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 2013-2014 SEASON

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**VINCENT MANTSOE
& DANCE THEATRE X**

**MARK MORRIS
DANCE GROUP**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2013 AT 8 PM
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2013 AT 8 PM
BASS CONCERT HALL
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
TEXAS PERFORMING ARTS

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

MOZART DANCES

Choreography by Mark Morris
Scenic Design by Howard Hodgkin
Costume Design by Martin Pakledinaz
Lighting Design by James F. Ingalls

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MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

Artistic Director

Mark Morris

Executive Director

Nancy Umanoff

Conductor, piano

Colin Fowler

Piano

Anton Nel

Dancers

Chelsea Lynn Acree, Sam Black, Rita Donahue,
Benjamin Freedman*, Lesley Garrison, Lauren
Grant, Brian Lawson, Aaron Loux, Laurel
Lynch, Stacy Martorana, Dallas McMurray,
Maile Okamura, Spencer Ramirez, Brandon
Randolph*, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson, Jenn
Weddel, Michelle Yard

*apprentice

.....

THE KNIGHTS

Artistic Directors

Colin Jacobsen and Eric Jacobsen

Violin

Colin Jacobsen, *concertmaster*, Pico Alt, Diana
Cohen, Christina Courtin, Keats Dieffenbach, Nanae
Iwata, May Lee, Yuna Lee, Ariana Kim, Salley Koo,
Yaira Matyakubova, Guillaume Pirard, Adriane
Post, Caroline Shaw, Pei-Chun Tsai, Amie Weiss

Viola

Kyle Armbrust, Margaret Dyer, Max Mandel,
Miranda Sielaff

Cello

Jane Cords-O'Hara, Alex Greenbaum,
Eric Jacobsen, Caitlin Sullivan

Bass

Joseph Bongiorno, Shawn Conley, Grey Fulmer

Flute

Alex Sopp

Oboe

Michelle Farah, Adam Hollander

Bassoon

Edward A. Burns, Erik Holtje

French Horn

Shelagh Abate, Michael P. Atkinson

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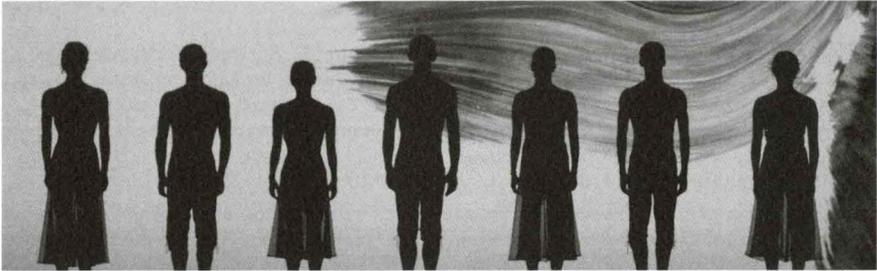


Photo by: Stephanie Berger

PROGRAM*ELEVEN***Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart****Piano Concerto No. 11 in F major, K.413 (1782-1783)***Allegro, Larghetto, Tempo di Menuetto*

The Knights

Colin Fowler, *conductor*; Anton Nel, *piano*

Chelsea Lynn Acree, Sam Black, Rita Donahue, Lesley Garrison, Lauren Grant, Brian Lawson, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Stacy Martorana, Dallas McMurray, Spencer Ramirez, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel, Michelle Yard

— INTERMISSION —

*DOUBLE***Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart****Piano Sonata in D major for two pianos, K.448 (1781)***Allegro con spirito, Andante, Allegro molto*Colin Fowler, *piano*; Anton Nel, *piano*

Chelsea Lynn Acree, Sam Black, Rita Donahue, Lesley Garrison, Brian Lawson, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Stacy Martorana, Dallas McMurray, Maile Okamura, Spencer Ramirez, Brandon Randolph, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel, Michelle Yard

— INTERMISSION —

*TWENTY-SEVEN***Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart****Piano Concerto No. 27 in B-flat major, K.595 (1791)***Allegro, Larghetto, Allegro*

The Knights

Colin Fowler, *conductor*; Anton Nel, *piano*

Sam Black, Rita Donahue, Benjamin Freedman, Lesley Garrison, Lauren Grant, Brian Lawson, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Stacy Martorana, Dallas McMurray, Maile Okamura, Spencer Ramirez, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel, Michelle Yard

*Premiere: August 17, 2006 – New York State Theater, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, New York, New York
Commissioned by New Crowned Hope (Vienna), the Barbican Centre (London), and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (New York).**MetLife Foundation is the Official Tour Sponsor of the Mark Morris Dance Group.**Major support for the Mark Morris Dance Group is provided by American Express, Bloomberg Philanthropies, The Booth Ferris Foundation, William Randolph Hearst Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Meyer Sound/Helen and John Meyer, PARC Foundation, Poss Family Foundation, The Billy Rose Foundation, Inc., The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, and Jane Stine and R.L. Stine.**The Mark Morris Dance Group is supported in part by Friends of MMDG and public funds from New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, and National Endowment for the Arts.**The Knights' performance is made possible in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.***This performance is made possible by a generous grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation with additional support from the Dean of the College of Fine Arts and the Executive Vice President and Provost of The University of Texas at Austin.**

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

MARK MORRIS

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 companies of Lar Lubovitch, Hannah Kahn, Laura Dean, Eliot Feld, and the Koleda Balkan Dance Ensemble. He formed the Mark Morris Dance Group (MMDG) in 1980, and has since created close to 150 works for the company. From 1988 to 1991, he was Director of Dance at Brussels' Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, the national opera house of Belgium. In 1990, he founded the White Oak Dance Project with Mikhail Baryshnikov. Much in demand as a ballet choreographer, Morris has created eighteen ballets since 1986 and his work has been performed by companies worldwide, including San Francisco Ballet, American Ballet Theater, Grand Théâtre de Genève, and the Royal New Zealand Ballet. Noted for musicality, Morris has been described as "undeviating in his devotion to music" (*The New Yorker*). He began conducting performances for MMDG in 2006 and has since conducted at The International Festival of Arts and Ideas, Lincoln Center, and BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music). He served as Music Director for the 2013 Ojai Music Festival. Morris also works extensively in opera, directing and choreographing productions for the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, English National Opera, and The Royal Opera, Covent Garden, among others. He was named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation in 1991 and has received eleven honorary doctorates to date. He has taught at the University of Washington, Princeton University, and Tanglewood Music Center. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society, and has served as an Advisory Board Member for the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative. In recent years he has received

the Samuel H. Scripps/American Dance Festival Award for Lifetime Achievement (2007), the Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award for the Elevation of Music in Society (2010), the Benjamin Franklin Laureate Prize for Creativity (2012) and Cal Performances Award of Distinction in the Performing Arts (2013). Morris opened the Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn, New York, in 2001 to provide a home for his company, rehearsal space for the dance community, outreach programs for children and seniors, and a school offering dance classes to students of all ages and abilities.

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 both in the United States and around the world, 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 Dance Group returned to the United States in 1991 as one of the world's leading dance companies. Based in Brooklyn, New York, MMDG maintains strong ties to presenters in several cities around the world, most notably to its West Coast home, Cal Performances in Berkeley, California, 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, Boston, Seattle, and Fairfax, Virginia. The company 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 received two Laurence Olivier Awards and a Critics' Circle Dance Award

for Best Foreign Dance Company. Reflecting Morris' commitment to live music, the Dance Group has featured live musicians in every performance since the MMDG Music Ensemble was formed in 1996. MMDG regularly collaborates with renowned musicians, including cellist Yo-Yo Ma, pianist Emanuel Ax, mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe, and jazz trio The Bad Plus, as well as leading orchestras and opera companies, including the Metropolitan Opera, English National Opera, and the London Symphony Orchestra. MMDG frequently works with distinguished artists and designers, including painters Howard Hodgkin and Robert Bordo, set designers Adrienne Lobel and Allen Moyer, costume designers Martin Pakledinaz and Isaac Mizrahi, and many others. MMDG's film and television projects include *Dido and Aeneas*, *The Hard Nut*, *Falling Down Stairs*, and two documentaries for the U.K.'s *South Bank Show*, and PBS' *Live From Lincoln Center*. While on tour the Dance Group partners with local cultural institutions and community organizations to present Access/MMDG, a program of arts and humanities-based activities for people of all ages and abilities.

THE KNIGHTS

Praised for their "polished performances and imaginative programming" (*New York Times*), The Knights began the 2012-13 season with a return to the Ravinia Festival, where the orchestra joined classical music superstars Yo-Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, and soprano Dawn Upshaw in three concerts that concluded the prestigious festival. Other season highlights for The Knights include the release of an all-Beethoven disc for SONY Classical, and a US tour with pipa virtuoso Wu Man in February, including a concert engagement at Texas Performing Arts. In May, members of The Knights travelled to Berlin to team up again with American composer Lisa Bielawa for "Tempelhof Broadcast," lead-

ing hundreds of musicians in a large-scale spatial/acoustic work to be performed on the tarmac of the former Tempelhof Airport (now Tempelhofer Park), site of the Berlin Airlift in 1948. In December 2012, Artistic Directors Colin Jacobsen and Eric Jacobsen were selected from among the nation's top visual, performing, media, and literary artists to receive a prestigious United States Artists Fellowship.

Recent season highlights include appearances at Ravinia, Central Park and the 92nd Street Y, a tour of Germany, and their first U.S. tour. The Knights also launched the Ensemble-in-Residence program at New York Public Radio's WQXR. *We Are The Knights*, a documentary film produced by WNET/Thirteen, made its broadcast debut in September 2011 and was rebroadcast nationwide throughout the year. In April 2012, the ensemble released *A Second in Silence* on Ancalagon, a "smartly programmed" (NPR) album. The Knights can also be heard on the soundtrack for Francis Ford Coppola's film *Twixt*.

For their inspired programming, innovative formats and "crusading musical mission," The Knights are at the forefront of "the future of classical music in America" (*Los Angeles Times*). The roster of The Knights boasts an unprecedented diversity of talents. Included are composers, arrangers, singer-songwriters and improvisers who bring a range of cultural influences to the group, from jazz and klezmer to pop and indie rock music. The musicians are graduates of Juilliard, Curtis, and other leading music schools, and members have performed as soloists with the New York Philharmonic, Chicago and San Francisco symphony orchestras, as well as the Israel Philharmonic and Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart orchestra. Equally successful as chamber and orchestral musicians, they participate in the world's most prestigious music festivals, including Marlboro, Tanglewood, Verbier, Lucerne and Salzburg, and perform with

the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony, Toronto Symphony, New York Philharmonic, and Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble.

The Knights evolved from late night chamber music reading parties with friends at the home of violinist Colin Jacobsen and cellist Eric Jacobsen. These gatherings turned into public recitals and the ensemble "The Knights of the Many-Sided Table" was formed. As the number of performances increased and the group grew, the original collaborative spirit of chamber music remained. The name – now simply "The Knights" – symbolized the orchestra's quest to always search out something bold and true to the music. The Jacobsen brothers, who are also founding members of Brooklyn Rider, serve as artistic directors of The Knights, with Eric Jacobsen as conductor. The unique camaraderie within the orchestra retains the intimacy and spontaneity of chamber music in performance.

Howard Hodgkin (scenic designer) was born in London in 1932 and evacuated during the war to the United States, where he lived on Long Island from 1940 to 1943. He studied at the Camberwell School of Art and the Bath Academy of Art, Corsham. In 1984, he represented Britain at the Venice Biennale and won the Turner Prize the following year. He was knighted in 1992 and made a Companion of Honour in 2003. An exhibition of his *Paintings 1975-1995*, organized by the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, opened in 1995 at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and toured to museums in Fort Worth and Düsseldorf, and to London's Hayward Gallery. A retrospective opened at the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, in Spring 2006. It traveled to London's Tate Britain and then to El Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia in Madrid. He first worked in the theater in 1981, when he designed the set and costumes for Richard Alston's *Night Music* with the

Ballet Rambert. They later collaborated on *Pulcinella*, which was filmed by the BBC and released on DVD. Mark Morris asked Howard to design the backcloth for *Rhymes with Silver* (1997), *Kolam* (2002), and for *Mozart Dances* (2006). Howard Hodgkin is represented by Gagosian Gallery in New York, Los Angeles, and London.

Martin Pakledinaz (costume designer) has designed costumes for theater, opera, and dance. He has collaborated with Mark Morris on works for the Mark Morris Dance Group, San Francisco Ballet, and Boston Ballet, in addition to works by Tomasson, Stowell, Wheelton, and Balanchine, among others. New York theater credits include *Blythe Spirit* and *Gypsy* with Patti Lupone; *The Pirate Queen*; *The Pajama Game*; *The Trip to Bountiful*; *Thoroughly Modern Millie*; *Wonderful Town*; *The Wild Party*; *Kiss Me, Kate*; *Waste*; and *A Life*. His work in opera includes *Rodelinda* and *Iphigenie en Tauride* for The Metropolitan Opera; *Tristan und Isolde*, *Adriana Mater*, and *L'Amour de Loïen* for the Paris Opera/Bastille; and works in Salzburg, Seattle, Santa Fe, and Chicago. Upcoming projects include *Lend Me a Tenor*, directed by Stanley Tucci on Broadway, *The Glass Menagerie* with Judith Ivey, Gordon Edelstein directing, off-Broadway, and two operas for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, *Eugene Onegin* and *The Golden Ticket*, a world premiere based on Roald Dahl's *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, directors Kevin Newbury and James Robinson. He has been awarded two Tony Awards, and the Drama Desk, Obie, and Lucille Lortel awards, among others.

James F. Ingalls (lighting designer) has designed several works for Mark Morris, including *Romeo & Juliet*, *On Motifs of Shakespeare*; *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*; *The Hard Nut*; *Orfeo ed Euridice* (Metropolitan Opera); *King Arthur* (English National Opera); *Joyride*, *Sylvia*, *Sandpaper Ballet*, *Maelstrom*, and *Pacific* (San Francisco Ballet); *Platée* (Royal Opera

House-Covent Garden and New York City Opera); *Ein Herz* (Paris Opera Ballet); and the initial White Oak Project tour. Additional work in dance includes *Split Sides* and *Fluid Canvas* for the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, *Brief Encounters* for the Paul Taylor Dance Company, and *Bitter Suite* for Jorma Elo at Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. He often collaborates with Melanie Rios Glaser and the Wooden Floor dancers in Santa Ana, California.

Matthew Rose (rehearsal director) began his dance training in Midland, Michigan, with Linda Z. Smith at the age of 17. After receiving his B.F.A. in dance from the University of Michigan in 1992, he moved to New York City. He was a soloist with the Martha Graham Dance Company from 1993-1996, and in 1997 began working with MMDG. After several years of performing full-time with the Dance Group, he began assisting Morris with the creation of new works. He has been the company's rehearsal director since 2006.

Colin Fowler (conductor, piano) is a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy and holds a bachelor's and a master's degree from The Juilliard School. He has performed and recorded 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 a number of Broadway shows, Fowler has been a professor at NYU and Nyack College. He is currently the organist and assistant music director at both Calvary Church and Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City. He began collaborating with MMDG in 2006 and was named Music Director in 2013.

Anton Nel (piano, special guest) enjoys a remarkable and multifaceted career that has taken him across North and South America, Europe, Asia, and South Africa. Following an auspicious debut at the age of twelve with Beethoven's C Major Con-

certo, the Johannesburg native captured first prize in all the major South African competitions while still in his teens, toured his native country extensively, and became a well-known radio and television personality. A student of Adolph Hallis, he made his European debut in France in 1982, and graduated the same year with highest distinction from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. He came to the United States in 1983, attending the University of Cincinnati, where he pursued his Masters and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees under Bela Siki and Frank Weinstock. Highlights of Mr. Nel's nearly four decades of concertizing include performances with the Cleveland Orchestra, the symphonies of Chicago, San Francisco, Seattle, Detroit, and London, among many others. An acclaimed Beethoven interpreter, Anton Nel has performed the concerto cycle several times, most notably on two consecutive evenings with the Cape Philharmonic in 2005. He has performed all-Beethoven solo recitals, complete cycles of the violin and cello works, and most recently a highly successful run of the *Diabelli Variations* as part of Moises Kaufman's play *33 Variations*. He was also chosen to give the North American premiere of the newly discovered Piano Concerto No. 3 in E Minor by Felix Mendelssohn in 1992. Two noteworthy world premieres of works by living composers include "Virtuoso Alice" by David Del Tredici (dedicated to, and performed by Mr. Nel at his Lincoln Center debut in 1988) as well as Stephen Paulus' Piano Concerto also written for Mr. Nel, world premiering in New York in 2003.

He was appointed to the faculty of the University of Texas at Austin in his early twenties, followed by professorships at the Eastman School of Music, and the University of Michigan, where he was chairman of the piano department. In September 2000, Mr. Nel was appointed as the Priscilla Pond Flawn Regents Professor of Piano and Chamber music at the University of Texas at Austin, where he teaches an international class

of students and now heads the Division of Keyboard Studies. He is the recipient of two Austin-American Statesman Critics Circle Awards, as well as the University Cooperative Society/College of Fine Arts award for extra-curricular achievement. In 2001 he was appointed Visiting "Extraordinary" Professor at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa, and continues to teach master classes worldwide. In January 2010 he became the first holder of the new Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Endowed Chair in Piano at the University of Texas at Austin.

His recordings include four solo CDs, several chamber music recordings (including the complete Beethoven Piano and Cello Sonatas and Variations, and the Brahms Sonatas with Bion Tsang), and works for piano and orchestra by Franck, Faure, and Saint-Saens.

Anton Nel became a citizen of the United States of America on September 11, 2003. He is a Steinway artist.

THE DANCERS

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 Purchase College 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 the faculty at The School at the Mark Morris Dance Center, where she teaches kids and adults how to move through space. She began working with MMDG in 2007 and joined the company in 2011.

Sam Black is from Berkeley, California, where he began studying tap at the age of nine with Katie Maltzberger. He received his B.F.A. in Dance from Purchase College 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 attended 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.

Benjamin Freedman, from Tampa, Florida, began his dance training at Interlochen Arts Academy and North Carolina School of the Arts, where he performed in works by Martha Graham, Jerome Robbins, and Jiří Kylián. At the University of South Florida, he had the opportunity to participate in the reconstruction of Bill T. Jones' *Serenade: the Proposition*. Freedman went on to study at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts where he graduated with a B.F.A. in dance and an intensive minor in psychology. At Tisch, he performed in Mark Morris' *Pacific* and also choreographed multiple works for the student company. He has worked with Korhan Basaran, Chihiro Shimizu, and DANAKA Dance. He joined MMDG as an apprentice in January 2013.

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 Interlochen, Michigan. She studied at the Rotterdamse Dansacademie in The Netherlands and holds a B.F.A. from Purchase College, where she received the Modern Dance Faculty Award. She has performed with Erica Essner, Dance Heginbotham, the Kevin Wynn Collection, Neel Verdoorn, Nelly Van Bommel's NOA Dance, Rocha Dance Theater and Sidra Bell Dance New York. She first performed with MMDG in 2007 and became a company member in 2011. Garrison teaches at The School at The Mark Morris Dance Center and for the Dance for PD® program.

Lauren Grant has danced with MMDG since 1996. Performing leading roles in *The Hard Nut* and *Mozart Dances*. Grant has appeared in over 40 of Mark Morris' works. She is on the faculty at The School at the Mark Morris Dance Center and frequently leads classes for the company. She also teaches technique and repertory at schools and universities across the U.S. and abroad. Grant has been featured in *Time Out New York*, *Dance Magazine*, the book *Meet the Dancers*, and appeared in a documentary (*The South Bank Show*, UK), which followed the company in the making and premiere of *Four Saints in Three Acts*. Before joining MMDG, Grant moved to New York City from her hometown of Highland Park, Illinois, and earned a B.F.A. from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. She and her husband David Leventhal (former MMDG dancer) are proud parents of son Zev, born March 2012.

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, Dance Heginbotham, and Nelly van Bommel's NOA Dance, among others. He joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2011 and became a company member in January 2013.

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. She has danced with the Amy Marshall Dance Company, the Neta Dance Company, Helen Simoneau Danse, Kazuko Hirabayashi Dance Theater, Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Company, and Rashaun Mitchell. From 2009-2011 she was a member of the Repertory Understudy Group for the Merce Cunningham Dance Company. She joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2012 and became a company member the same year.

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. McMurray performed with the Limón Dance Company in addition to works by Jiří Kylián, Alonzo King, Robert Moses, and Colin Connor. McMurray performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.

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 Ari-

zona 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 Pulvermacher, 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. He then 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 Jose Limón, Jerome Robbins, Sidra Bell, and Fabien Prioville. Ramirez joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2010 and became a company member in 2011.

Brandon Randolph began his training with the School of Carolina Ballet Theater in Greenville, South Carolina, under the direction of Hernan Justo. At age 14, he was accepted into the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, where he studied with Stanislav Issaev and Bobby Barnett. Randolph received his B.F.A. in dance from Purchase College in May 2012. There he had the opportunity to perform with Dance Heginbotham as well as repertory by Stephen Petronio, Lar Lubovitch, Paul Taylor, and George Balanchine. Randolph began his apprenticeship with MMDG in January 2013.

Billy Smith 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 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 theater credits include Tulsa in *Gypsy*, Mistoffelees in *CATS*, and Dream Curly in *Oklahoma!*. Smith danced with Parsons Dance from 2007-2010. He joined MMDG as a 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 Danceworks, Venc 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 continued her studies as a scholarship student at Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. She graduated with a B.F.A. from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Yard teaches Pilates as well as master classes for Access/MMDG programs. She joined MMDG in 1997. Mom, thank you.

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP STAFF**Artistic Director** Mark Morris**Executive Director** Nancy Umanoff

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David Leventhal

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April Dayok

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PT, PhD

Hilot Therapist Jeffrey Cohen

Thanks to Maxine Morris.

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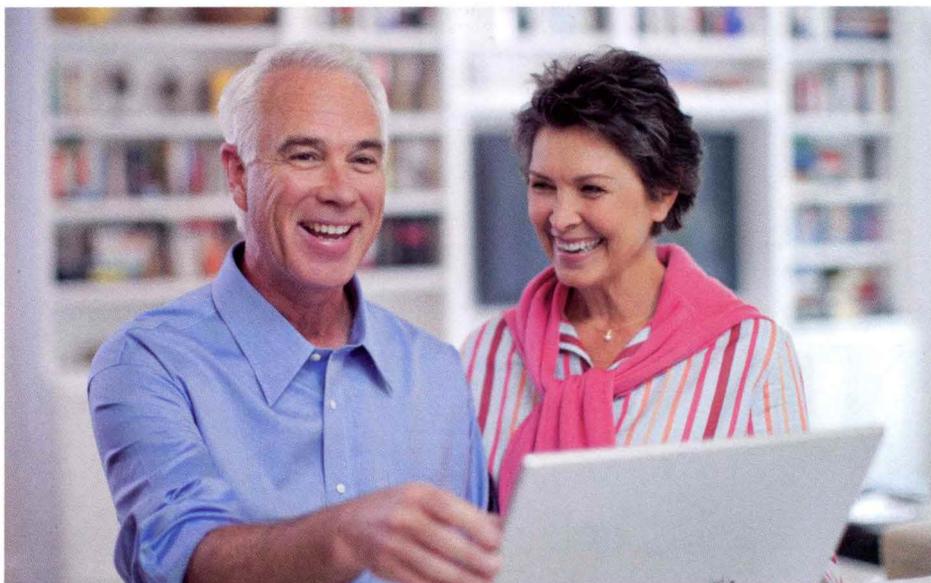
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