE* 2008 International Arts Season.

When asked where his prodigious talent and beautiful musical compositions came from, Mozart replied that the music "...is there in the morning, but you just have to be careful to not step on it."

With *Mozart Dances* therefore you have to ask yourself the question is "Dances" a noun or a verb?

The company is one of the most creative and respected contemporary dance companies in the world with sell out seasons at Lincoln Center in New York and the Barbican in London. A particular highlight is Mark's insistence on only performing to live music.

It is with great pleasure we also welcome international conductor Jane Glover and pianists Ursula Oppens and Amy Briggs Dissanayake performing with our own Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra.

I am sure you will find tonight inspiring and beautiful and a wonderful opportunity to *hear the music with one's eyes* (Stravinsky to Balanchine).

My desire is to fill THE EDGE* International Arts Season each year with companies and artists of excellence who would otherwise not be able to come to New Zealand to give you all opportunities for enjoyment and wonder across the full spectrum of performing arts. Already I can promise you a very exciting 2009 season!

Robbie Macrae
Director, Performing Arts

THE EDGE® INTERNATIONAL ARTS SEASON PRESENTS
MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

MOZART DANCES

Mark Morris, Choreographer

AUCKLAND PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

Jane Glover, Conductor

Ursula Oppens, Piano

Amy Briggs Dissanayake, Piano

Howard Hodgkin, Scenic Design

Martin Pakledinaz, Costume Design

James F. Ingalls, Lighting Design

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

Craig Biesecker, Samuel Black, Joe Bowie, Elisa Clark, Amber Darragh

Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Lauren Grant, John Heginbotham

David Leventhal, Laurel Lynch, Bradon McDonald, Dallas McMurray,

Maile Okamura, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel, Julie Worden, Michelle Yard

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Mark Morris

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nancy Umanoff

Mozart Dances was commissioned by Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (New York),
New Crowned Hope (Vienna), and the Barbican Centre (London).

Original Premiere: August 17, 2006 - New York State Theater, Lincoln Center for the
Performing Arts, New York City

Altria Group, Inc. is the Mark Morris Dance Group's Lead Sponsor.

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

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, and The Shubert Foundation.

The Mark Morris Dance Group New Works Fund is supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation,
Ellsworth Kelly Foundation, The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, The Untitled Foundation,
The Shelby and Frederick Gans Fund, Meyer Sound/Helen and John Meyer, and Poss Family Foundation.

The Mark Morris Dance Group's performances are made possible with public funds from the
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency,
and the National Endowment for the Arts Dance Program.



PROGRAMME

ELEVEN

Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 11 in F major, K. 413 (1782-83)

AUCKLAND PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

JANE GLOVER, conductor; URSULA OPPENS, piano

Allegro

Larghetto

Tempo di Menuetto

CRAIG BIESECKER, SAMUEL BLACK, JOE BOWIE, ELISA CLARK, AMBER DARRAGH,
RITA DONAHUE, LAUREN GRANT, JOHN HEGINBOTHAM, DAVID LEVENTHAL,
LAUREL LYNCH, BRADON McDONALD, MAILE OKAMURA, NOAH VINSON,
JULIE WORDEN, MICHELLE YARD

INTERMISSION

DOUBLE

Mozart: Sonata in D major for Two Pianos, K. 448 (1781)

URSULA OPPENS, *Piano*; AMY BRIGGS DISSANYAKE, *Piano*

Allegro con spirito

Andante

Allegro molto

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

INTERMISSION

TWENTY-SEVEN

Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 27 in B-flat major, K.595 (1791)

AUCKLAND PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

JANE GLOVER, conductor; URSULA OPPENS, piano

Allegro

Larghetto

Allegro

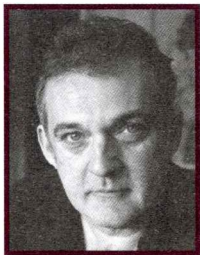
CRAIG BIESECKER, SAMUEL BLACK, JOE BOWIE, ELISA CLARK, AMBER DARRAGH,
RITA DONAHUE, LAUREN GRANT, JOHN HEGINBOTHAM, DAVID LEVENTHAL,
BRADON McDONALD, DALLAS McMURRAY, MAILE OKAMURA, NOAH VINSON,
JENN WEDDEL, JULIE WORDEN, MICHELLE YARD

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

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. Based in Brooklyn, NY, the company has maintained and strengthened its ties to several cities around the world, most notably its West Coast home, Cal Performances in Berkeley, CA, and its Midwest home, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts in Urbana, IL. MMDG also appears regularly in New York City, NY; Boston, MA; 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, Garrick Ohlsson 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 the fall of 2001, MMDG opened the Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn, NY, 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. For more information, visit www.mmdg.org.



Photo: MMDG / Stephanie Berger



MARK MORRIS

Mark 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 repertory of the Pacific Northwest Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, New Zealand Ballet, Houston Ballet, English National Ballet, and The Royal Ballet. Morris is noted for his musicality and has been described as "*undeviating in his devotion to music.*" 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 eight honorary doctorates to date. In 2006, Morris received the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Mayor's Award for Arts & Culture and a WQXR Gramophone Special Recognition Award. He is the subject of a biography by Joan Acocella (Farrar, Straus & Giroux) and Marlowe & Company published a volume of photographs and critical essays entitled *Mark Morris' L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato: A Celebration*. Morris is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society. In 2007, he received the Samuel H. Scripps/American Dance Festival lifetime achievement award.



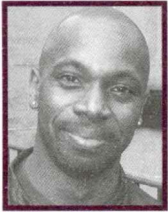
CRAIG BIESECKER

Craig 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.



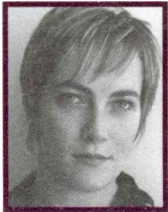
SAMUEL BLACK

Sam is originally from Berkeley, California, where he began studying tap at the age of nine with Katie Maltsberger. He received his B.F.A. in Dance from SUNY Purchase, and also studied at the Rotterdamse Dansacademie in Holland. He has performed in New York with David Parker, Takehiro Ueyama, and Nelly van Bommel. Sam first appeared with MMDG in 2005, and became a company member in 2007.



JOE BOWIE

Joe 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 he also danced with the Paul Taylor Dance Company for two years before going to Belgium to work with Mark Morris in 1989.



ELISA CLARK

Elisa 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 Hougland at 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 serving on an advisory panel for Capezio. She first appeared with MMDG in *L'Allegro* in August 2005.



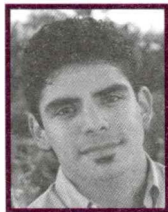
AMBER DARRAGH

Amber 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

Rita 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.



DOMINGO ESTRADA, JR.

Apprentice Domingo a native of Victoria, TX, has recently acquired a B.F.A. in Ballet and Modern Dance at Texas Christian University. Currently, he also works with choreographers Leslie Scott, BODYart Dance; Mary Seidman, Mary Seidman & Dancers; and Christian von Howard, Von Howard Project. He made his debut with the Mark Morris Dance Group during *The Hard Nut* at Cal Performances, Berkeley in 2007. Domingo would like to thank God, his family and all who support his passion!



LAUREN GRANT

Lauren, 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 age of three. She has 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. Lauren is married to fellow dancer David Leventhal.



JOHN HEGINBOTHAM

John is from Anchorage, Alaska. He is a graduate of The Juilliard School (B.F.A. '93) and has danced in the companies of Susan Marshall, Pilobolus Dance Theater (guest artist), John Jasperse and Ben Munisteri. His choreography is featured in the work of recording artists Fischerspooner, and in *Champ: A Space Opera* (New York International Fringe Festival). As a teacher, John works regularly with members of the Brooklyn Parkinson Group. He joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1998.



DAVID LEVENTHAL

David, 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.



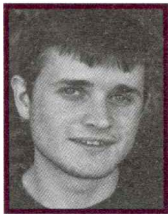
LAUREL LYNCH

Laurel 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 performed works by Robert Battle, Margie Gillis, José Limón, and Ohad Naharin. Since graduating in May 2003, Laurel has danced for Dušan Týnek 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 performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.



BRADON McDONALD

Bradon 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.



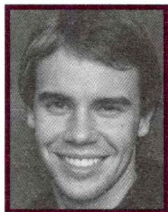
DALLAS McMURRAY

Dallas, from El Cerrito, CA, began dancing at age four, studying jazz, tap, and acrobatics with Katie Maltsberger, 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 performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.



MAILE OKAMURA

Maile 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.



NOAH VINSON

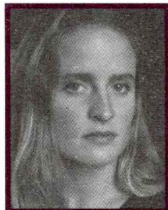
Noah received his B.A. in Dance from Columbia College Chicago, where he worked with Shirley Mordine, Jan Erkert, and Brian Jeffrey. In New York, he has danced with Teri and Oliver Steele and the Kevin Wynn Collection. He began working with MMDG in 2002 and became a company member in 2004.



JENN WEDDEL

Jenn 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, Venci 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 performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.



JULIE WORDEN

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



MICHELLE YARD

Michelle 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

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Executive Director

Mark Morris
Nancy Umanoff

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William Murray (Better Attitude, Inc)
Mark Selinger (McDermott, Will & Emery)
Kathryn Lundquist, CPA
David S. Weiss, M.D. (NYU-HJD Department of
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Jeffrey Cohen

Hilot Therapist

Thanks to Maxine Morris.

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

Additional funding has been received from the Altman Foundation; The Capezio/Ballet Makers Dance Foundation; Joseph and Joan Cullman Foundation for the Arts, Inc.; Dance Heritage Coalition; Google, Inc.; The Harkness Foundation for Dance; The Iovino Family Foundation; Leon Lowenstein Foundation; Materials for the Arts; McDermott, Will & Emery; The Edith Glick Shoolman Children's Foundation; USArtists International; The Vilcek Foundation; and the Friends of the Mark Morris Dance Group.

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INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTOR AND PIANISTS

JANE GLOVER *Conductor*

Jane is a Music Director of Chicago's Music of the Baroque. She has been Music Director of the Glyndebourne Touring Opera, Artistic Director of the London Mozart Players, and conducted many major orchestras and opera companies in Britain, Europe, North America, the Far East and Australasia. She regularly conducts all the Mozart operas, numerous Handel operas, and the Monteverdi trilogy (in her own editions). Beyond this core repertoire, her operatic experience ranges through Gluck, Beethoven, Rossini, Donizetti, Humperdinck, Richard Strauss, Britten and Oliver Knussen. Engagements this year include her debuts with the Berlin Staatsoper (*Così fan tutte*) and with the Houston and San Francisco symphony orchestras. Her book, *Mozart's Women*, was recently published by Macmillan. She studied at Oxford and did her Ph.D. on seventeenth-century Venetian opera there. She holds honorary degrees from several universities and is a Fellow of the Royal College of Music. She was created a CBE in the 2003 New Year's Honours List.

URSULA OPPENS *Pianist*

In 2008, Ursula celebrates the 100th birthday of her friend and colleague, Elliott Carter, with programs of his complete works for solo piano at the Boston Conservatory of Music, at SymphonySpace, and at San Francisco Performances; and with performances of his work at Ravinia, Tanglewood, Merkin Hall and elsewhere. This season she reunites with Mark Morris Dance Group, appearing in Toronto, on tour in New Zealand, and at the Kennedy Center.

Recent highlights include a featured appearance at the Los Angeles Philharmonic's renowned Green Umbrella Festival; her world-premiere performance of William Bolcorm's "Ballade" at the newly re-opened Merkin Hall; Frederic Rzewski's "The People United Will Never Be Defeated" at Berkeley's EdgeFest; and recitals at Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Columbia University's Miller Theater, Zankel Hall, the International Keyboard Institute and Festival at the Mannes College of Music and elsewhere.

Ursula studied piano with her mother, the late Edith Oppens, as well as with Leonard Shure and Guido Agosti. She received her master's degree at The Juilliard School, where she studied with Felix Galimir and Rosina Lhévinne. Ursula joins the faculty at the Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music and CUNY Graduate Center as Distinguished Professor in fall 2008.

AMY BRIGGS DISSANAYAKE *Pianist*

Amy has established herself as a leading interpreter of the music of living composers, while also bringing a fresh perspective to music of the past. She recorded two volumes of David Rakowski's *Piano Etudes* on Bridge Records to much critical acclaim. Based in Chicago, she is a featured soloist and chamber musician on the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's MusicNOW series, where she has worked with composers such as Simon Bainbridge, Pierre Boulez, Oliver Knussen, David Lang, Tania Léon, Esa-Pekka Salonen, and Augusta Read Thomas. Amy has appeared as a soloist and chamber musician in the United States, Europe, Asia and Africa. In 1993, she was selected by the United States Information Agency to tour Africa and South Asia as a United States Artistic Ambassador. Her highly acclaimed concerts combined traditional repertoire with contemporary American music. Amy studied with Ursula Oppens at Northwestern University, where she earned her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance. She is a Steinway Artist.



AUCKLAND PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

Over the past 29 years the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra has established itself as a valued cultural asset for the Auckland region and is the city's only full time, professional symphony orchestra.

Like the community it serves the APO is made up of a culturally rich and diverse group of musicians, all of whom are proud to be Aucklanders and proud to play for Aucklanders.

Each year, the APO presents a full season of symphonic work in the Auckland region, supports both the NBR New Zealand Opera and the Royal New Zealand Ballet and collaborates with some of New Zealand's most innovative artists. It's a great testament to the ability of the orchestra and the passion of its audience that they can go from playing Beethoven to working with New Zealand band, Little Bushman in just a few days and give extraordinary performances at both.

The APO equally recognizes its role in the community as an educator. Through its comprehensive Education programme the orchestra reaches over 30,000 participants each year, providing a wide range of opportunities for students of any age and ability from all over the country. Many performances are also broadcast live nationally, allowing everyone the chance to share the excitement of an APO performance.

The Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra receives major funding from Creative New Zealand and major grants from Auckland City Council and ASB Community Trust, with major support from Auckland Regional Council and The Lion Foundation.

Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra Board

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Gareth Farr

First Violins

Concertmaster

Dimitri Atanassov

Assistant Concertmaster

Miranda Adams

First Violins

+ Pamela Ping Jiang
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Alexander Shapkin
Tomislav Nikolich
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David Maunsell
Eva Sadag
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Robert Lovie

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β Robert Ashworth
+ Anne Draffin
Susan Wedde
Igor Arefyev
Christine Bowie
Owen Gordon
Gregory McGarity

Cellos

β David Garner
= Virginia Hopkins
Kathleen Helyer
You Lee
Claudia Price

Basses

ββ John Harrison
ββ Evgueni Lanchtchikov

Flute

Jennifer Seddon-Mori

Oboes

ββ Bede Hanley
+ Martin Lee

Bassoons

ββ Thomas Greaves
Ruth Brinkman

Horns

β Nicola Baker
** Austin Hitchcock

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ββ	Acting Section Principal
=	Section Leader Emeritus
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**	Acting Principal
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++	Acting Associate Principal
#	Sub-Principal
##	Acting Sub-Principal
-	2008 Manchester Internship Programme

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