

# CELEBRATING 70 YEARS



2008 • 2009 season



**Celebrity Series** of Boston

Engaging • Entertaining • Enriching

# calendar

2008-2009 season



## Celebrity Series of Boston

Engaging • Entertaining • Enriching

### OCTOBER

**Leon Fleisher 80th Birthday Celebration with Leon Fleisher, Yefim Bronfman, Jonathan Biss and Katherine Jacobson Fleisher**  
Friday | October 3 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**David Sedaris**  
Sunday | October 12 | 7pm  
Symphony Hall

**Isabel Bayrakdarian** soprano  
**w/ Manitoba Chamber Orchestra**  
**Anne Manson** conductor  
**Serouj Kradjian** piano  
**Hampic Djabourian** duduk  
Sunday | October 19 | 3pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

### NOVEMBER

**Tokyo String Quartet**  
Saturday | November 1 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Sweet Honey In The Rock**  
Sunday | November 2 | 3pm  
Symphony Hall

**Rob Kapiłow's What Makes It Great? with Chee Yun and Jennifer Frautschi** violin  
**J.S. Bach's Double Concerto for Two Violins in D minor**  
Saturday | November 15 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Takács Quartet w/ Muzsikás and special guest Marta Sebestyén**  
Sunday | November 16 | 3pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Dresden Staatskapelle**  
**Fabio Luisi** conductor  
**Rudolf Buchbinder** piano soloist  
Wednesday | November 19 | 8pm  
Symphony Hall

**Soweto Gospel Choir**  
**"African Spirit" holiday program**  
Sunday | November 30 | 3pm  
Symphony Hall

### DECEMBER

**Emerson String Quartet**  
Friday | December 5 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Lar Lubovitch Dance Company**  
December 12 & 13  
Friday | 7:30pm  
Saturday | 8pm  
Tsai Performance Center

### JANUARY

**Philharmonia Quartett Berlin**  
Friday | January 23 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**The Romeros Guitar Quartet**  
Saturday | January 24 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Leif Ove Andsnes** piano  
**Christian Tetzlaff** violin  
Saturday | January 31 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

### FEBRUARY

**Hubbard Street Dance Chicago**  
February 6-8  
Friday | 7:30pm  
Saturday | 8pm  
Sunday | 3pm  
Cutler Majestic Theatre

**Golden Dragon Acrobats**  
Sunday | February 8 | 3pm  
Symphony Hall

**Anne Sofie von Otter** mezzo-soprano  
**Brad Mehldau** piano  
**Bengt Forsberg** piano  
Friday | February 13 | 8pm  
Sanders Theatre

**Angela Hewitt** piano  
Sunday | February 22 | 3pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Rob Kapiłow's Family Musik**  
**"Green Eggs and Hamadeus"**  
Saturday | February 28  
Sunday | 2pm  
Tsai Performance Center

### MARCH

**Lang Lang** piano  
Sunday | March 1 | 3pm  
Symphony Hall

**The Silk Road Ensemble with Yo-Yo Ma**  
March 8 & 9  
Sunday | 3pm  
Monday | 8pm  
Symphony Hall

**Paddy Moloney with Chieftains and special guests**  
Friday | March 13 | 8pm  
Symphony Hall

**Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis**  
Sunday | March 15 | 3pm  
Symphony Hall

**Mark Morris Dance Group**  
March 19-22  
Thursday | 7:30pm  
Friday | 8pm  
Saturday | 8pm  
Sunday | 3pm  
Cutler Majestic Theatre

**KODO Drummers**  
Sunday | March 22 | 2pm  
Symphony Hall

**London Symphony Orchestra**  
**Valery Gergiev** conductor  
**Alexei Volodin** piano soloist  
Wednesday | March 25 | 8pm  
Symphony Hall

**\*The Blind Boys of Alabama and Preservation Hall Jazz Band**  
**"Down By The Riverside"**  
Friday | March 27 | 8pm  
Symphony Hall

**Rob Kapiłow's What Makes It Great? with the Parker String Quartet, Dvořák's String Quartet No. 12, "American"**  
Saturday | March 28 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Murray Perahia** piano  
Sunday | March 29 | 3pm  
Symphony Hall

### APRIL

**Ian Bostridge** tenor  
Friday | April 3 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Bernadette Peters**  
Saturday | April 4 | 8pm  
Symphony Hall

**Krystian Zimerman** piano  
Friday | April 10 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Nederlands Dans Theater 2**  
April 16 & 17  
Thursday | 7:30pm  
Friday | 8pm  
Tsai Performance Center

**Orion String Quartet with David Krakauer** clarinet  
Saturday | April 18 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Renée Fleming** soprano  
Sunday | April 19 | 5pm  
Symphony Hall

**National Philharmonic of Russia**  
**Vladimir Spivakov** conductor  
**Denis Matsuev** piano soloist  
Wednesday | April 22 | 8pm  
Symphony Hall

**Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**  
**50th Anniversary Celebration**  
April 28-May 3  
Tuesday | April 28 | 7:30pm  
(with Sweet Honey In The Rock)  
Wednesday | 8pm  
Thursday | 8pm  
Friday | 8pm  
Saturday | 2pm | Family Matinee  
Sunday | 8pm  
Sunday | 3pm  
The Opera House

### MAY

**Dawn Upshaw** soprano  
Sunday | May 3 | 3pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

**Rob Kapiłow's Family Musik**  
**"Jabberwocky"**  
Saturday | May 9 | 12pm & 2pm  
Tsai Performance Center

All artists and programs are subject to change.

\*Co-presented with World Music/CRASHarts

■ Call **CelebrityCharge 617-482-6661**  
(Mon-Fri, 10-4)

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**Celebrity Series** of Boston  
Engaging • Entertaining • Enriching

Thursday-Sunday | March 19-22 | 7:30pm/8pm/8pm/3pm | Cutler Majestic Theatre

# MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

## 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 June Omura  
Noah Vinson Jenn Weddel Julie Worden Michelle Yard

\*Apprentice

## MMDG Music Ensemble

Steven Beck Charles Blandy† Jennifer Curtis Katherine Growdon Frank Kelley†  
Mark McSweeney† Hrant Parsamian Jonathan Roberts† Jessica Troy  
Georgy Valtchev Jason Wang†

†appearing courtesy of Emmanuel Music

## Artistic Director

Mark Morris

## Executive Director

Nancy Umanoff

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, New England Foundation for the Arts, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation,  
The Shubert Foundation, and Jane Stine and R.L. Stine.

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,  
Meyer Sound/Helen and John Meyer, and Poss Family Foundation.

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

The 2008-2009 Dance Series is sponsored by  
**The Little Family Foundation** and  EMERSON COLLEGE

Celebrity Series of Boston is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

## DANCE PROGRAM

### *BEDTIME*

*Music:* Franz Schubert: "Wiegenlied," "Ständchen," "Erlkönig"

*Costumes:* Susan Ruddle

*Lighting:* James F. Ingalls

Katherine Growdon *mezzo-soprano*

Charles Blandy *tenor*

Frank Kelley *tenor* (3/19, 20, 22)

Jason Wang *tenor* (3/21)

Mark McSweeney *bass*

Jonathan Roberts *bass*

Steven Beck *piano*

Joe Bowie, Elisa Clark, Rita Donahue, Lauren Grant,  
David Leventhal, Laurel Lynch, Bradon McDonald, Dallas McMurray, Maile Okamura,  
Jenn Weddel, Julie Worden, Michelle Yard

*Premiere:* June 2, 1992 – Cutler Majestic Theatre, Boston, MA  
*Commissioned in part by Dance Umbrella, Boston.*

## PAUSE

### *ALL FOURS*

*Music:* Béla Bartók: String Quartet No. 4

*Costumes:* Martin Pakledinaz

*Lighting:* Nicole Pearce

Georgy Valtchev, Jennifer Curtis *violin*

Jessica Troy *viola*

Hrant Parsamian *cello*

### **I. Allegro**

Joe Bowie, Rita Donahue, John Heginbotham, David Leventhal,  
Laurel Lynch, Maile Okamura, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel

### **II. Prestissimo, con sordino**

Craig Biesecker, Bradon McDonald

### **III. Non troppo lento**

Craig Biesecker, Lauren Grant (3/19, 20), Elisa Clark (3/21, 22),  
Bradon McDonald, Michelle Yard (3/19, 20), Julie Worden (3/21, 22)

### **IV. Allegretto pizzicato**

Lauren Grant, Michelle Yard (3/19, 20),  
Elisa Clark, Julie Worden (3/21, 22)

### **V. Allegro molto**

Joe Bowie, Rita Donahue, John Heginbotham, David Leventhal,  
Laurel Lynch, Maile Okamura, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel

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

*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 Major for piano and strings, Opus 44

*Costumes:* Martin Pakledinaz

*Lighting:* Michael Chybowski

Jennifer Curtis, Georgy Valchev *violin*

Jessica Troy *viola*

Hrant Parsamian *cello*

Steven Beck *piano*

Craig Biesecker, Elisa Clark, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Lauren Grant,  
John Heginbotham, David Leventhal, Laurel Lynch, Bradon McDonald,  
Dallas McMurray, Maile Okamura, Noah Vinson, Julie Worden, Michelle Yard

*Premiere: October 16, 2001 – Sadler's Wells, London, UK*

## Texts and Translations

**Franz Schubert (1797-1828)**

**Wiegenlied, D. 498**

Text by Matthias Claudius (1740-1815)

Schlafe, holder, süßer Knabe,  
Leise wiegt dich deiner Mutter Hand;  
Sanfte Ruhe, milde Labe  
Bringt dir schwebend dieses Wiegenband.

Schlafe in dem süßen Grabe,  
Noch beschützt dich deiner Mutter Arm,  
Alle Wünsche, alle Habe  
Faßt sie liebend, alle liebewarm

Schlafe in der Flammen Schoße,  
Noch umtönt dich lauter Liebeston,  
Eine Lilie, eine Rose,  
Nach dem Schlafe werd' sie dir zum Lohn

**Ständchen, D. 920 (first version)**

Text by Franz Grillparzer (1791-1872)

Zögernd leise  
In des Dunkels nächt'ger Hülle  
Sind wir hier:  
Und den Finger sanft gekrümmt,  
Leise, leise,  
Pochen wir  
An des Liebchens Kammerthür.

Doch nun steigend,  
Schwellend, schwellend,  
Mit vereinter Stimme, Laut  
Rufen aus wir hochvertraut:  
Schlaf du nicht,  
Wenn der Neigung Stimme spricht!

Sucht' ein Weiser nah und ferne  
Menschen einst mit der Laterne;  
Wieviel seltner dann als Gold  
Menschen, uns geneigt und hold?  
Drum wenn Freundschaft, Liebe spricht,  
Freundin, Liebchen, schlaf du nicht!

Aber was in allen Reichen  
Wär' dem Schlummer zu vergleichen?  
Drum statt Worten und statt Gaben

**Lullaby, D. 498**

Sleep, dear, sweet boy,  
Your mother's hand rocks you softly.  
This swaying cradle strap  
Brings you gentle peace and tender comfort.

Sleep in the sweet grave;  
Your mother's arms still protect you.  
All her wishes, all her possessions  
She holds lovingly, with loving warmth.

Sleep in her lap, soft as down;  
Purely notes of love still echo around you.  
A lily, a rose  
Shall be your reward after sleep.

**Serenade, D. 920**

Softly, hesitantly,  
Cloaked in night's darkness,  
We have come here;  
And with fingers gently curled,  
Softly, softly  
We knock  
On the beloved's bedroom door.

But now, our emotion rising,  
Swelling,  
Surging, with united voice  
We call out loud, in warm friendship:  
"Do not sleep  
When the voice of affection speaks."

Once a wise man with his lantern  
Sought people near and far;  
How much rarer, then, than gold  
Are people who are fondly disposed to us?  
And so, when friendship and love speak,  
Do not sleep, friend, beloved!

But what in all the world's realms  
Can be compared to sleep?  
And so, instead of words and gifts,

Sollst du nun auch Ruhe haben,  
Noch ein Grüßchen, noch ein Wort,  
Es verstummt dir frohe Weise,  
Leise, leise,  
Schleichen wir uns, ja, schleichen wir uns  
Wieder fort!

You shall now have rest.  
Just one more greeting, one more word,  
And our happy song ceases;  
Softly, softly  
We steal away again.

**Erlkönig, D. 328** (fourth version)  
Text by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

**The Erlking, D. 328** (fourth version)

Wer reitet so spät durch Nacht und Wind?  
Es ist der Vater mit seinem Kind:  
Er hat den Knaben wohl in dem Arm,  
Er faßt ihn sicher, er hält ihn warm.

Who rides so late through the night and wind?  
It is the father with his child.  
He has the boy in his arms,  
He holds him safely, he keeps him warm.

“Mein Sohn, was birgst du so bang dein Gesicht?”  
“Siehst, Vater, du den Erlkönig nicht?  
Den Erlenkönig mit Kron und Schweif?”  
“Mein Sohn, es ist ein Nebelstreif.”

“My son, why do you hide your face in fear?”  
“Father, can you not see the Erlking?  
The Erlking with his crown and tail?”  
“My son, it is a streak of mist.”

“Du liebes Kind, komm, geh mit mir!  
Gar schöne Spiele spiel ich mit dir;  
Manch' bunte Blumen sind an dem Strand,  
Meine Mutter hat manch gülden Gewand.”

“Sweet child, come with me,  
I'll play wonderful games with you;  
Many a pretty flower grows on the shore,  
My mother has many a golden robe.”

“Mein Vater, mein Vater, und hörst du nicht,  
Was Erlenkönig mir leise verspricht?  
Sei ruhig, bleibe ruhig, mein Kind:  
In dürren Blättern säuselt der Wind.”

“Father, father, do you not hear  
What the Erlking softly promises me?”  
“Calm, be calm my child:  
The wind is rustling in the withered leaves.”

“Willst, feiner Knabe, du mit mir gehen?  
Meine Töchter sollen dich warten schön;  
Meine Töchter führen den nächtlichen Reihn  
Und wiegen und tanzen und singen dich ein.”

“Won't you come with me, my fine lad?  
My daughters shall wait upon you;  
My daughters lead the nightly dance,  
And will rock, and dance, and sing you to sleep.”

“Mein Vater, mein Vater, und siehst du nicht dort  
Erlkönigs Töchter am düstem Ort?”  
“Mein Sohn, mein Sohn, ich seh es genau:  
Es scheinen die alten Weiden so grau.”

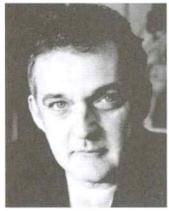
“Father, father, can you not see  
Erlking's daughters there in the darkness?”  
“My son, I can see clearly:  
It is the old grey willows gleaming.”

“Ich liebe dich, mich reizt deine schöne Gestalt;  
Und bist du nicht willig, so brauch ich Gewalt.”  
“Mein Vater, mein Vater, jetzt faßt er mich an!  
Erlkönig hat mir ein Leids getan!”

“I love you, your fair form allures me,  
And if you don't come willingly, I'll use force.”  
“Father, father, now he's seizing me!  
The Erlking has hurt me!”

Dem Vater grauset's, er reitet geschwind,  
Er hält in Armen das ächzende Kind,  
Erreicht den Hof mit Müß' und Not:  
In seinen Armen das Kind war tot.

The father shudders, he rises swiftly,  
He holds the moaning child in his arms;  
With one last effort he reaches home;  
The child lay dead in his arms.



**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 seven 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.

**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](http://www.mmdg.org).

**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 800 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.

**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 a 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. Beck 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 nine with Katie Maltzberger. 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. Black first appeared with MMDG in 2005, and became a company member in 2007.



**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 works of Robert Wilson and Ulysses Dove, and danced with Paul Taylor Dance Company for two years before going to Belgium to work with Mark Morris in 1989.



**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 danced with the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, Nederlands Dans Theater, and Battleworks Dance Company, before joining MMDG in 2006. Ms. Clark has also worked with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, as assistant to Robert Battle. She has been on faculty at the American Dance Festival and teaches for MMDG. She is a 2008-2009 Princess Grace Modern Dance Honorarium Award Winner.

**JENNIFER CURTIS** (*violin*) is an artist who navigates with personality and truth into the essence of each piece of music she performs. Winner of Artists International Presentations' 2009 outstanding alumni award, Ms. Curtis is also a winner of Astral's 2006 National Auditions, as well as the recipient of the inaugural MILKA/ASTRAL VIOLIN PRIZE, designated for a violinist invited to join the Astral Artists roster. Astral presented her Philadelphia recital debut, and her solo debut with Symphony in C in the Kimmel Center. Ms. Curtis was presented in recital at New York's Merkin Concert Hall, where she gave the New York Premiere of George Enescu's *Suite for solo violin in Romanian Folkstyle*. Highlights of past seasons include a solo appearance with the celebrated Simón Bolívar Orchestra in Venezuela, performances with the International Contemporary Ensemble (with whom she is a member) at Mexico's Festival Internacional de Música Contemporánea, Musica Nova in Helsinki, Finland, as well a musical exploration in the Amazon Jungle of Peru. Ms. Curtis is the founder and director of the Tres Americas Project, and was featured with this ensemble as part of the Brooklyn Philharmonic's Nuevo Latino Festival. Possessing an avid interest in music of all kinds, she has studied West African, Haitian, and Afro-Cuban percussion, and plays the mandolin professionally. Also an accomplished composer, her works have been performed in New York City, at Italy's Spoleto Festival, the Verbier Festival de Musique in Switzerland, and throughout Latin America. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Mills College in California, where she studied with David Abel, and a Master of Music degree from The Juilliard School, where she studied with Robert Mann.



**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.



**DOMINGO ESTRADA, JR.**, a native of Victoria, TX, 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 & Dancers, and Christian von Howard, Von Howard Project. He made his debut with MMDG during *The Hard Nut* at Cal Performances, Berkeley, in 2007 and became an apprentice in 2008. Domingo would like to thank God, his family, and all who support his passion!



**LAUREN GRANT**, born and raised in Highland Park, IL, has danced with MMDG since 1996. She has appeared in 40 of Mr. Morris' works and performs leading roles in *The Hard Nut* and *Mozart Dances*. Ms. Grant has been featured in *Time Out New York*, *Dance Magazine*, and a recently published book, *Meet The Dancers*, and has been photographed by Annie Leibovitz. She holds a B.F.A. from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and teaches dance internationally. Ms. Grant is married to fellow dancer David Leventhal.

**KATHERINE GROWDON** (*mezzo-soprano*) has been described as having a "buttermilk voice" (*San Jose Mercury*), "rich, sustained lines," "heartrending emotion, and excellent control" (*San Francisco Classical Voice*). Her operatic roles include Cherubino (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Idamante (*Idomeneo*), Nicklausse (*Les contes d'Hoffmann*), Fragoletto (*Les Brigands*), Baba the Turk (*Rake's Progress*), Nefertiti (*Akhmaten*), Count Orsini (*Lucrezia Borgia*), Mércédes (*Carmen*), Meg Page (*Falstaff*), Third Lady (*The Magic Flute*), Hansel (*Hansel and Gretel*), Juno (*Semele*), and La Ciesca (*Gianni Schicchi*). In oratorio, she has performed as a featured soloist with the American Bach Soloists, the San Francisco Bach Choir, and the UC Berkeley Chorus. She recently made her Portland Opera mainstage debut as Mércédes. She participated as a fellow at the Carmel Bach Festival in 2007, and most recently at the Tanglewood Music Center.

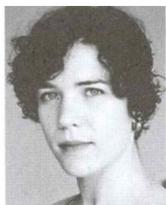


**JOHN HEGINBOTHAM** is from Anchorage, AK, and graduated from The Juilliard School in 1993. He has performed with such artists as Susan Marshall, John Jasperse, and Ben Munisteri, and was a guest artist with Pilobolus Dance Theater. John's choreography is featured in the work of recording artists Fischerspooner, and in *Champ: A Space Opera* (New York International Fringe Festival). As a teacher, he works regularly with members of the Brooklyn Parkinson Group. John joined MMDG in 1998.



**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

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 performed works by Robert Battle, Margie Gillis, José Limón, and Ohad Naharin. Since graduation 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 first appeared with MMDG 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 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 performing works by Jiří Kylián, Alonzo King, Robert Moses, and Colin Connor. Dallas first appeared with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and joined the company in 2007.



**MAILE OKAMURA** is originally from San Diego, CA. She was a member of Boston Ballet II in 1992-1993 and Ballet Arizona in 1993-1996. 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.

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**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, and 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 boy, born in 2006. She is grateful to her family, Mark Morris, and MMDG for their love and support.

**HIRANT PARSAMIAN** (*cello*) After winning the Montgomery Symphony Fellowship, Hrant Parsamian moved back to New York where he performs regularly with ensembles such as New Jersey Symphony, Jupiter Symphony Chamber Players, and Carnegie Ensemble, among others. Hrant is the founding member of the Arsenal Trio, which has a residency at the Clefworks Festival. A graduate of The Juilliard School and Yale School of Music, Hrant is active as both a soloist and chamber musician throughout the U.S., on stages ranging from Zankel Hall and Merkin Concert Hall in New York to Beckwith Hall in Fargo, N.D.

**JESSICA TROY** (*viola*), a native New Yorker, has been the violist of the Mark Morris Dance Group Music Ensemble since 1998. She has toured extensively from Brooklyn to Sydney, and performed throughout the U.S. and Japan with Yo-Yo Ma. On the baroque viola, she performs with the Dodd String Quartet, Four Nations Ensemble, Rebel, Grand Tour Orchestra, Sinfonia NY, and Clarion, and has appeared with Renée Fleming on *Late Show with David Letterman*. She has seized the stage from Toronto to Lima with the rock group East Village Opera Company, and is a member of both the Brooklyn and Westchester Philharmonics. She has recorded quartet parts for Ani DiFranco, Lou Reed, 2 Foot Yard, and Charming Hostess. A participant at many illustrious chamber music festivals, including Prussia Cove and Marlboro, she can be heard on the latter’s 50th anniversary CD in György Kurtág’s *Microhudes* for string quartet, which she prepared with the composer.

**GEORGY VALTCHEV** (*violin*) has been honored with a number of awards, among them the First Prize of the Ducrest International Competition in Lafayette, LA, and the Special Prize of the Tibor Varga International Violin Competition in Switzerland. He has appeared throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia, most recently in recitals and as soloist with orchestras in New York, Boston, Bangor, Baton Rouge, Chicago, Dallas, Miami, and his native Bulgaria. Mr. Valtchev began his violin studies at the age of six and gave his first performance with orchestra six years later at the Music Academy of his native city, Plovdiv. He studied first at the Plovdiv Music School, then at the State Music School “Lubomir Pipkov,” Sofia. At 16, he won the Grand Prize and Special Prize at the “Kocian” International Competition in the then Czechoslovakia. Mr. Valtchev came to the U.S. as a scholarship student of Dorothy Delay and Masao Kawasaki at The Juilliard School, where he earned Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees. Mr. Valtchev has recorded a CD for the Gega label featuring solo and chamber works by Victoria Bond. He has made numerous recordings for the Bulgarian National Radio and has appeared in live broadcasts of Bulgarian National Radio and Television and WFMT Chicago.



**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, Vencil 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 first appeared with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and joined the company in 2007.



**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.*

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