

Mondavi CENTER

2010
2011

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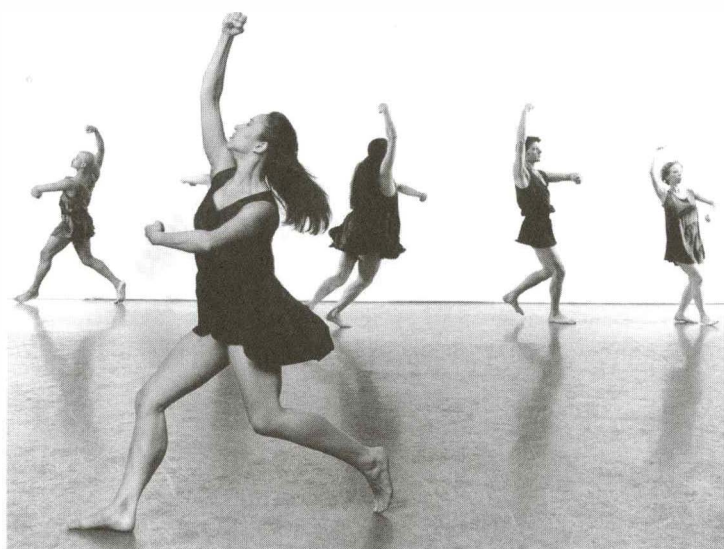
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ISSUE 5: JAN-FEB 2011



ROBERT AND MARGRIT
MONDAVI CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
UCDAVIS

PRESENTS



Mark Morris Dance Group

A Hallmark Inn Davis Dance Series Event

Wednesday, February 2, 2011 • 8PM

Jackson Hall, Mondavi Center, UC Davis

There will be one intermission.

Post-performance Q&A

Moderated by Ruth Rosenberg,

Artist Engagement Coordinator, Mondavi Center, UC Davis

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The artists and your fellow audience members appreciate silence during the performance. Please be sure that you have switched off all electronic devices. Videotaping, photographing, and audio recording are strictly forbidden. Violators are subject to removal.

MARK MORRIS



DANCE GROUP

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

SAMUEL BLACK JOE BOWIE ELISA CLARK
 RITA DONAHUE DOMINGO ESTRADA, JR. LAUREN GRANT
 JOHN HEGINBOTHAM AARON LOUX* LAUREL LYNCH
 DALLAS McMURRAY AMBER STAR MERKENS MAILE OKAMURA
 SPENCER RAMIREZ* WILLIAM SMITH III NOAH VINSON
 JENN WEDDEL JULIE WORDEN MICHELLE YARD

*APPRENTICE

Artistic Director

MARK MORRIS

Executive Director

NANCY UMANOFF

MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE

WOLFRAM KOESSEL COLIN FOWLER JESSE MILLS

MetLife Foundation is the Mark Morris Dance Group's Official 30th Anniversary Sponsor.

Major support for the Mark Morris Dance Group is provided by

Brooklyn Community Foundation,

JP Morgan Chase Foundation, Fund for the City of New York, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation,
 The Billy Rose Foundation, Inc., The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Shubert Foundation,
 Jane Stine and R.L. Stine and Trust for Mutual Understanding.

The Mark Morris Dance Group New Works Fund is supported by
 The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, Meyer Sound/Helen and John Meyer,
 The PARC Foundation 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.

PROGRAM

Visitation

Music: Ludwig van Beethoven - *Cello Sonata No. 4 in C Major, Op. 102, No. 1*

Costume Design: Elizabeth Kurtzman

Lighting Design: Nicole Pearce

Wolfram Koessel, *cello*; Colin Fowler, *piano*

Maile Okamura

I. *Andante—Allegro vivace*

Samuel Black, Rita Donahue, Noah Vinson, Michelle Yard

II. *Adagio—Tempo d'andante—Allegro vivace*

Samuel Black, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada Jr., John Heginbotham, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel,
Julie Worden, Michelle Yard

Commissioned in part by the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

Premiere: August 5, 2009; Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, Lenox, MA

PAUSE

Empire Garden

Music: Charles Ives - *Trio for Violin, Violoncello, and Piano, S. 86*

Costume Design: Elizabeth Kurtzman

Lighting Design: Nicole Pearce

I. *Moderato*

II. *TSIAJ – Presto*

III. *Moderato con moto*

Jesse Mills, *violin*; Wolfram Koessel, *cello*; Colin Fowler, *piano*

Samuel Black, Elisa Clark, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada Jr., Lauren Grant,
John Heginbotham, Laurel Lynch, Dallas McMurray, Amber Star Merkens,
Maile Okamura, Spencer Ramirez, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel,
Julie Worden, Michelle Yard

Commissioned in part by the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

Premiere: August 5, 2009; Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, Lenox, MA

Music by arrangement with Peer International Corporation, publisher and copyright owner.

Intermission

Grand Duo

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

Costume Design: Susan Ruddie

Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Prelude

Stampede

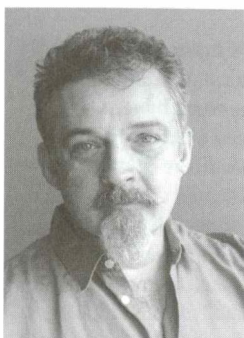
A Round

Polka

Jesse Mills, *violin*; Colin Fowler, *piano*

Samuel Black, Elisa Clark, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada Jr., Lauren Grant,
John Heginbotham, Laurel Lynch, Dallas McMurray, Amber Star Merkens,
Maile Okamura, William Smith III, Noah Vinson, Julie Worden, Michelle Yard

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



Mark Morris was born on August 29, 1956, in Seattle, Washington, where he studied with Verla Flowers and Perry Brunson. In the early years of his career, he performed with the dance companies of 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 1988-91, 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 time there were three evening-length dances: *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*; *Dido and Aeneas*; and *The Hard Nut*. In 1990, he founded the White Oak Dance Project with Mikhail Baryshnikov. Morris is also a ballet choreographer and has created seven works for the San Francisco Ballet since 1994 and received commissions from many others. His work is also in the repertory of the Pacific Northwest Ballet, Boston 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, Gotham Chamber Opera, English National Opera, and the Royal Opera, Covent Garden. In 1991, he was named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation. He has received 10 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 for "being an American ambassador for classical music at home and abroad." He is the subject of a biography, *Mark Morris*, 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. In 2010, he received the prestigious Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award for the Elevation of Music in Society.

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, the company has maintained and strengthened its ties to several cities around the world, most notably its West Coast home, Cal Performances in Berkeley, and its Midwest home, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois in Urbana. MMDG also appears regularly in New York, Boston, and Seattle.

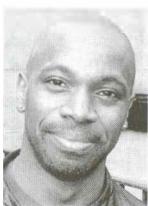
MMDG made its debut at the Mostly Mozart Festival in 2002 and at the Tanglewood Music Festival in 2003 and has since been invited to both festivals annually. From the company's many London seasons, it has also garnered two Laurence Olivier Awards. MMDG is noted for its commitment to live music, a feature of every performance on its international touring schedule since 1996. MMDG collaborates with leading orchestras, opera companies, and musicians including cellist Yo-Yo Ma, on the Emmy Award-winning film *Falling Down Stairs* (1997); percussionist and composer Zakir Hussain, Yo-Yo 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*, two documentaries for the U.K.'s *South Bank Show*, and PBS's *Live From Lincoln Center*. In 2001, the Mark Morris Dance Center opened in Brooklyn to provide a home for the company, rehearsal space for the dance community, outreach programs for local children, and a school offering dance classes to students of all ages. For more information, visit www.mmdg.org.

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, 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.

Company Members



Samuel Black is originally from Berkeley, 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 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 danced with the 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. Clark has also worked with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. She has been on faculty at the American Dance Festival and teaches for MMDG. She is a 2008-09 Princess Grace Modern Dance Honorarium Award Winner.



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 kraigpatterson and joined MMDG in 2003.



Domingo Estrada, Jr., a native of Victoria, Texas, received a B.F.A. in ballet and modern dance from Texas Christian University. He made his debut with MMDG during *The Hard Nut* at Cal Performances, Berkeley, in 2007, and became a company member in 2009.



Lauren Grant, born and raised in Highland Park, Illinois, has danced with MMDG since 1996. She performs leading roles in *The Hard Nut* and *Mozart Dances*. Grant has been featured in *Time Out New York*, *Dance Magazine*, and the book *Meet the Dancers*. She graduated with a B.F.A.

from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Grant is on faculty at MMDG's school and also teaches dance internationally.



John Heginbotham is from Anchorage, Alaska. He is a graduate of the Juilliard School (B.F.A., 1993) 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 MMDGp in 1998.



Aaron Loux grew up in Seattle and began dancing at the Creative Dance Center as a member of Kaleidoscope, a youth modern dance company. He began his classical training at the Cornish College Preparatory Dance Program and received a B.F.A. from the Juilliard School in 2009. He danced at the Metropolitan Opera and with Arc Dance Company before joining MMDG as an

apprentice in 2010.



Laurel Lynch began her dance training in Petaluma. She moved to New York to attend the Juilliard School. Since graduation in 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.



Dallas McMurray, from El Cerrito, 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.



Amber Star Merkens is originally from Newport, Oregon, where she began her dance training with Nancy Mittleman. She received a 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.



Maile Okamura is originally from San Diego. 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.



Spencer Ramirez began his training in Springfield, Virginia, studying under Melissa Dobbs, Nancy Gross, Kellie Payne, and Marilyn York, and the Maryland Youth Ballet with faculty such as Michelle Lees, Christopher Doyle, and Harriet Williams. In 2008, he entered the Juilliard School under the direction of Lawrence Rhodes. Ramirez joined MMDG in July 2010.



William Smith III grew up in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and attended George Mason University under a full academic and dance talent scholarship. He graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2007. His piece *3-Way Stop* was selected to open the 2006 American College Dance Festival Gala at Ohio State University.

Billy danced with Parsons Dance from 2007-10. He became an apprentice with MMDG in April 2010 and was promoted to full company member in November.



Noah Vinson received a 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 received her early training from Boulder Ballet Company near where she grew up in Longmont, Colorado. She holds a B.F.A. from Southern Methodist University and also studied at Boston Conservatory, Colorado University, and the Laban Center, London. Since moving to New York in 2001, Weddel has created and performed with Red Wall Dance Theater, Sue Bernhard Danceworks, Venc Dance Trio, Rocha Dance Theater, TEA Dance Company, and with such choreographers as Alan Danielson and Ella Ben-Aharon. Weddel performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.



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



Michelle Yard was born in Brooklyn 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 also attended New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where she graduated with a B.F.A. Michelle joined MMDG in 1997.



Colin Fowler (piano) is a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy and holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the Juilliard School. He has recorded and performed throughout the world with numerous soloists and ensembles, including Deborah Voigt, the American Brass Quintet, James Galway, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. In addition to performing and conducting numerous Broadway shows, Fowler is a professor at NYU and Nyack College. He began collaborating with MMDG in 2006.



Wolfram Koessel (cello), since moving to New York in 1991, has established himself as a much sought-after chamber musician, soloist, recording artist, and contractor in the New York music scene. He has performed with MMDG since 1999 and was music director from 2004-08. In 2006, Koessel joined the renowned American String Quartet, with which he performs in the fore-

most concert halls throughout the world, collaborating frequently with today's leading artists. Koessel appears with a wide range of ensembles and groups, most notably and frequently with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. He has organized hundreds of classical orchestra and chamber music concerts during the last decade in New York City. He is on the faculty of the Manhattan School of Music and the Aspen Music Festival. Koessel resides with his wife, pianist and writer J. Mae Barizo, in Manhattan.



Jesse Mills (violin) graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree from the Juilliard School in 2001. He has performed as soloist with the Juilliard Pre-College Chamber Orchestra, the Teatro Argentino Orchestra in Buenos Aires, New Jersey Symphony, Sarah Lawrence College Symphony, Plainfield Symphony, 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 2001-03. 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.

Mark Morris Dance Group Staff

Artistic Director: Mark Morris

Executive Director: Nancy Umanoff

Production

Technical Director: Johan Henckens

Rehearsal Director: Matthew Rose

Lighting Supervisor: Michael Chybowski

Wardrobe Supervisor: Jennifer Perry

Costume Coordinator: Stephanie Sleeper

Sound Supervisor: Jim Abdou

Finance Assistant: Katharine Urbati

General Manager: Huong Hoang

Administration

Chief Financial Officer: Elizabeth Fox

Finance Associate: Marea Chaveco

Company Manager: Sarah Robinson

Management Assistant: Shanleigh Philip

Marketing/Development

Director of Development and External Relations:

Lauren Cherubini

Director of Marketing: Helen Frank

Special Projects Manager: Alexandro Pacheco

Development Associate: Kelly Sheldon

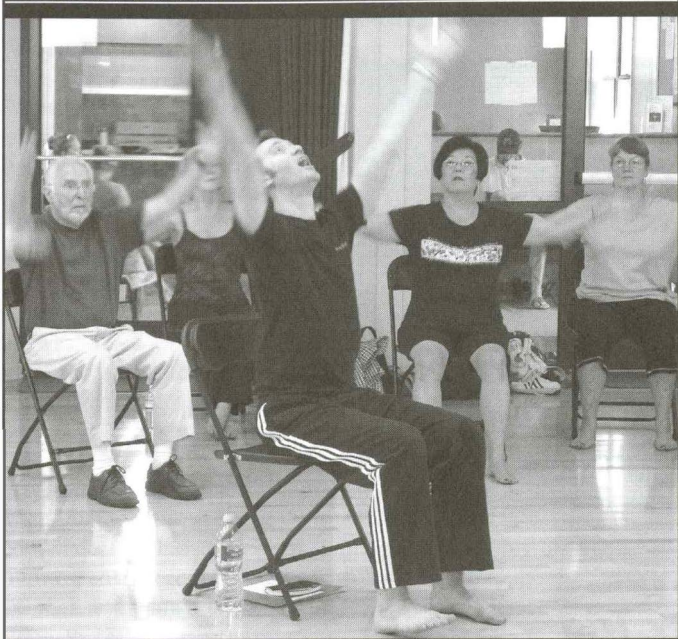
Development Assistant: Moss Allen

Marketing Assistant: Ashley Matthews

Office Assistant: Jay Selinger

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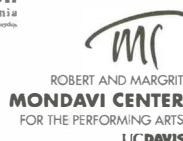
FOR PARKINSON'S



The Mondavi Center and the Mark Morris Dance Group proudly announce the launch of **Dance for Parkinson's**, a partnership with the Pamela Trokanski Dance Theatre and the Parkinson Association of Northern California. The program offers weekly dance classes to people with Parkinson's Disease and their caregivers.

Following an initial class on February 1 taught by members of the Mark Morris Dance Group, classes will be taught by local dance teachers who have received training in the company's DANCE+PD program. The class is being held in Davis with the possibility of expanding to Sacramento in the future.

For more information, or to enroll in the class, contact Mondavi Center Artist Engagement Coordinator Ruth Rosenberg, 530.752.6113 or rrosenberg@ucdavis.edu.



Education

Outreach Director: Eva Nichols
School Director: Sarah Marcus
Program Manager: David Leventhal
School Bursar: Marc Castelli

Dance Center Operations

Studio Manager: Karyn Treadwell
Production and Facilities Manager: Matthew Eggleton
Assistant Facilities Manager: Chris Sperry
Front Desk Manager: Jackie Busch
Music Coordinator: Bruce Lazarus
Maintenance: Gregory Collazo, Jose Fuentes, Orlando Rivera

Booking Representation:

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Media and General Consultation Services:
William Murray (Better Attitude, Inc)
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Accountant: O'Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, LLP
Orthopaedist: David S. Weiss, M.D. (NYU-HJD Department of Orthopaedic Surgery)
Hilot Therapist: Jeffrey Cohen
Physical Therapist: Marshall Hagins, PT, PhD

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 Amphion Foundation, Inc.; The Buck Family Foundation; Capezio Ballet Makers Dance Foundation; Joseph and Joan Cullman Foundation for the Arts, Inc.; Mertz Gilmore Foundation; The Harkness Foundation for Dance; The Iovino Family Foundation; The Charles Ives Society, Inc.; Johnson & Johnson/Society for the Arts in Healthcare Partnership to Promote the Arts in Healing; Leon Lowenstein Foundation; Materials for the Arts; McDermott, Will & Emery; The David & Mildred Morse Charitable Trust Foundation; New England Foundation for the Arts; USArtists International; and the Friends of the Mark Morris Dance Group.

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