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and Music Ensemble

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World Dance Series

March 5-7, 2015

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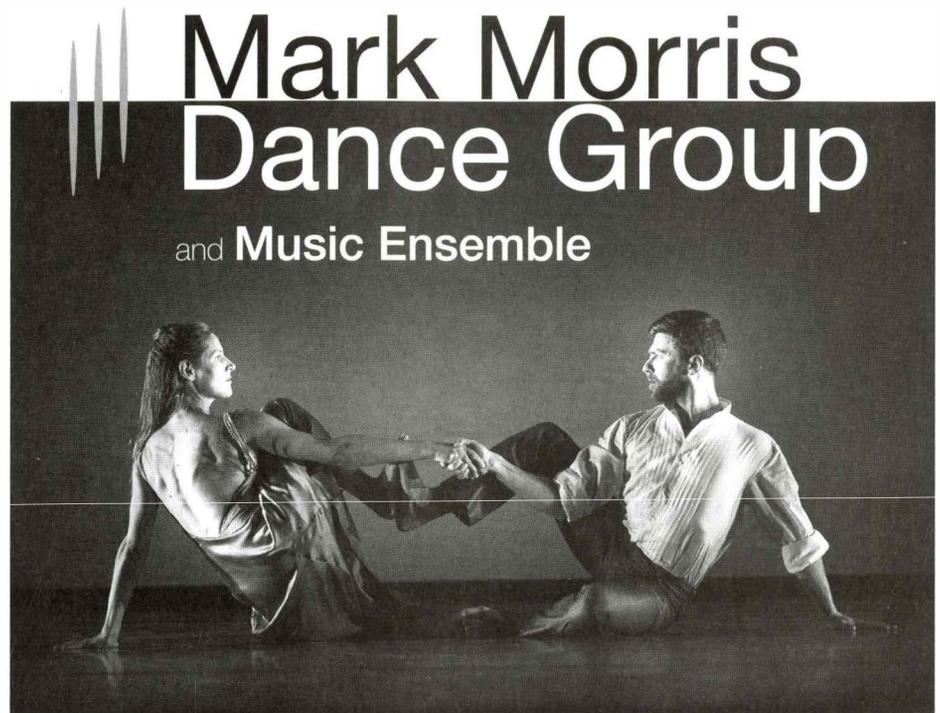


PHOTO © Christopher Duggan

Artistic Director

Mark Morris

Executive Director

Nancy Umanoff

Major support for the Mark Morris Dance Group is provided by American Express, Suzy Kellems Dominik, Doris Duke Charitable Trust, Judith R. and Alan H. Fishman, The Howard Gilman Foundation, Shelby and Frederick Gans Fund, Google, Ellsworth Kelly 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 SHS Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, Jane Stine and R.L. Stine, Solon E. Summerfield Fund, Robert F. Wallace, The White Cedar Fund, and Friends of MMDG.

The Mark Morris Dance Group is supported in part by public funds from New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with New York State Council on the Arts with support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and National Endowment for the Arts.

Mark Morris Dance Group

Chelsea Acree

Sam Black

Max Cappelli-King*

Rita Donahue

Domingo Estrada, Jr.

Lesley Garrison

Lauren Grant

Brian Lawson

Aaron Loux

Laurel Lynch

Stacy Martorana

Dallas McMurray

Maile Okamura

Brandon Randolph

Nicole Sabella*

Billy Smith

Noah Vinson

Jenn Weddel

Michelle Yard

*apprentice

MMDG Music Ensemble

Robert Burkhart

Colin Fowler

Georgy Valtchev

Weixiong Wang

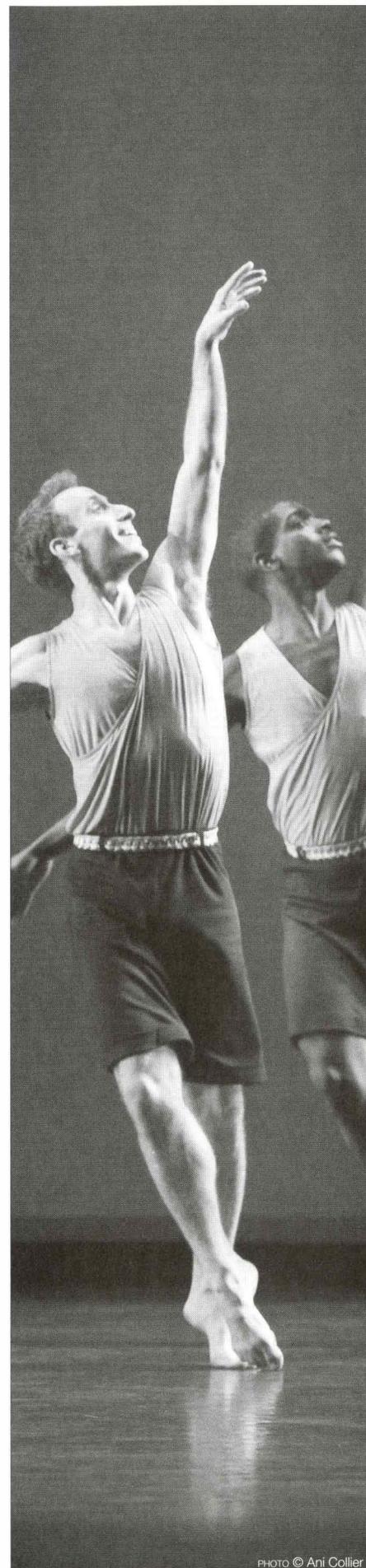


PHOTO © Ani Collier

Tonight's Program

Pacific

Music: Lou Harrison – *Trio for Violin, Cello, and Piano*; 3rd and 4th movements

Costume Design: Martin Pakledinaz

Lighting Design: James F. Ingalls

Georgy Valtchev, *violin*; Robert Burkhart, *cello*; Colin Fowler, *piano*

Chelsea Acree, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Lesley Garrison, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch,
Stacy Martorana, Dallas McMurray, Maile Okamura, Noah Vinson

Premiere: May 9, 1995 – San Francisco Ballet, War Memorial Opera House,
San Francisco, California

Company Premiere: February 28, 2015 – George Mason University's Center
for the Arts, Fairfax, Virginia

Words

Music: Felix Mendelssohn – *Songs Without Words*

Costume Design: Maile Okamura

Lighting Design: Nick Kolin

Georgy Valtchev, *violin*; Colin Fowler, *piano*

Chelsea Acree, Sam Black, Max Cappelli-King, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada, Jr.,
Lesley Garrison, Brian Lawson, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Stacy Martorana,
Maile Okamura, Brandon Randolph, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson,
Jenn Weddel, Michelle Yard

Premiere: October 8, 2014 – New York City Center, New York, New York

Commissioned by New York City Center for the 2014 *Fall for Dance* Festival

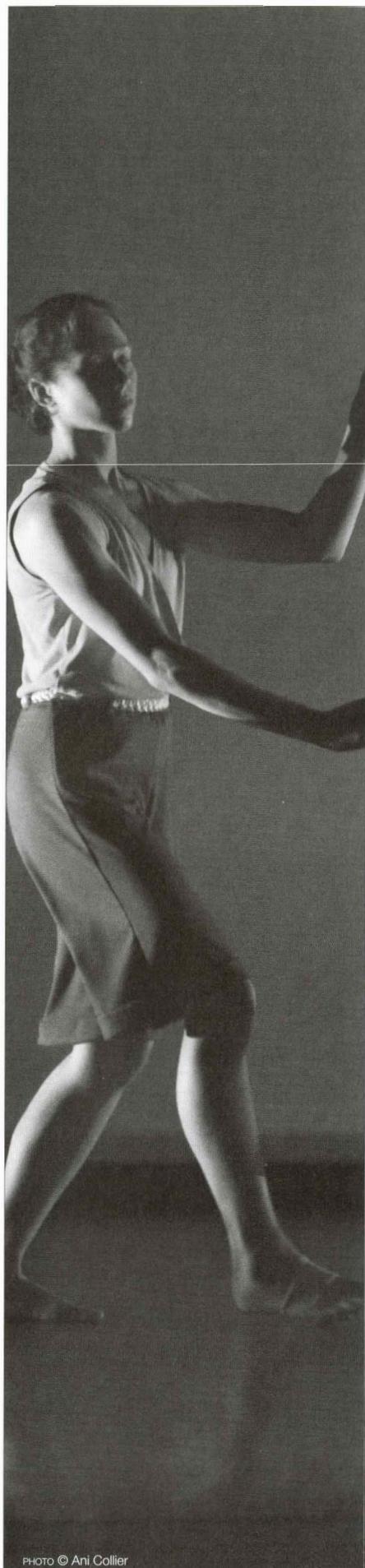


PHOTO © Ani Collier

Intermission

Jenn and Spencer

Music: Henry Cowell – *Suite for Violin and Piano*

Largo, Allegretto, Andante tranquillo, Allegro marcato, Andante calmato, Presto

Costume Design: Stephanie Sleeper

Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Georgy Valtchev, *violin*; Colin Fowler, *piano*

Sam Black (March 5 and 7), Brandon Randolph (March 6), Jenn Weddel

Premiere: April 3, 2013 – James and Martha Duffy Performance Space,
Mark Morris Dance Center, Brooklyn, New York

Music by arrangement with G. Schirmer, Inc. publisher and copyright owner.

Crosswalk

Music: Carl Maria von Weber – *Grand Duo Concertant, for clarinet and piano, Op. 48*

Allegro con fuoco, Andante con moto, Rondo: Allegro

Costume Design: Elizabeth Kurtzman

Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Weixiong Wang, *clarinet*; Colin Fowler, *piano*

Chelsea Acree, Sam Black, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Brian Lawson,
Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Stacy Martorana, Dallas McMurray,
Brandon Randolph, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson

Premiere: April 3, 2013 – James and Martha Duffy Performance Space,
Mark Morris Dance Center, Brooklyn, New York

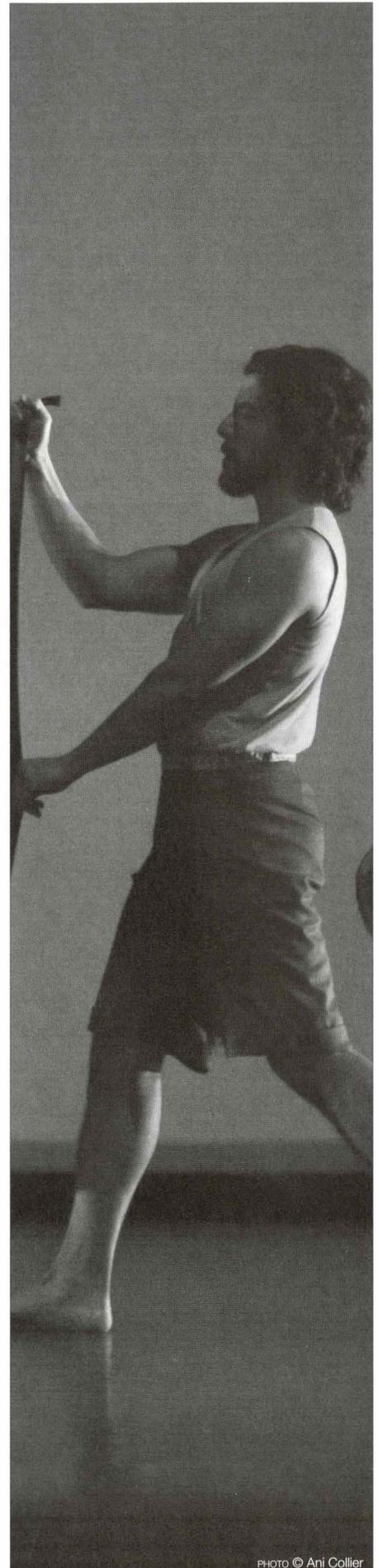
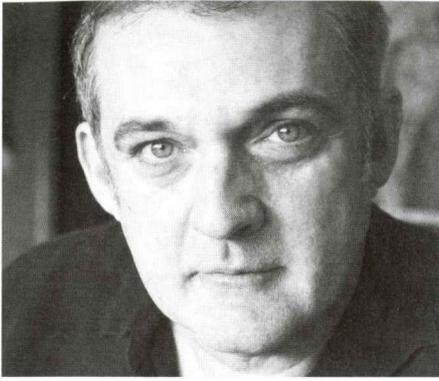


PHOTO © Ani Collier



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 LarLubovitch, 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 over 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 Theatre, Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève, and the Royal New Zealand Ballet. Noted for his 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. He 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 twelve 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. Morris 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), Cal Performances Award of Distinction in the Performing Arts (2013), and the Orchestra of St. Luke's Gift of Music Award (2014). 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.

The **MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP** was formed in 1980 and gave its first performance that year in New York City. The company's

touring schedule steadily expanded to include cities 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 at Urbana-Champaign. MMDG also appears regularly in New York, Boston, Seattle, and Fairfax. 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 formation of the MMDG Music Ensemble 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*, two documentaries for the U.K.'s *South Bank Show*, and PBS' *Live From Lincoln Center*. On March 27, 2015, Morris' *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* will be featured on PBS. 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 **MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE**, formed in 1996, is integral to the Dance Group—"With the dancers come the musicians...and what a difference it makes" (*Classical Voice of North Carolina*). 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 musicians also participate in Access/MMDG, the Dance Group's program to deepen community engagement at home and on the road.



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.



CHELSEA ACREE grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, where she began her dance training with Sharon

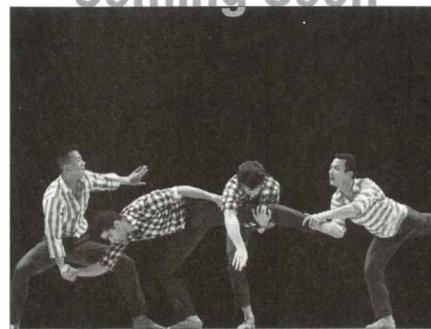
Lerner, then continued at Carver Center for the Arts and Technology. Since receiving her B.F.A. in dance from Purchase College in 2005 she has had the opportunity to work with a variety of artists including SYREN Modern Dance, Laura Peterson, Hilary Easton + Company, and Michael and the Go-Getters. Acree 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 originally from Berkeley, California, where he began studying tap at the age of nine with

Katie Maltzberger. He received his BFA in Dance from SUNY Purchase, and currently teaches MMDG master classes and Dance for PD®. He first appeared with MMDG in 2005 and became a company member in 2007.

Coming Soon



Lyon Opera Ballet

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at Meany Hall

One of the world's leading contemporary dance companies, The Lyon Opera Ballet is renowned for its vast repertory of work by emerging and established choreographers.

Program: William Forsythe's *Steptext* (a quartet set to J.S. Bach), *Sunshine* by Emanuel Gat and *Sarabande* by Benjamin Millipied.



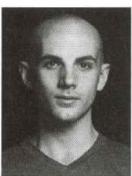
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ROBERT BURKHART (cello) combines a deep commitment to the existing cello repertoire with what the New

Yorker magazine calls an “adventurous” spirit in new music. With performance credits at Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Weill Recital Hall, Merkin Hall, and The Rose Studio at Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Burkhart has also appeared as a soloist throughout Japan as a member of the New York Symphonic Ensemble, and been featured in recital on WQXR’s “Young Artist Showcase.” At the center of new music in New York, Burkhart works frequently with living composers in the American Modern Ensemble, Argento New Music Project, and Newspeak among others. Recent collaborations include Uri Caine, Aaron Jay Kernis, Steve Mackey, Chen Yi, and Charles Wourinen. He performed the New York premiere of John Harbison’s *Abu Ghraib* for cello and piano, and was the soloist in Augusta Read Thomas’s *Passion Prayers* for cello and chamber ensemble at the New York Times Center. His recent CD *20/21: Music for Cello and Piano from the 20th and 21st Centuries*, features pianist Blair McMillen. Burkhart’s recording of solo Bach on the American Express commercial “Don’t Take Chances. Take Charge.” has garnered national attention.



MAX CAPPELLI-KING was born in Chicago and raised in Madison, Wisconsin. His formal training

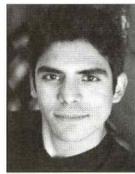
began at Interlochen Arts Academy in northern Michigan, where he attended

high school. King earned his B.F.A. from The Juilliard School in 2013. He was a member of the Alyson Laury Dance Company and an associate of Jonah Bokaer’s choreography. He has also performed with Limón Dance Company, Pam Tanowitz Dance, and the Peridance Contemporary Dance Company. He joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2014.



RITA DONAHUE

was born and raised in Fairfax, Virginia, and attended George Mason University. She graduated magna cum laude in 2002, receiving a B.A. in English and a B.F.A. in dance. Donahue danced with bopi’s black sheep/dances by kraigpatterson 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 folklorico 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 (music director, piano) is a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy and

holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees 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.



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. 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 50 of Mark Morris' works. She is on the faculty at The School at the Mark Morris Dance Center, leads master classes around the globe, sets Mark Morris' work at universities, and frequently leads classes for the company. Grant has been featured in *Time Out New York*, *Dance Magazine*, the book *Meet the Dancers*, appeared in PBS's *Live from Lincoln Center* and ITV's *The South Bank Show* and was a subject for the photographer Annie Leibovitz. 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 and current Dance for PD® Program Director) 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 NØA Dance, among others. He joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2011 and became a company member in 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 in 2012.

**DALLAS**

McMURRAY, from El Cerrito, California, began dancing at age four, studying jazz, tap,

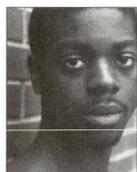
and acrobatics with Katie Maltsberger and ballet with Yukiko Sakakura. He received a B.F.A. in dance from the California Institute of the Arts. McMurray performed with the Limón Dance Company in addition to works by Jiří Kylián, Alonzo King, Robert Moses, and Colin Connor. McMurray performed with MMDG 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 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 NetaPulvermacher, ZviGotheiner, Gerald Casel, and John Heginbotham, with whom she frequently collaborates as dancer and costume designer.



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 StanislavIssaev and Bobby Barnett. Randolph received his B.F.A. in dance from Purchase College in 2012. There he had the opportunity to perform with Dance Heginbotham as well as repertory by Stephen Petronio, LarLubovitch, Paul Taylor, and George Balanchine. Randolph began working with MMDG in 2013 and became a company member in 2014.



NICOLE SABELLA

is originally from Clearwater, Florida, where she studied at the Academy of Ballet Arts and the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High School under Suzanne B. Pomerantzeff. In 2009, She graduated from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, earning her B.F.A. in Modern Dance Performance and the "Outstanding Performance in Modern Dance"

Award. She was a performer with Zane Booker's Smoke, Lilies, and Jade Arts Initiative. Nicole first worked with MMDG in 2013 and began her apprenticeship in December 2014.



BILLY SMITH grew up in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and attended George Mason

Univeristy 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, LarLubovitch, 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.



GEORGY VALTCHEV (violin)

has appeared as soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. Originally from Plovdiv, Bulgaria, he came to the United States in 1992 as a scholarship student of Dorothy

Delay and Masao Kawasaki at The Juilliard School, where he ultimately earned his bachelor's and master's degrees. He has been heard as soloist with orchestras in Bangor, Baton Rouge, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Miami, New York, New Jersey, in his native Bulgaria, and throughout Japan. Since 2011, Valtchev has been a Guest Concertmaster of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. As a chamber musician he has appeared in New York's Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, 92nd Street Y, Kennedy Center in Washington DC, Chicago's Cultural Center, the Royal Carre Theatre in Amsterdam, the Barbican Centre in London, and the Guangzhou Opera House in China. He has been featured in international music festivals such as Mostly Mozart at Lincoln Center, Beethoven Festival at Bard College, Sofia Music Weeks, Varna Summer and Appolonia in Bulgaria, and Bastad Chamber Music Festival in Sweden. Valtchev is a founding member of Bulgarian Concert Evenings in New York.



NOAH VINSON

grew up in Springfield, Illinois and 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.



WIEXIONG WANG

(clarinet), born in China and a native of Elmhurst, is a member of the Albany

Symphony Orchestra and is the winner of several international competitions, including first prize in the 2010 Fifth Audi Mozart Woodwind Competition in Italy, and the 2011 International Crescendo Award in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Wang performed the Mozart Clarinet Concerto with the Bolzano Orchestra in Italy, and he toured as a soloist with the Salzburg Youth Orchestra across Italy presented by the World Mozart Association. After winning First Prize at the United States Army Band Young Artist Competition, Wang performed the Weber Clarinet Concerto No. 2 with the band in Avery Fisher Hall and was awarded the Young Artist Medal by the United States Army General. Wang received his first honor at the age of 10, becoming the youngest prize-winner at the Second China International Clarinet Competition. Two years later, he was awarded second prize at the Hong Kong International Woodwind Competition. Wang is also a recording engineer, and he has worked closely with musicians under the management of CAMI, IMG, and YCA. Wang began his studies at Juilliard in the Pre-College Division in 2005 with Richard Shillea and Alan Kay, and is currently in the studio of Charles Neidich. He is a full scholarship recipient at The Juilliard School and receives the Bel Jelin Memorial Fund Scholarship, Irene Diamond Graduate Fellowship, and the Martin E. Segal Scholarship.



JENN WEDDEL

received her early training from Boulder Ballet Company near where she grew up

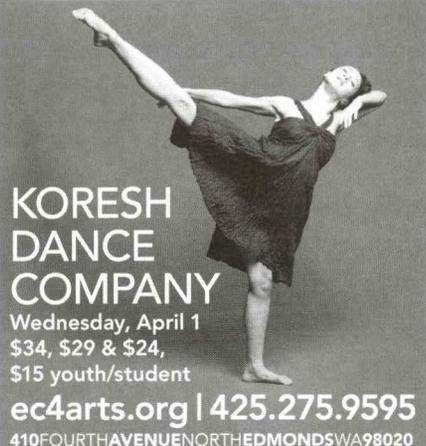
in Longmont, Colorado. She holds a B.F.A. from Southern Methodist University and also studied at Boston Conservatory, Colorado University and The Laban Center, London. Since moving to New York in 2001, Weddel has created and performed with RedWall Dance Theater, Sue Bernhard Danceworks, Vencl Dance Trio, 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.



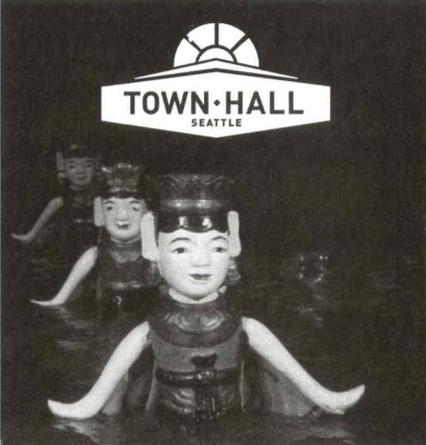
MICHELLE YARD

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.



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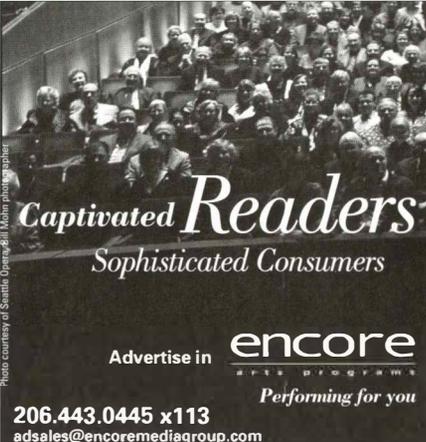


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Hilot Therapist Jeffrey Cohen

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