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SPRING PROGRAM 2012



Mark Morris Dance Group, photo: Robbie Jack

# Mark Morris Dance Group

With MMDG Music Ensemble

THU, APR 26 / 8 PM  
GRANADA THEATRE

Mark Morris, Artistic Director

*An event of  
The Anne & Michael Towbes Dance Series*

*Generously supported by  
Margo Cohen-Feinberg & Robert Feinberg*

## Program

### **All Fours**

Music by Béla Bartók: String Quartet No. 4

Costume Design: Martin Pakledinaz

Lighting Design: Nicole Pearce

Musicians: Jesse Mills, violin, Michi Wiancko, violin, Dov Scheinlin, viola,  
Andrew Janss, cello

#### **Allegro**

Dancers: Chelsea Lynn Acree, Samuel Black, Lesley Garrison, Laurel Lynch, Maile Okamura, Spencer Ramirez, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel

#### **Prestissimo, con sordino**

Dancers: Aaron Loux, Dallas McMurray

#### **Non troppo lento**

Dancers: Rita Donahue, Aaron Loux, Dallas McMurray, Michelle Yard

#### **Allegretto pizzicato**

Dancers: Rita Donahue, Michelle Yard

#### **Allegro molto**

Dancers: Chelsea Lynn Acree, Samuel Black, Lesley Garrison, Laurel Lynch, Maile Okamura, Spencer Ramirez, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel

Premiere: September 12, 2003 at Zellerbach Hall, Cal Performances, Berkeley, Calif.

Commissioned in part by Cal Performances

Bartók's String Quartet No. 4 is performed by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, publisher and copyright owner.

## ***Festival Dance***

Music by Johann Nepomuk Hummel: Piano Trio No. 5 in E Major, op. 83

Costume Design: Martin Pakledinaz

Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Musicians: Jesse Mills, violin, Andrew Janss, cello, Colin Fowler, piano

**Waltz (Allegro)**

**March (Andante)**

**Polka (Rondo)**

Dancers: Samuel Black, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada Jr., Lesley Garrison, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Dallas McMurray, Maile Okamura, Spencer Ramirez, William Smith III, Jenn Weddel, Michelle Yard

Premiere: March 17, 2011 at James and Martha Duffy Performance Space, Mark Morris Dance Center, Brooklyn, NY  
Festival Dance was made possible by The New Works Fund with leadership gifts from The Poss Family Foundation, Suzy Kellems Dominik, Shelby & Frederick Gans, Helen & John Meyer, and Abigail Turin & Jonathan Gans

Intermission

## **V**

Music by Robert Schumann:

Quintet in E Flat Major for Piano and Strings, op. 44

**Allegro brillante**

**In modo d'una Marcia. Un poco largamente – Agitato**

**Scherzo: Molto vivace**

**Allegro, ma non troppo**

Costume Design: Martin Pakledinaz

Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Musicians: Jesse Mills, violin, Michi Wiancko, violin, Dov Scheinlin, viola,  
Andrew Janss, cello, Colin Fowler, piano

Dancers: Chelsea Lynn Acree, Samuel Black, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada Jr., John Heginbotham, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Dallas McMurray, Amber Star Merkens, Maile Okamura, William Smith III, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel, Michelle Yard

Premiere: October 16, 2001 at Sadler's Wells, London, U.K.

## Mark Morris

Mark Morris was born on August 29, 1956, in Seattle, Wash., 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 to 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, Royal 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 11 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 Award for Lifetime Achievement. In 2010, he received the prestigious Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award for the Elevation of Music in Society.

## 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 in the U.S. and 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, Calif., and its Midwest home, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at 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 in its 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); percussionist and composer Zakir Hussain, 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 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).

## MMDG Music Ensemble

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.

*Full program and company biographies available at [www.ArtsAndLectures.UCSB.edu](http://www.ArtsAndLectures.UCSB.edu)*

## Acknowledgment

Thanks to Maxine Morris.

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

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

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

## Mark Morris Dance Group Staff

**Mark Morris**, Artistic Director  
**Nancy Umanoff**, Executive Director

### Production

Technical Director, **Johan Henckens**  
Rehearsal Director, **Matthew Rose**  
Lighting Supervisor, **Philip Watson**  
Costume Coordinator, **Stephanie Sleeper**  
Sound Supervisor, **Ken Hypes**

### Administration

Chief Financial Officer, **Elizabeth Fox**  
Finance Assistant, **Diana Acevedo**  
General Manager, **Huong Hoang**  
Company Manager, **Sarah Horne**  
Interns, **Sheena Hagy, Marianny Loveras**

### Marketing/Development

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

### Education

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

### Dance Center Operations

Studio Manager, **Karyn Treadwell**  
Front Desk Manager, **Jackie Busch**  
Assistant Front Desk Managers,  
**Elise Gaugert, Abby West**  
Music Coordinator, **Bruce Lazarus**  
Custodial Coordinator, **Jose Fuentes**  
Maintenance, **Alex Ortiz, Orlando Rivera**

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