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MARKS NORRIS DANCE GROUP

Sadler's Wells 27 – 31 October 2009

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Welcome to Sadler's Wells

Welcome to these performances by the Mark Morris Dance Group. It is always a pleasure to invite Mark's company to Sadler's Wells, as alongside the exhilaration and invention of his choreography, you also discover a fine and eclectic selection of music. This visit is no exception with music ranging from Schumann to Charles Ives and the Western Swing of Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys!

I am delighted that we are able to present UK premieres of Marks' new works *Visitation* and *Empire Garden* as well as the return of two of his masterpieces V and *Grand Duo*.

I would like to thank our partners in this presentation, the Large Scale Dance Consortium, who will tour the company to seven different towns and cities in addition to London and the Dance Umbrella Festival.

Photo: H. Glendinning.

Alistair Spalding Artistic Director and Chief Executive

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MARK NORRIS



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 Theater, 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 nine 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.

Watch an exclusive video interview with Mark Morris on the reputation of real people dancing www.danceconsortium.com/mmdg-interviews

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

CRAIG BIESECKER SAMUEL BLACK JOE BOWIE ELISA CLARK RITA DONAHUE DOMINGO ESTRADA, JR. LESLEY GARRISON LAUREN GRANT JOHN HEGINBOTHAM DAVID LEVENTHAL LAUREL LYNCH BRADON McDONALD DALLAS McMURRAY AMBER STAR MERKENS MAILE OKAMURA NOAH VINSON JENN WEDDEL JULIE WORDEN MICHELLE YARD

MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE

MARGARET BRAGLE COLIN FOWLER JOEL HUNTER WOLFRAM KOESSEL GEORGY VALTCHEV MICHI WIANCKO

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

MARK MORRIS

EXECUTIVE DIR ECTOR

NANCYUMANOFF

MetLife Foundation

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

Major support for the Mark Morris Dance Group is provided by Carnegie Corporation of New York, JP Morgan Chase Foundation, The Howard Gilman Foundation, Independence Community Foundation, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Shubert Foundation. and Jane Stine and RL 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 PARC 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.

DANCE UMBRELLA

Founded in 1978, Dance Umbrella is one of the world's most exciting programmers of new dance. It thrives on the dynamism and openness of London and brings together artists and events which surprise and thrill audiences of all kinds. Each year Dance Umbrella stages one of the world's leading international dance festivals in London. It is responsible for the explosion of interest in contemporary dance in the UK by increasing public awareness and inspiring artistic excellence, and Dance Umbrella's dedication to the development of the artform continues.

It has been 25 years since Mark Morris, accompanied by two dancers, made his Dance Umbrella debut. Since then, Dance Umbrella has presented the Mark Morris Dance Group numerous times and not only as part of the London festival. In 1995, it produced the first of four national tours by the company which included the opening performances of the first Woking Dance Umbrella. In 1997, in collaboration with English National Opera, it presented the long awaited London premiere of L'Allegro il Penseroso ed il Moderato which received two Olivier Awards. This year, Dance Umbrella is delighted again to be working in partnership with the Dance Consortium to present Mark Morris Dance Group on tour in the UK with an exciting range of works including the UK premiere of Empire Garden and Visitation.



PROGRAMME ONE

EMPIRE GARDEN

MUSIC Charles lves Trio for violin, cello and piano

COSTUME Elizabeth Kurtzman

LIGHTING Nicole Pearce

PREMIERE DATE 5 August 2009

PREMIERE VENUE Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center

PREMIERE LOCATION Lenox, MA

DURATION 25 minutes

BEDTIME

MUSIC Franz Schubert Wiegenlied, op. 98, no.2; Ständchen, op. post. 135 D 920; Erlkönig, op. 1

COSTUMES Susan Ruddie

LIGHTING James F Ingalls

PREMIERE DATE 2 June 1992

PREMIERE VENUE Emerson Majestic Theatre, Dance Umbrella

PREMIERE LOCATION Boston, MA

DURATION 14 minutes

V

MUSIC Robert Schumann Quintet in E flat major for piano and strings, op. 44

COSTUMES Martin Pakledinaz LIGHTING Michael Chybowski PREMIERE DATE 16 October 2001 PREMIERE VENUE Sadler's Wells PREMIERE LOCATION London DURATION 33 minutes The performance will finish at approximately 21.05

PROGRAMME TWO

VISITATION

MUSIC Ludwig van Beethoven Sonata no. 4 in C major for cello and piano, op. 102, no. 1

COSTUME Elizabeth Kurtzman

LIGHTING Nicole Pearce

PREMIERE DATE 5 August 2009

PREMIERE VENUE Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center

PREMIERE LOCATION Lenox, MA

DURATION 15 minutes



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 (recording)

COSTUMES Christine Van Loon

LIGHTING Michael Chybowski

PREMIERE DATE 14 April 1990

PREMIERE VENUE Halles de Schaerbeek

PREMIERE LOCATION Brussels, Belgium

DURATION 24 minutes

EXCURSIONS

MUSIC Samuel Barber Excursions for the Piano, op. 20 (IV, III, II, I) The performance will finish at approximately 21.15

COSTUMES Katherine M Patterson

LIGHTING Nicole Pearce

PREMIERE DATE 26 June 2008

PREMIERE VENUE Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center

PREMIERE LOCATION Lenox, Massachusetts

DURATION 15 minutes

GRAND DUO

MUSIC Lou Harrison Grand Duo for violin and piano Prelude, Stampede, A Round, Polka

COSTUMES Susan Ruddie

LIGHTING Michael Chybowski

PREMIERE DATE 16 February 1993

PREMIERE VENUE Fine Arts Center, University of Massachusetts

PREMIERE LOCATION Amherst, Massachusetts

DURATION 25 minutes





MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP BIOGRAPHY

1980 Mark Morris gets together some friends and colleagues, calls them the Mark Morris Dance Group, and puts on a show at the Merce Cunningham Studio in New York City.

1984 Presented by Dance Umbrella, the Mark Morris Dance Group makes its London debut at The Place. MMDG presents its first of 21 seasons at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

1985 MMDG appears in Paris at the American Center, returns to the UK for performances in London and Alsager, and debuts at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

1986 The Dance Group makes its debut in Vienna and performs at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival for the first time (2007 marked the company's twentieth Jacob's Pillow season). The company makes its first television special for PBS's Great Performances-Dance in America.

1987 Morris choreographs John Adams' Nixon in China, the first of numerous collaborations with director Peter Sellars, set designer Adrianne Lobel, and lighting designer James F Ingalls.

1988 The Mark Morris Dance Group moves to Brussels for three years to become the official dance company of the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, the national opera house of Belgium.

1990 Mark Morris founds the White Oak Dance Project with Mikhail Baryshnikov. The Hidden Soul of Harmony, a documentary focusing on MMDG's Belgian years, is broadcast on London Weekend Television's South Bank Show.

1991 The Hard Nut, Morris' version of Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker, premieres in Brussels and is filmed for PBS's Great Performances - Dance in America. Mr Morris is named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation and receives the Dance Magazine Award. The company returns to the United States as one of the world's leading dance companies, performing across the US and at major international festivals.

1992 MMDG makes the first of six consecutive appearances at the Edinburgh International Festival. Over the years, MMDG will have performed a total of 27 pieces at the festival, including five major evening length productions: Dido and Aeneas; L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato; The Hard Nut; Plateé; and Orfeo ed Euridice.

1993 The biography, Mark Morris, by Joan Acocella is published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

1994 MMDG makes its first appearance in Australia with a month long engagement at the Adelaide Festival. San Francisco Ballet premieres Maelstrom, Mr Morris' first of seven commissions for that company.

1995 Dance Umbrella presents MMDG on its first of four major UK tours with performances in Woking, Canterbury,

Birmingham, Newcastle, Blackpool and Snape Maltings. The Dance Group receives the Hamada Prize, the Edinburgh Festival's highest honor. The company films Dido and Aeneas and makes its Lincoln Center debut, performing L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato at the New York State Theater.

1996 MMDG makes a commitment to perform exclusively to live music, a feature of every performance on its full international touring schedule to this day.

1997 MMDG premieres Morris' production of Platée with the RoyalOpera, Covent Garden and wins a Laurence Olivier Award for the British premiere of L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato. Howard Hodgkin designs the set for Rhymes With Silver, the first of three collaborations with the company. MMDG makes its Asian debut at the Hong Kong Festival and Mr Morris receives the Capezio Award.

1998 Yo-Yo Ma and Mark Morris collaborate on the Emmy award winning film for television, Falling Down Stairs, set to Bach's Third Suite for Unaccompanied Cello.

1999 MMDG goes on its second multi city tour of the UK with engagements in London, Canterbury, Birmingham, Woking, High Wycombe, and Stoke-on-Trent. Mr Morris receives an honorary doctorate from The Juilliard School.

2000 MMDG presents Dido and Aeneas; L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato; and



premieres Four Saints in Three Acts with the English National Opera at the London Coliseum. Four Saints is the subject of MMDG's second South Bank Show documentary. Mr Morris becomes Patron of Dance Base, Edinburgh.

2001 As part of its 20th anniversary season, MMDG's third multi city tour of the UK includes engagements in London, Woking, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Snape Maltings, Milton Keynes, Glasgow, Salford, and High Wycombe. The company receives a Laurence Olivier Award for its London season featuring the world premiere of V. A volume of photographs and critical essays, L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato-A Celebration, is published by Marlowe & Company. The Mark Morris Dance Center, which houses the company, a school and community programs opens in Brooklyn, NY.
2002 MMDG tours Japan with Yo-Yo Ma and makes its debut as the first dance company to perform at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival and has been invited back every year since. English National Ballet performs Morris' Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes and the Royal Ballet performs Morris' Gong.

2003 Mr Morris creates a dance on four of the leading men of American Ballet Theater for PBS television. MMDG becomes the first dance company to appear at the Tanglewood Music Festival and has been invited back every year since, conducting a weeklong residency and performing with Yo-Yo Ma.

 2004 The Hard Nut makes its first London appearance co produced by Dance Umbrella and Sadler's Wells. MMDG debuts at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin. San Francisco Ballet commissions a full evening ballet by Mark Morris, resulting in the first ever American production of Léo Delibes' Sylvia.
 2005 MMDG inaugurates the James and Martha Duffy Performance Space, a 140 seat black box theater at the Mark Morris Dance Center. MMDG commemorates its 25th anniversary with a year long celebration beginning with the world premiere of Cargo, the first ever Boston Symphony Orchestra dance commission and the Dance Group's fourth multi city tour of the UK including Newcastle, Cardiff, London, Birmingham, Salford, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Snape Maltings, High Wycombe, and Woking.

2006 Mark Morris makes his conducting debut in a performance of Gloria at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Morris choreographs and directs King Arthur with the English National Opera at the London Coliseum. The Mark Morris Dance Center expands on two more floors of the Erickson Building to include two new studios and additional lounge space. Mozart Dances receives its world premiere in New York at



Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival and its European premiere in Vienna as part of the New Crowned Hope Festival. Mozart Dances also marks the first collaboration with pianists Emanuel Ax and Yoko Nozaki.

2007 The Dance Group presents its first series of public shows at the Mark Morris Dance Center with nine sold out performances that include the world premiere of Italian Concerto, danced by Morris and other Dance Group members. Morris makes his Metropolitan Opera directorial debut with Orfeo ed Euridice and collaborates with Maestro James Levine for the production. Mozart Dances is performed at the Barbican Centre in London and during an encore performance at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival, televised as part of PBS' Live from Lincoln Center series and broadcast to 1.2 million viewers nationwide back in the US. The Hard Nut is released on DVD, airs on television for the first time in 15 years and is voted Best Nutcracker by Ovation TV viewers.

2008 Romeo & Juliet, On Motifs of Shakespeare, co-commissioned by a global conglomerate of presenters including the Barbican Centre, has its world premiere at the Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College. That autumn, the production tours to London and MMDG performs with the London Symphony Orchestra. MMDG collaborates with Brooklyn Independent Television, a division of BRIC ARTS | MEDIA, to produce a series of MMDG television episodes to air in Brooklyn and on the web.

2009 The Mark Morris Dance Center expands to fully realize the Erickson Building including a sixth and seventh studio, additional amenities, lounge space, and reception area as well as a wellness center. Two new pieces, Visitation and Empire Garden are co commissioned by Tanglewood Music Center and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. Yo-Yo Ma and Emanuel Ax perform once again with MMDG for both engagements. MMDG embarks on its fifth multi city tour of the UK.

Based in Brooklyn, NY, the company performs in several cities around the world on an annual basis-most notably in the US at its West Coast home, Cal Performances in Berkeley, CA: its Midwest home, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, IL; and its East Coast home at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York, NY. For more information visit www.mmdg.org

MORRIS HAS THE RHYTHMAND MOVES...

Let's tweak Shakespeare-something Mark Morris did not so long ago, with Romeo and Juliet-and declare: 'If love of music is the food of dance-play on. Give this particular choreographer excess of it...' Even if interviews with Mark Morris didn't pick up on the passion, insights and guirks of humour that character his relationship with music, a scan of his own back catalogue-not just the dance works, but the increasing involvement with opera and, of late, orchestral conducting-would reveal that (aside from the odd beer or two, and possibly his own cooking) music is food and drink to him. It's also what he talks about, when people-okay, dance hacks 'n' hackettes-ask him about his choreography. Across the years, his pithy responses-and Morris is a master of witty pithhave included the following. 'I've learned more about choreography from Handel than from other people's dances.' (The same is true for audiences who have been lucky enough to see the master work that is his response to the composer's oratorio L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato). And 'I'm not doing it to make people understand music: it's a dance I made up to that music-people watch it, they get the music in a different way and they're not scared off. And I like that. And I don't think it's a dumbing-down thing'.

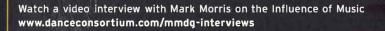
Ah... Two things here: one is that audiences worldwide feel that Morris's choreography takes them inside a piece of music-that they 'hear' it with their eyes, and their instincts, not just their ears. And they respond rapturously to the experience, whether it's Bach or Barber, Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys or the American modernist composer, Lou Harrison, all of whom are the accompaniment to this UK tour. The second thingand it connects to the popular following that the Mark Morris Dance Group has built up over time-is sniped at, and dismissed, when Morris refers to 'dumbing-down'.

Since the 1980s when Morris archly shook his luxuriant elf-locks-now shorn, but rumour has it, still part of the knick-knackery that furnishes his apartment- and spoke his mind to anyone who questioned him, his reputation for provocative candour has preceded him. But in truth, his forthright comments on choreography- by others, as well as himself-have done the whole dance scene a favour. What the hell is so wrong with people enjoying a dance performance? Since when is buying a ticket like booking in for two hours of penance, or boredom, or more pernicious still, being made to feel inadequate for 'not understanding' the dance?

Morris has absolutely no truck with any of that. He's said in the past that he doesn't believe 'there's anything innately criminal in your work being watched by lots and lots of people. If you're only happy with other dissatisfied choreographers watching your work, that's ridiculous'. And though Morris is rightly celebrated for his wicked sense of humour, and can even shock with his astute perceptions of the daft, banal details that so often intrude into moments of keen tragedy, ridiculous he ain't. For more than a quarter of a century, he's led his company-leaping and whirling, capering and succulent with it-through the quicksands of passing fads, critical whinge-ing and nit-picking, funding crises and through the hot air of 'whither art? can it be entertainment?' debates. And guess what? The erstwhile 'bad boy' of the American dance scene has now become one of its heroes, his iconic status reinforced by the fabulous resource in Brooklyn that bears his name: the Mark Morris Dance Center.

To what does he owe his success? Here's another quote that could well be his motto. 'I make it upyou watch it. End of philosophy'. He makes it up. We watch it. It's the start of a great night out folks -enjoy!

MARY BRENNAN



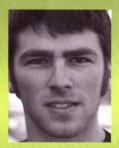




THE DANCE



CRAIG BIESECKER, from Waynesboro, PA, received a BS 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 9 with Katie Maltsberger. He received his BFA 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, MI, and began dancing while attending Brown University where he graduated with honors in English and American Literature. In New York he has performed in the works of Robert Wilson and Ulysses Dove and also danced with the Paul Taylor Dance Company for two years before going to Belgium to workwith Mark Morris in 1989.



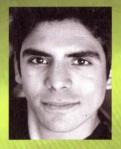
ELISA CLARK received her early training from the Maryland Youth Ballet, and her BFA from The Juilliard School, under the direction of Benjamin Harkarvy. She danced with the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, the Nederlands Dans Theater, and Battleworks Dance Company, before joining MMDG in 2006. Ms Clark has 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.

Watch an exclusive video interview with dancer Elisa Clark www.danceconsortium.com/ mmdg-interviews



RITA DONAHUE was born and raised in Fairfax, VA, and attended George Mason University where she graduated with honors in Dance and English in2002. She danced with bopi's black sheep/dances by kraig patterson and joined MMDG in 2003.

RS



DOMINGO ESTRADA JR, a native of Victoria, TX, has recently acquired a BFA in Ballet and Modern Dance at Texas Christian University. Currently he also works with choreographers Leslie Scott, BODYart Dance; Mary Seidman, Mary Seidman and Dancers; and Christian von Howard, VonHoward Project. He made his debut with the Mark Morris Dance Group during the 2007-08 Season of The Hard Nut at Cal Performances, Berkeley. Domingo would like to thank God, his family and all who support his passion!



LESLEY GARRISON grew up in Swansea, IL, and received much of her early training at the Center of Creative Arts (COCA) in St. Louis. She is a 2007 graduate of the Conservatory of Dance at the State University of New York at Purchase. She also studied at Interlochen Arts Academy, Rotterdamse Dansacademie, Jacob's Pillow, and The Professional Project. She has performed with the Kevin Wynn Collection, Nelly van Bommel's NØA Dance, and Sidra Bell Dance New York. She first performed with MMDG in L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato two seasons ago and toured with Mark Morris' Romeo & Juliet, On Motifs of Shakespeare last season.



LAUREN GRANT, born and raised in Highland Park, IL, has danced with the Mark Morris Dance Group since 1996. Appearing in over 40 of Mark Morris' works, she performs leading roles in The Hard Nut and Mozart Dances. Ms 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 BFA from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Ms Grant is on faculty at MMDG's school and also teaches dance internationally. She is married to fellow dancer David Leventhal.



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



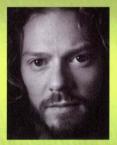
DAVID LEVENTHAL has danced with MMDG since 1997. He performs principal roles in The Hard Nut, L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed ilModerato, and Romeo and Juliet, on Motifs of Shakespeare. He is a faculty member of the Mark Morris Dance

Center in Brooklyn and teaches technique and repertory at schools and universities. He is one of the founding teachers of MMDG's Dance for Parkinson's program, and leads classes around the world for people with PD. Raised in Newton, MA, he received his early training from Boston Ballet School, and graduated from Brown University with honors in English Literature. He is married to fellow dancer Lauren Grant.

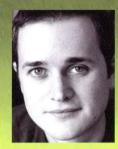
Watch an exclusive video interview with dancer David Leventhal www.danceconsortium.com/ mmdg-interviews



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 TEA (Transpersonal Educationand Art). She performed at the Festival Oltre Passo in Lecce, Italy and appeared as a guest artist with Petaluma City Ballet. Laurel performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.



BRADON McDONALD received his BFA 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.



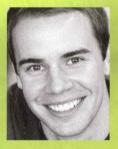
DALLAS MCMURRAY, from El Cerrito, CA, began dancing at age 4, studying jazz, tap, and acrobatics with Katie Maltsberger, and ballet with Yukiko Sakakura. He received a BFA in dance from the California Institute of the Arts. Dallas performed with the Limón Dance Company in addition to works by Jiří Kylián, 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, OR, where she began her dance training with Nancy Mittleman. She received her BFA 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, CA. She was a member of Boston Ballet II in 1992-93 and Ballet Arizona in 1993-96. She has danced with choreographers Neta Pulvermacher, Zvi Gotheiner, and Gerald Casel, among others. Maile began working with MMDG in 1998 and became a company member in 2001.



NOAH VINSON received his BA 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 eceived her early training from Boulder Ballet Company near where she grew up in Longmont, CO. 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. Ms. Weddel has created and performed with RedWall Dance Theater, Sue Bernhard Danceworks, Vencl Dance Trio, Rocha Dance Theater, TEA Dance Company and with various choreographers including Alan Danielson and Ella Ben-Aharon, Ms. 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, 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 Ailey Dance School and attended New York University's Tisch School of the Arts where she graduated with a BFA. Michelle joined MMDG in 1997. Mom, thank you.

THE MUSIC

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, has helped the Dance Group achieve an unprecedented streak of over one thousand 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.

MARGARET BRAGLE (Mezzo Soprano) brings her committed artistry to a wide ranging repertoire that spans baroque music through classical to contemporary. On the concert platform she has sung with Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, Calgary Philharmonic, Vancouver Chamber Choir, Apollo's Fire, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, the Orchestra of St. Luke's, the Dunedin Consort, Memphis Symphony, the Charlotte Symphony, the San Antonio Symphony, the North Carolina and Canton Symphonies, Symphony Nova Scotia, Dallas Bach Society, Seattle Baroque, Tempesta di Mare, the Bach Choir of Bethlehem and Bach Sinfonia, Her opera appearances have included the roles of Dido and the Socceress in Purcell's Dido and Aeneas, Speranza in Monteverdi's L'Orfeo, Amastre in Handel's Serse, Ippolita in Cavalli's Elena, and Elpina in Vivaldi's La Fida Ninfa, Meg has recorded for Koch, Musica Omnia, Eclectra, Ex Cathedra, and Cantaloupe records. She first appeared with the MMDG Music Ensemble in 2005.

COLIN FOWLER (piano) hails from Kansas City, KS, and began studying piano at the age of five. <u>After attending Interlochen</u> Arts Academy, he received his Bachelors

and Masters Degrees at The Julliard School, where he studied organ with Gerre Hancock and piano with Abbey Simon. He has played and directed music across the country, at venues including Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and The Library of Congress. Colin has also performed with the American Brass Quintet, Deborah Voight, James Galway, and at many of the churches and synagogues in New York, Broadway credits include the recent revival of 42nd Street and the current production of The Tony Award winning musical, Jersey Boys, Colin is the Chair of the Theory and Ear Training department at Nyack College, where he is a full time professor and conductor of the Nyack College Chorale. He has played with the MMDG Music Ensemble since 2006.

JOEL HUNTER (viola) graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in London in 1997. He has performed all over the world and worked regularly under conductors such as Claudio Abbado, Zubin Mehta, Pierre Boulez, Valery Gergiev and Lorin Maazel In 2005 he was appointed Principal Viola of the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra <u>under Daniel Harding in Stockholm. He</u> regularly guests as Principal Viola in many British orchestras including the London

Chamber Orchestra, Philharmonia, City of Birmingham Symphony and BBC National Orchestra of Wales. In May 2009 he accepted a new position of Principal Viola with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra. As a chamber musician Joel has appeared alongside eminent artists like Yo-Yo Ma. Augustin Dumay, Piers Lane, Pascal Roge, Christian Tetzlaff and members of both the Vogler and Artemis guartets, and regularly performs at international festivals. As a member and director of the Goldberg Ensemble, he plays frequently throughout the UK specializing in new music with its own critically acclaimed contemporary music festival in Manchester. In 2001 he was made an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music for his services to the profession. This engagement marks his debut with the MMDG Music Ensemble.

WOLFRAM KOESSEL (cello) Since moving to New York in 1991 cellist Wolfram Koessel has established himself as a much sought after chamber musician, soloist, recording artist and contractor in the New York music scene. He has preformed with MMDG since 1999 and was music director from 2004-2008. In 2006 Mr Koessel joined the world renowned American String Quartet, with whom he performs in the

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foremost concert halls throughout the world collaborating frequently with today's leading artists. Mr Koessel appears with a wide range of ensembles and groups, most notably and frequently with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. He has supervised and performed music for Warner Brothers, American Express, and many independent film companies besides organizing hundreds of classical orchestra and chamber music concerts during the last decade in NYC. He is on the faculty of the Manhattan School of Music and the Aspen Music Festival, Mr Koessel resides with his wife, pianist and writer J Mae Barizo, in Manhattan

GEORGY VALTCHEV (violin) was born in Ploydiy, Bulgaria, 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. He received his basic music education first at the Plovdiv Music School, and then at the State Music School, Lubomir Pipkov, Sofia as a student of Boyanka Shopoya, Vlado Vladigerov, Mitcho Dimitrov and Professor Dora Ivanova. At age sixteen he won the Grand Prize and the Special Prize at the Kocian International Competition in the then Czechoslovakia. Georgy Valtchev came to the United States as a scholarship student of Dorothy Delay and Masao Kawasaki at The Juilliard School in New York, where he earned his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees. Mr Valtchev has recorded a C:Dfor the Gega label featuring solo and chamber music works by composer Victoria Bond. He has made

numerous recordings for the Bulgarian National Radio and has appeared in live broadcasts of the Bulgarian National Radio and Television and WFMT Chicago. Georgy has performed with the MMDG Music Ensemble since 2006.

MICHI WIANCKO (violin) made her New York solo recital debut at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Half in 2002 Featured as an Artist to Watch on the cover of SYMPHONY Magazine (January 2007), she has appeared with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and New York Philharmonic. She has also toured with Musicians from Marlboro and the Los Angeles Piano Quartet. In March 2007 she gave the world premiere of a concerto written for her by Margaret Brouwer, which she performed with Cleveland's City Music Orchestra. She has also appeared at the Kennedy Center, Sydney Opera House, Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Gallery, Library of Congress, New York Town Hall, Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, and numerous others. Michi is the singer and songwriter for a project called Kono Michi, comprised of voice, string quintet and percussion. Her self-produced debut album of original music called 9 Death Haiku was recently released on the UK independent label, Shark Batter Records. A native of Southern California, Michi studied with Donald Weilerstein at the Cleveland Institute of Music, and completed her Master's degree at The Juilliard School, working with Robert Mann. She has been performing with the MMDG Music Ensemble since 2002.





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HILOT THERAPIST Jeffrey Cohen

Thanks to Maxine Morris.

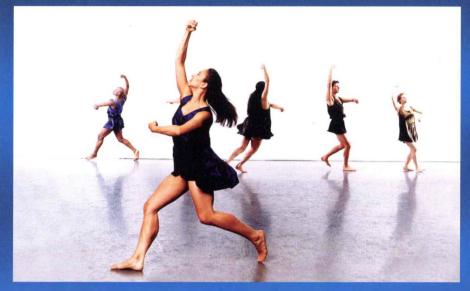
Sincerest thanks to all the dancers for their dedication, commitment, and incalculable contribution to the work.

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For more information contact MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP 3 Lafayette Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11217-1415, USA Tel 001 718 624-8400 Fax 001 718 624-8900 info@mmdg.org www.mmdg.org

WHERE AND WHEN

Dance Consortium in association with Dance Umbrella presents MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP AUTUMN 2009 www.danceconsortium.com/markmorris



BRADFORD ALHAMBRA THEATRE

Fri 16 & Sat 17 Oct 7.30pm 01274 432000 www.bradford-theatres.co.uk

PROGRAMME Italian Concerto, Going Away Party, Excursions, Grand Duo

NORTHAMPTON ROYAL & DERNGATE

Tue 20 & Wed 21 Oct 7.30pm 01604 624811 www.royalandderngate.co.uk

PROGRAMME Italian Concerto, Going Away Party, Excursions, Grand Duo

LONDON SADLER'S WELLS

Tue 27 - Sat 31 Oct 7.30pm 0844 412 4300 www.sadlerswells.com

PROGRAMME ONE Empire Garden, Bedtime, V

PROGRAMME TWO Visitation, Going Away Party, Excursions, Grand Duo

PLYMOUTH THEATRE ROYAL

Mon 2 & Tue 3 Nov 7.30pm 01752 267222 www.theatreroyal.com

PROGRAMME Italian Concerto, Going Away Party, Excursions, Grand Duo

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL THEATRE

Fri 6 & Sat 7 Nov 7.30pm 0131 529 6000 www.eft.co.uk

PROGRAMME Italian Concerto, Excursions, Bedtime, Grand Duo

CARDIFF WALES MILLENNIUM CENTRE

Tue 10 & Wed 11 Nov 7.30pm 0870 040 2000 www.wmc.org.uk

PROGRAMME Italian Concerto, Excursions, Bedtime, Grand Duo

NEWCASTLE THEATRE ROYAL

Fri 13 & 14 Nov 7.30pm 08448 11 21 21 www.theatreroyal.co.uk

PROGRAMME Italian Concerto, Going Away Party, Excursions, Grand Duo

SNAPE MALTINGS CONCERT HALL

Fri 20 & Sat 21 Nov 7.30pm 01728 687110 www.aldeburgh.co.uk

PROGRAMME Italian Concerto, Excursions, Bedtime, Grand Duo

DANCE CONSORTIUM



Dance Consortium (DC) was established in 2000. At that time, international dance companies were rarely seen outside of London and international festivals. DC brought together a supportive network of dance friendly theatres willing to take risks and break ground in presenting companies and work new to UK audiences.

Around 380,000 people have experienced performances and education activities of international dance organised by DC. The tours celebrate the diversity of dance styles, choreographers and dancers and have included companies from the USA, Brazil, Australia, The Netherlands, Canada, Taiwan and France.

DC has 19 members comprising the UK's leading large scale theatres. Its declared aims are to develop audiences for dance, contribute to the diversity of dance available to audiences in the UK and promote the art form as a source of enjoyment and entertainment. DC is managed by its member theatres. They decide which companies to tour, aiming to provide a range of styles, scales, artistic perspectives and broad audience appeal. Tours are accompanied by education work that includes workshops and talks by artists.

DC became an Arts Council England Regularly Funded Organisation in 2008. It works with a small number of freelance specialists that currently includes: Jeanette Siddall, Consultant Executive; Heather Knight, Coordination; Hans de Kretser, Website Management; Katy Manuel and Shereden Mathews, Marketing and Press. Its Co Chairs are Stuart Griffiths, Chief Executive, Birmingham Hippodrome and John Stalker, Chief Executive, Festival City Theatres in Edinburgh.

DC works with a wide range of promoters, presenters, festivals, other consortia and agencies to bring the very best of world dance to all parts of the UK. It seeks to work with UK dance companies to coordinate touring dates, develop audiences and open up new international markets. www.DanceConsortium.com is the place to find film clips, photographs and programme information about the companies toured by DC. It is also the place to post and find audience reviews,dancers' diaries, news and an archive of all DC's previous tours.

THE TOURS

In Autumn 2001 DC collaborated with Dance Umbrella to tour the Mark Morris Dance Group. Since then it has presented: 2003: Paul Taylor Dance Company 2004: Dance Theatre of Harlem. Nederlands Dans Theater 2, Companhia de Danca Deborah Colker and Bill T. Jones / Arnie Zane Dance Company 2005: Grupo Corpo, Compagnie Kafig, Nederlands Dans Theater 2 and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater 2006: Companhia de Danca Deborah Colker 2007: Australian Dance Theatre, the Breakin' Convention 07 Tour, Nederlands Dans Theater 2 and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater 2008/09: La La La Human Steps, Nederlands Dans Theater 1. Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan. Stephen Petronio Company, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo and Nederlands Dans Theater 2. Most of these tours have been funded by Arts Council England.

THE FUTURE

In 2010 DC will present the first UK tour by Danza Contemporanea de Cuba as well as return visits by Companhia de Dança Deborah Colker and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. DC also worked with Breakin' Convention to make it possible for the USA's VII Gems Rock Dance Division to join the UK Tour 2009. Plans for Tours in 2011 and beyond are in development.

You can register for regular newsletters on www.DanceConsortium.com Dance Consortium was formed in 2000 with the aim of enriching the presentation of high quality dance in the UK by presenting regular tours from international companies.

A core aim of DC is the development of audiences for dance in the UK, demystifying dance to new attenders and promoting the art form as a source of enjoyment and entertainment.

CO CHAIRS Stuart Griffiths, John Stalker

DIRECTORS Fiona Allan, Tim Brinkman, Derek Nicholls, Alistair Spalding

CONSULTANT EXECUTIVE Jeanette Siddall

ACCOUNTANT Helen Bates, Director of Finance & Resources, Birmingham Hippodrome Theatre Trust Ltd.

aunimore Baker Tilly

MARKETING/PRESS Katy Manuel at KM Associates and Shereden Mathews at dr5

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WEBSITE CONTRIBUTORS Donald Hutera and Mary Brennan

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SOLICITOR Andrew Collins Solicitors LLP

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Nottingham Playhouse 0115 941 9419 www.nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk

Plymouth Theatre Royal 01752 267222 www.theatreroyal.com

Salford The Lowry 0870 787 5780 www.thelowry.com

Sheffield Danceworks UK Sheffield Lyceum 0114 249 6000 www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk

Truro Hall for Cornwall 01872 262466 www.hallforcornwall.co.uk

Woking New Victoria Theatre 01483 545900 www.ambassadortickets.com/woking

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Suffolk DanceEast / Snape Maltings Concert Hall 01728 687110 www.aldeburgh.co.uk

ASSOCIATE PROMOTERS

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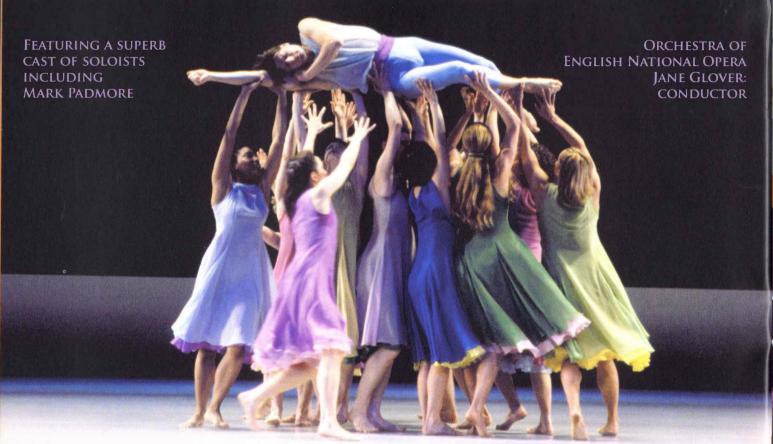
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MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP L'ALLEGRO, IL PENSEROSO ED IL MODERATO

Music by G. F. Handel



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