

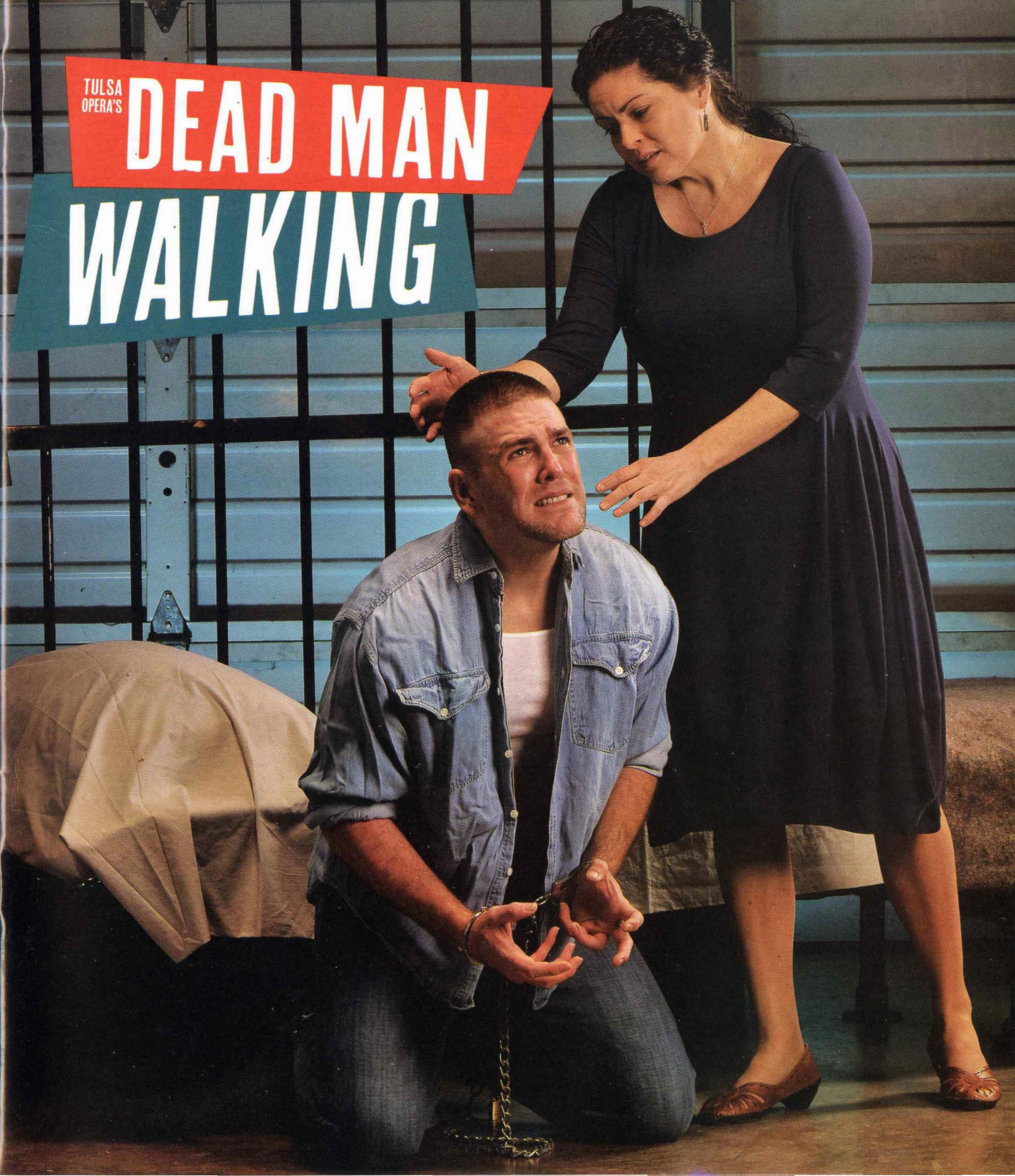
TULSA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

# INTERMISSION

FEBRUARY 2012

TULSA  
OPERA'S

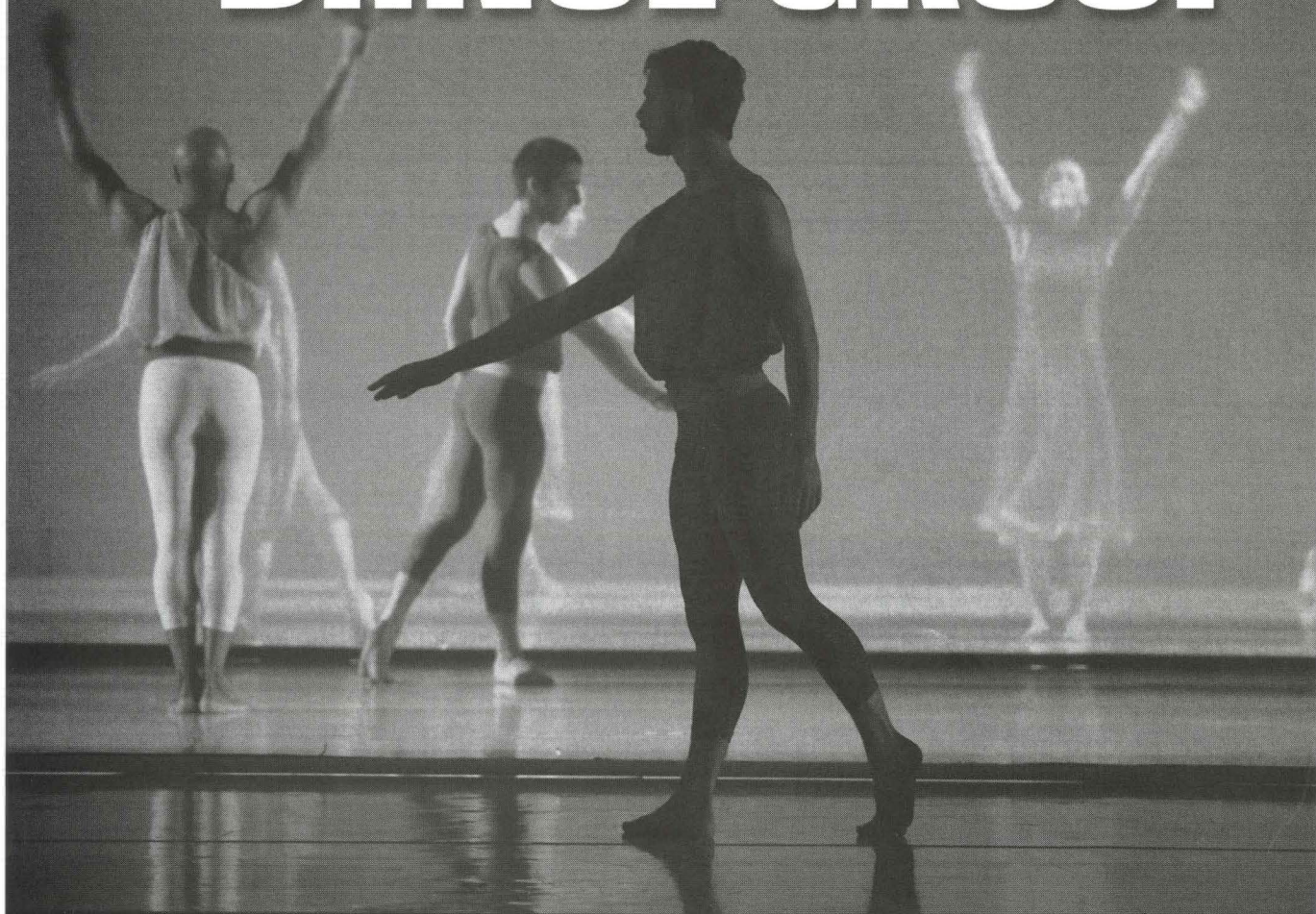
## DEAD MAN WALKING





CHOREGUS  
PRODUCTIONS

# MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP



## February 3 & 4

Tulsa Performing Arts Center



presents...

# MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP



CHELSEA LYNN ACREE · SAMUEL BLACK · RITA DONAHUE  
DOMINGO ESTRADA, JR. · LAUREN GRANT · LESLEY GARRISON  
JOHN HEGINBOTHAM · BRIAN LAWSON\* · AARON LOUX · LAUREL LYNCH  
STACY MARTORAMA\* · DALLAS McMURRAY · AMBER STAR MERKENS  
MAILE OKAMURA · SPENCER RAMIREZ · WILLIAM SMITH III · NOAH VINSON  
JENN WEDDEL · MICHELLE YARD

\*apprentice

## MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE COLIN FOWLER JOANNA FRANKEL

*Artistic Director*  
MARK MORRIS

*Executive Director*  
NANCY UMANOFF

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

Major support for the Mark Morris Dance Group is provided by Bloomberg Philanthropies,  
Brooklyn Community Foundation, Fund for the City of New York,  
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Billy Rose Foundation, 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 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.

### ***Canonic ¾ Studies***

Music: Various composers, arranged by Harriet Cavalli – *Piano Waltzes*

Lighting Design: James F. Ingalls

Colin Fowler, piano

Chelsea Lynn Acree, Samuel Black, Lesley Garrison, Brian Lawson, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Stacy

Martorana, Spencer Ramirez, William Smith III

Premiere: July 29, 1982 – Washington Hall Performance Gallery, Seattle, WA

### ***Going Away Party***

Music: Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys - *Playboy Theme; Yearning; My Shoes Keep Walking Back To You; Goin' Away Party; Baby, That Sure Would Go Good; Milk Cow Blues; Crippled Turkey; When You Leave Amarillo, Turn Out The Lights*

Costume Design: Christine Van Loon

Lighting Design: Phil Sandstrom

Samuel Black, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada Jr., John Heginbotham,

Maile Okamura, William Smith III, Michelle Yard

Premiere: April 14, 1990 – Halles de Schaerbeek, Brussels, Belgium

### **-INTERMISSION-**

### ***Silhouettes***

Music: Richard Cumming – *Silhouettes* – Five Pieces for Piano

Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Colin Fowler, piano

Samuel Black, Dallas McMurray (2/3 performance)

Domingo Estrada, Jr., Noah Vinson (2/4 performance)

Premiere: June 10, 1999 – Maximum Dance Company, Coconut Grove Playhouse, Miami, FL

MMDG premiere: August 2, 1999 – Ted Shawn Theatre, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Becket, MA

### ***Grand Duo***

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

Costume Design: Susan Ruddle Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

*Prelude*

*Stampede*

*A Round*

*Polka*

Joanna Frankel, *violin*; Colin Fowler, *piano*

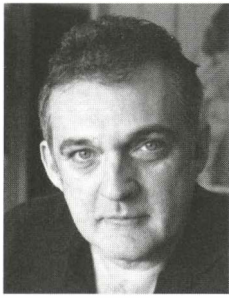
Chelsea Lynn Acree, Samuel Black, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada Jr., Lesley Garrison,

John Heginbotham, Laurel Lynch, Dallas McMurray, Maile Okamura, Spencer Ramirez,

William Smith III, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel, 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 Koleda Balkan Dance Ensemble, and later the dance companies of Lar Lubovitch, Hannah Kahn, Laura Dean, and Eliot Feld. He formed the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1980, and has since created more than

130 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 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 eight 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 eleven 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.

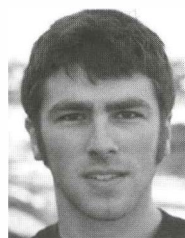
The **MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP** was formed in 1980 and gave its first concert that year in New York City. The company's touring schedule steadily expanded to include cities both in the U.S. and in Europe, and in 1986 it made its first national television program for the PBS series *Dance in America*. 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, 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 at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. MMDG also appears regularly in New York, NY;

Boston, MA; Fairfax, VA; and Seattle, WA. 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 including the Emmy Award-winning film *Falling Down Stairs* (1997); percussionist and 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*, two documentaries for the U.K.'s *South Bank Show*, and PBS' *Live From Lincoln Center*. In September of 2001, the Mark Morris Dance Center opened in Brooklyn, NY, 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](http://www.mmdg.org).

The **MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE**, formed in 1996, performs with the Dance Group throughout the season at home and on tour and has become integral to the company's creative life. The core group of accomplished musicians is supplemented by a large roster of regular guests, including cellist Yo-Yo Ma and pianist Emanuel Ax. While in Brooklyn, members of the ensemble continue to participate in the Mark Morris Dance, Music and Literacy Project in the New York City public school system.



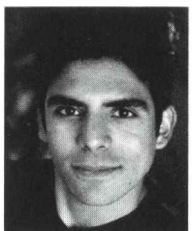
**CHELSEA LYNN ACREE** grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, where she began her dance training with Sharon Lerner, then continued at Carver Center for the Arts and Technology. Since receiving her B.F.A. in dance from SUNY Purchase in 2005 she has had the opportunity to work with a variety of artists including SYREN Modern Dance, Laura Peterson, Hilary Easton + Company, and Michael and the Go-Getters. Acree is on faculty at The School at the Mark Morris Dance Center teaching kids and adults how to move through space. She began working with Mark Morris Dance Group in 2007 and joined the company in 2011.



**SAMUEL BLACK** is 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 The Netherlands. He has performed with David Parker, Takehiro Ueyama, and Nelly van Bommel, and currently teaches MMDG master classes and Dance for PD®. He first appeared with MMDG in 2005, and became a company member in 2007.

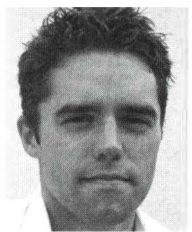


**RITA DONAHUE** was born and raised in Fairfax, Virginia, and attend George Mason University. She graduated with high distinction in 2002, receiving a B.A. in English and a B.F.A. in dance. She danced with bopi's black sheep/dances by kraig patterson and joined MMDG in 2003.



**DOMINGO ESTRADA, JR.**, a native of Victoria, Texas, studied martial arts and earned his black belt in 1994. He danced Ballet Folklórico through his church for 11 years. Estrada earned his B.F.A. in ballet and modern dance from Texas Christian University and had the honor of working with the late Fernando Bujones. During

his undergraduate studies he attended the American Dance Festival where he had the privilege of performing *Skylight*, a classic work by choreographer Laura Dean. He debuted with MMDG in 2007 and became a company member in 2009. Estrada would like to thank God, his family and all who support his passion.



**COLIN FOWLER** (piano) is a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy and holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degree from The Juilliard School. He has performed and recorded throughout the world with numerous soloists and ensembles including Deborah Voight, the American Brass Quintet, James Galway, and the Los Angeles

Philharmonic. In addition to performing and conducting numerous Broadway shows, he has been a professor at NYU and Nyack College. He began collaborating with MMDG in 2006.



**JOANNA FRANKEL** (violin) Winner of the Rachel Elizabeth Barton Foundation career grant and the prestigious William Schuman Prize for artistic excellence. Recent highlights include solo appearances in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Rochester, Palm Beach, Washington DC, Amsterdam, Moscow, St. Petersburg, Prague,

Tallinn, Bratislava, and Helsinki, at halls such as Carnegie Hall and Het Concertgebouw. She has toured internationally with Carnegie Hall's Ensemble ACJW, after being selected in 2007 as part of The Academy's inaugural fellowship class. A dedicated chamber musician, Frankel has performed at La Jolla SummerFest, Spain's Niemeyer Center, Germany's Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Abu Dhabi's Zaha Hadid Pavillion, and throughout South America. A recent scholarship graduate of The Juilliard School, Frankel performs on the 1846 Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume violin "Josph Guarnerius fecit Cremonae," on extended loan from a generous patron through the Rachel Elizabeth Barton Foundation.



**LESLEY GARRISON** grew up in Swansea, Illinois and received her early dance training at the Center of Creative Arts in St. Louis, Missouri and Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan. She studied at the Rotterdamse Dansacademie in The Netherlands and holds a B.F.A. from the SUNY Purchase, receiving the Modern Dance Faculty Award. She

has performed with the Erica Essner Performance Co-op, John Heginbotham, the Kevin Wynn Collection, Neel Verdoorn, Nelly Van Bommel's NØA Dance, Rocha Dance Theater and Sidra Bell Dance New York. She has also performed in Morris' production of *Orfeo ed Euridice* with the Metropolitan Opera. Garrison has taught creative movement and modern dance at The School at the Mark Morris Dance Center and assists in the Dance for PD® program. She first performed with MMDG in *L'Allegro il Penseroso ed il Moderato* in 2007 and joined the company in 2011.

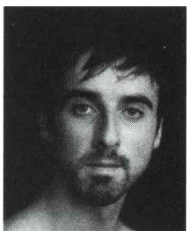


**LAUREN GRANT**, born and raised in Highland Park, Illinois, has danced with MMDG since 1996. Appearing in over 40 of Mark Morris' works, she performs leading roles in *The Hard Nut* and *Mozart Dances*. Grant has been featured in *Time Out New York*, *Dance Magazine*, the book *Meet the Dancers*, and is the subject of a photograph by Annie Leibovitz. 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** has danced with MMDG since 1993. Raised in Anchorage, Alaska, he is a graduate of The Juilliard School (B.F.A. '93) and has performed in the companies of Susan Marshall, John Jasperse, Ben Munisteri, and Pilobolus Dance Theater (guest artist). He recently completed a choreographic residency at the Baryshnikov

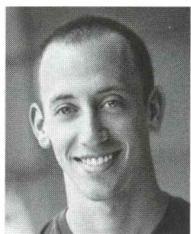
Arts Center, where he was the recipient of a 2010 Jerome Robbins Foundation New Essential Works (NEW) Fellowship Grant. Heginbotham is a founding teacher of Dance for PD®, a program initiated by MMDG and the Brooklyn Parkinson Group. For more information, please visit [www.johnheginbotham.com](http://www.johnheginbotham.com).



**BRIAN LAWSON** began his dance training in Toronto at Canadian Children's Dance Theatre. There he worked with choreographers such as David Earle, Carol Anderson, and Michael Trent. Lawson spent a year studying at the Rotterdamse Dansacademie in The Netherlands and graduated summa cum laude in 2010 from Purchase College, where

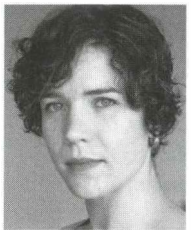
he was also granted the President's Award for his contributions to the dance program. Lawson has had the pleasure of performing with Pam Tanowitz Dance, John Heginbotham, and Nelly van Bommel's NØA Dance among others. He joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2011.





**AARON LOUX** grew up in Seattle, Washington 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 his B.F.A. from The Juilliard School in 2009. He danced at The Metropolitan Opera and with

Arc Dance Company before joining MMDG in 2010.



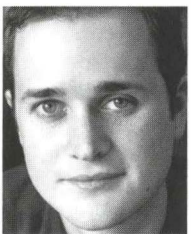
**LAUREL LYNCH** began her dance training at Petaluma School of Ballet in California. She moved to New York to attend The Juilliard School where she performed works by Robert Battle, Margie Gillis, José Limón, and Ohad Naharin. After graduation Lynch danced for Dušan Týnek Dance Theatre, Sue Bernhard Danceworks, and Pat Catterson.

Lynch joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007. Many thanks to Gene and Becky.



**STACY MARTORANA** began her dance training in Baltimore, Maryland at the Peabody Conservatory. In 2006 she graduated from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, with a B.F.A. in contemporary dance. Since then, she has danced for the Amy Marshall Dance Company, the Neta Dance Company, Helen Simoneau Dance,

Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Company, and Rashaun Mitchell. She was a member of the Repertory Understudy Group for the Merce Cunningham Dance Company from 2009 through 2011. She joined MMDG as an apprentice in January 2012.



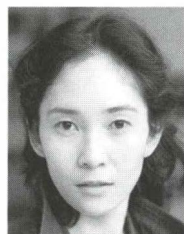
**DALLAS McMURRAY**, from El Cerrito, California, began dancing at age four, studying jazz, tap, and acrobatics with Katie Maltsberger, and ballet with Yukiko Sakakura. He received a B.F.A. in dance from the California Institute of the Arts. He performed with the Limón Dance Company in addition to works by Jiri Kylian, Alonzo King, Robert

Moses, and Colin Connor. McMurray performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.



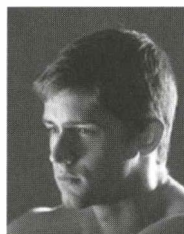
**AMBER STAR MERKENS**, originally from Newport, Oregon, began her dance training with Nancy Mittleman. She received her B.F.A. from The Juilliard School and went on to dance with the Limón Dance Company Company. In 2001 she received the Princess Grace Award and joined MMDG. She has presented her own choreography both in New York and abroad, taught at The School at the Mark Morris Dance Center, and worked as a freelance

photographer for MMDG, the Silk Road Project, and Brooklyn Rider String Quartet, among others. Merkens would like to thank her family for their continuous support.



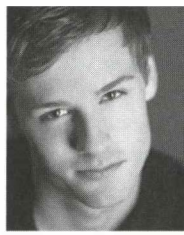
**MAILE OKAMURA** studied primarily with Lynda Yourth at the American Ballet School in San Diego, California. She was a member of Boston Ballet II and Ballet Arizona before moving to New York to study modern dance. Okamura has been dancing with MMDG since 1998. She has also had the pleasure of working with choreographers Neta Pulver-

macher, Zvi Gotheiner, Gerald Casel, and John Heginbotham, with whom she frequently collaborates as dancer and costume designer.



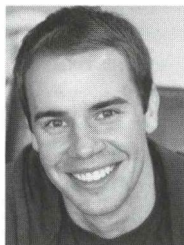
**SPENCER RAMIREZ** began his training in Springfield, Virginia, studying under Melissa Dobbs, Nancy Gross, Kellie Payne, and Marilyn York. From there, he continued training at the Maryland Youth Ballet with faculty such as Michelle Lees, Christopher

Doyle, and Harriet Williams. In 2008, he entered The Juilliard School under the direction of Lawrence Rhodes and had the opportunity to perform works by José Limón, Jerome Robbins, Sidra Bell, and Fabien Prioville. Ramirez joined MMDG as an apprentice in July 2010 and became a company member in 2011.



**WILLIAM SMITH III** grew up in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and attended George Mason University under a full academic and dance talent scholarship. Smith graduated magna cum laude in 2007 and received achievement awards in Performance, Choreography, and Academic Endeavors. While at George Mason he performed the works of

Mark Morris, Paul Taylor, Lar Lubovitch, Doug Varone, Daniel Ezralow, Larry Keigwin, Susan Marshall and Susan Shields. Smith's own piece, *3-Way Stop*, was selected to open the 2006 American College Dance Festival Gala at Ohio State University and his original choreography for a production of *Bye Bye Birdie* garnered much critical praise. An actor as well, Smith's regional theatre credits include Tulsa in *Gypsy*, Mistoffelees in *CATS* and Dream Curly in *Oklahoma!*. Previously he danced with Parsons Dance from 2007-2010. He became an MMDG company member in 2010.



**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** 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 RedWall Dance Theater, Sue Bernhard Dance-works, Vencel Dance Trio, Rocha Dance Theater, TEA Dance Company and with various choreographers including Alan Danielson and Ella Ben-Aharon. Weddel performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.



**MICHELLE YARD** was born in Brooklyn, New York. She began her professional dance training at the NYC High School of the Performing Arts and at the same time was a scholarship student at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center. She graduated with a B.F.A. from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. She teaches Pilates as

well as master classes for MMDG's residency programs. Yard joined MMDG in 1997. Mom, thank you.

#### **MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP STAFF**

Artistic Director Mark Morris  
Executive Director Nancy Umanoff

#### **PRODUCTION**

Technical Director Johan Henckens  
Rehearsal Director Matthew Rose  
Lighting Supervisor Philip Watson  
Costume Coordinator Stephanie Sleeper  
Wardrobe Supervisor Jennifer Perry  
Sound Supervisor Ken Hypes

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

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Finance Associate Marea Chaveco  
Finance Assistant Diana Acevedo  
General Manager Huong Hoang  
Company Manager Sarah Horne  
Interns Shola Farber, Yen-Lin Goh, Brianna Leporace

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Director of Development and External Relations Lauren Cherubini  
Associate Director of Development Kelly Sheldon  
Special Projects Manager Alexandro Pacheco  
Development Assistant Moss Allen

#### **EDUCATION**

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School Director Sarah Marcus  
*Dance for PD®* Program Manager David Leventhal  
School Administrator Elise Marafioti

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Production and Facilities Manager Matthew Eggleton  
Front Desk Manager Jackie Busch  
Assistant Front Desk Managers Elise Gaugert, Abby West Music  
Coordinator Bruce Lazarus  
Maintenance Jose Fuentes, Alex Ortiz, Orlando Rivera

Booking Representation Michael Mushalla, Double M Arts & Events

Media and General Consultation Services William Murray, Better Attitude, Inc.

Legal Counsel Mark Selinger, McDermott, Will & Emery Accountant O'Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, LLP Orthopaedist David S. Weiss, M.D., NYU-HJD Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

Physical Therapist Marshall Hagins, PT, PhD  
Hilot Therapy, Jeffrey Cohen

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.; Capezio Ballet Makers Dance Foundation; Joseph and Joan Cullman Foundation for the Arts, Inc.; The Harkness Foundation for Dance; Johnson & Johnson/Society for the Arts in Healthcare; Leon Lowenstein Foundation; Materials for the Arts; McDermott, Will & Emery; SingerXenos Wealth Management; The Tcherepnin Society; and the Friends of the Mark Morris Dance Group.

The Mark Morris Dance Group is a member of Dance USA and Downtown Brooklyn Arts Alliance.

For more information contact:  
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