THE DANCE CENTER SHOWS



MMDG

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP AND MUSIC ENSEMBLE

May 17 - 22, 2016
James and Martha Duffy Performance Space
Mark Morris Dance Center

Cover Photo by Mat Hayward

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP AND MUSIC ENSEMBLE

DANCERS

CHELSEA ACREE SAM BLACK DURELL R. COMEDY* RITA DONAHUE
DOMINGO ESTRADA, JR. LESLEY GARRISON LAUREN GRANT BRIAN LAWSON
AARON LOUX LAUREL LYNCH STACY MARTORANA DALLAS McMURRAY
BRANDON RANDOLPH NICOLE SABELLA BILLY SMITH
NOAH VINSON JENN WEDDEL MICHELLE YARD

*apprentice

MUSICIANS

COLIN FOWLER WOLFRAM KOESSEL
ADDA KRIDLER ALAN RICHARDSON GEORGE SHEVTSOV
JESSICA TROY GEORGY VALTCHEV

Artistic Director
MARK MORRIS

Executive Director
NANCY UMANOFF

Major support for the Mark Morris Dance Group is provided by American Express, Anonymous, Sarabeth Berman and Evan Osnos, Morley and Frederick Bland, Allan and Rhea Bufferd, Iris Cohen and Mark Selinger, Margaret Conklin and David Sabel, Suzy Kellems Dominik, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art, Judith R. and Alan H. Fishman, Shelby and Frederick Gans Fund, The Howard Gilman Foundation, Sandy Hill, Ellsworth Kelly Foundation, Elizabeth Liebman, The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation, Suzanne Berman and Timothy J. McClimon, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, Meyer Sound/Helen and John Meyer, Isaac Mizrahi & Arnold Germer, New England Foundation for the Arts, Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Ellen and Arnold Offner, PARC Foundation, Poss Family Foundation, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The SHS Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, Diane Solway and David Resnicow, Jane Stine and R.L. Stine, The White Cedar Fund, and Friends of MMDG.

The Mark Morris Dance Group is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, Council Member Helen Rosenthal, Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams, the New York City Department for the Aging, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

PROGRAM

Cargo

Music: Darius Milhaud – *La Création du monde, Op. 58*
Costume Design: Katherine M. Patterson
Lighting Design: Nicole Pearce

Georgy Valtchev, *violin;* Adda Kridler, *violin;* Jessica Troy, *viola*;
Wolfram Koessel, *cello* (May 17-18, 20-21);
Alan Richardson, *cello* (May 19 & 22) Colin Fowler, *piano*

Sam Black, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Lesley Garrison,
Lauren Grant, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Brandon Randolph,
Jenn Weddel

Cargo Cults of the South Pacific believed that manufactured goods ('cargo') were created for them by ancestral spirits.

Premiere: June 26, 2005 – Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, Lenox, Massachusetts

Commissioned in part by the Tanglewood Music Center of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, with the generous support of Michael and Sally Gordon and the Florence Gould Foundation.

La Création du monde by Darius Milhaud is used by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc., sole agent in the United States, Canada, and Mexico; for Editions Max Eschig, a BMG Editions Company, publisher and copyright owner.

A Forest (World Premiere)

Music: Franz Joseph Haydn – *Piano Trio No. 44 in E major*
Costume Design: Maile Okamura
Lighting Design: Nick Kolin

Georgy Valtchev, *violin*; Wolfram Koessel, *cello* (May 17-18, 20-21);
Alan Richardson, *cello* (May 19 & 22); Colin Fowler, *piano*

Durell R. Comedy, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Lesley Garrison,
Brian Lawson, Stacy Martorana, Brandon Randolph,
Nicole Sabella, Noah Vinson

-INTERMISSION-

Foursome

Music: Erik Satie – *Gnossiennes #1, #2, #3*
Johann Nepomuk Hummel - *Seven Hungarian Dances*
Costume Design: Katherine M. Patterson
Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Colin Fowler, *piano*

Domingo Estrada, Jr., Dallas McMurray, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson

Premiere: February 27, 2002 – Howard Gilman Opera House, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, New York

The

Music: Johann Sebastian Bach – *Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 in F Major, BWV 1046* (arranged for piano four-hands by Max Reger)
Costume Design: Elizabeth Kurtzman
Lighting Design: Nicole Pearce

Colin Fowler, piano; George Shevtsov, piano

Sam Black, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Lesley Garrison, Lauren Grant, Brian Lawson, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Stacy Martorana, Dallas McMurray, Brandon Randolph, Nicole Sabella, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel, Michelle Yard

Premiere: June 25, 2015 – Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, Lenox, Massachusetts

Commissioned, in part, by the Tanglewood Music Center of the Boston Symphony Orchestra in honor of its 75th Anniversary Season.

ARTISTS



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 twenty 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 Tanglewood Music Center, 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 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. Morris has received the Samuel H. Scripps/American Dance Festival Award for Lifetime Achievement, the Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award for the Elevation of Music in Society, the Benjamin Franklin Laureate Prize for Creativity, the International Society for the Performing Arts' Distinguished Artist Award, Cal Performances Award of Distinction in the Performing Arts, and the Orchestra of St. Luke's Gift of Music Award. In 2015, Mark Morris was inducted into the Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney Hall of Fame at the National Museum of Dance in Saratoga Springs, New York. 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** (MMDG) 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 Boston, Seattle, and Fairfax.

In New York, the company has performed at New York City Center's Fall for Dance Festival, regularly performs at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts' Mostly Mozart and White Light Festivals, and collaborates yearly with BAM on performances and master classes. The Dance Group will return to Lincoln Center for the 10th Anniversary of *Mozart Dances* in August 2016. 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 Adrianne 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*. In 2015 Morris' signature work *L 'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* had its national television premiere on PBS' *Great Performances*. 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 and 18th century works by Henry Purcell and Johann Sebastian Bach to more recent scores by Lou Harrison and Henry Cowell. The musicians also participate in Access/MMDG – the Dance Group's educational and community programming at home and on tour. The Music Ensemble is led by Colin Fowler who began to collaborate with MMDG in 2005 during the creation of *Mozart Dances*.





MAILE OKAMURA (costume design, *A Forest*) studied primarily with Lynda *Yourth* at the American Ballet School in San Diego, California. She was a member of Boston Ballet II and Ballet Arizona before moving to New York to study modern dance. Okamura has been dancing with MMDG since 1998. She has also had the pleasure of working with choreographers Neta Pulvermacher, Zvi Gotheiner, Gerald Casel, and John Heginbotham, with whom she frequently collaborates as dancer and costume designer. Okamura and her husband, Colin Jacobsen, are the proud parents of Mimi Hanako, born in 2015.



NICK KOLIN (lighting design, *A Forest*) has designed *Whelm* and *Words* for MMDG, in addition to *A Forest*, and is MMDG's lighting supervisor on tour. Recent dance projects include new works for Philadanco!, *Art of Fugue* with Syren Modern Dance, many collaborations with the Joffrey Ballet School, and lighting supervisor for Daniil Simkin's *Intensio*, Wendy Whelan's *Restless Creature*, the Apollo Theatre's *Get on the Good Foot*, Dance Heginbotham, Lincoln Center Festival, and NY City Center's Fall for Dance Festival. Other projects include productions with the Cincinnati Ballet, Gotham Chamber Opera, Asolo Repertory Theater, Castillo Theater, and Signature Theatre. Kolin is an adjunct faculty member at Hunter College, where he is the resident lighting designer for the M.F.A. playwriting program. He holds an M.F.A. from New York University Tisch School of the Arts.



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. Rose 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.



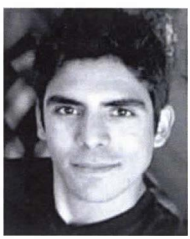
SAM BLACK is originally from Berkeley, California, where he began studying tap at the age of nine with Katie Maltsberger. He received his B.F.A. in dance from SUNY Purchase, and currently teaches MMDG master classes and Dance for PD®. He first appeared with MMDG in 2005 and became a company member in 2007.



DURELL R. COMEDY, a native of Prince Georges County, Maryland, began dancing at the age of 6 with Spirit Wings Dance Company. He graduated from the Visual & Performing Arts program of Suitland High School in 2004 and magna cum laude from George Mason University, with a B.F.A. in dance performance in 2008. Since then, he's worked and performed with the Metropolitan Opera, Troy Powell, and Kyle Abraham, among others. Comedy was a member of the Limón Dance Company from 2009-2015, performing principal and soloist roles. He's also worked as a soloist dancer with the Baltimore Opera and was a principal dancer and dance captain with Washington National Opera from 2013-2014. He was an adjunct faculty member at George Mason University's School of Dance in 2014 and was recently awarded the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award for the College of Visual and Performing Arts of George Mason University. Comedy began his apprenticeship with MMDG in 2015.



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) began his musical study at the age of 5 in Kansas City and went on to study at the prestigious Interlochen Arts Academy. He continued his education at The Juilliard School, where he received his Bachelor of Music in 2003 and his Master of Music in 2005. While at Juilliard, he studied piano with Abbey Simon, organ with Gerre Hancock and Paul Jacobs, harpsichord with Lionel Party, and conducting with James dePriest and Judith Clurman. A versatile musician and conductor, Fowler works in many areas of the music scene in New York City. He is a veteran of numerous Broadway shows, most recently performing in the Tony Award winning musical *Jersey Boys*. A seasoned church musician, Fowler is currently the organist at Marble Collegiate Church on Fifth Avenue and also leads services and concerts at Park Avenue Synagogue, where he has served as Music Director since 2012. As a classical soloist and collaborative artist, he has performed and recorded with many world renowned musicians and ensembles, including Deborah Voigt and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. He began to collaborate with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2005 and has since then performed over 40 pieces with the company on almost every keyboard instrument possible, including the harmonium and toy piano, and has conducted performances of *Mozart Dances*, *Acis and Galatea*, and *The Hard Nut*. Hailed by the *New York Times* as 'invaluable' and 'central to Morris' music', he was appointed 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, appearing in nearly 60 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 Morris' work at universities, and frequently leads classes for the company. Grant received a 2015 New York Dance and Performance Award ("Bessie") for her sustained achievement in performance with MMDG and in recognition of her "invigorating spontaneity, expansive phrasing, and robust musicality." Grant has been featured in *Time Out New York*, *Dance Magazine*, the book *Meet the Dancers*, appeared in PBS' *Great Performances*, *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 is currently pursuing her M.F.A. at Montclair State University. She and her husband David Leventhal (former MMDG dancer and current Dance for PD® Program Director) are proud parents of son Zev, born in 2012.



WOLFRAM KOESSEL (cello) has established himself as a much sought after chamber musician, soloist, recording artist and contractor in the New York music scene. He has performed with MMDG since 1999 and was music director from 2004-2008. In 2006 Koessel joined the world renowned American String Quartet, with whom he performs in the foremost concert halls throughout the world, collaborating frequently with today's leading artists. Koessel appears with a wide range of ensembles and groups, most notably and frequently with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and the NY Philharmonic. He is also a founding member of Trio+ together with violinist Yosuke Kawasaki and pianist Vadim Serebryani. He has supervised and performed music for Warner Brothers, American Express, and many independent film companies and organized 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. He resides with his wife, pianist and writer J. Mae Barizo, in Manhattan.



ADDA KRIDLER (violin), described as "lyrical and precise" by the *New York Times* and lauded in the *Miami Herald* for her "incisive energy and lovely tone," has performed across the globe as a chamber and orchestral musician. In demand as a strong leader and sensitive collaborator, Kridler is a member of the Momenta Quartet, a New York-based string quartet renowned for its compelling presentation of contemporary and classical repertoire. She graduated cum laude from Harvard University studying cognitive neuroscience and completed her musical studies at the New England Conservatory.



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.



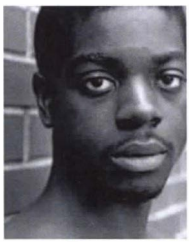
LAUREL LYNCH began her dance training at Petaluma School of Ballet in California. She moved to New York to attend The Juilliard School where she performed works by Robert Battle, Margie Gillis, José Limón, and Ohad Naharin. After graduation Lynch danced for Dušan Týnek Dance Theatre, Sue Bernhard Danceworks,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



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 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 working with MMDG in 2013 and became a company member in 2014.



ALAN RICHARDSON (cello) is a founding member of the prizewinning Aeolus Quartet. The ensemble is currently the Graduate Resident String Quartet at The Juilliard School, and has previously held similar posts at the University of Texas and University of Maryland. Richardson received his bachelor's degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he studied with Richard Aaron and Melissa Kraut. Richardson has performed in many of the great halls across North America, Europe, and Asia including Carnegie Hall, Severance Hall, St. Martin in the Fields, Shanghai Oriental Art Center, Montreal's Pollack Hall, Trondheim Frimurerlogen, and the Hamburg Laeiszhalle.

As a member of the Aeolus Quartet, he was awarded Grand Prize at the 2011 Plowman and Yellow Springs Competitions, top strings prize at the 2009 Coleman Competition, Silver Medal at the 2011 Fischoff Competition, and a Bronze Medal at the 2010 International Chamber Music Ensemble Competition. Richardson has served on the string faculty at the 2011 and 2013 Austin Chamber Music Festivals, as well as George Washington University's 2013 String Piano Chamber Music Institute. He has served as teaching assistant at The Juilliard School, University of Texas, and University of Maryland, and is currently serving as a Professorial Lecturer at George Washington University.



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. Sabella first performed with MMDG in 2013 and became a company member in 2015.



GEORGE (YEGOR) SHEVTSOV (piano) has been singled out for his "Mozartean elegance," "perfect lucidity" (*New York Times*) and "superb musicianship" (*Miami Herald*). His recent recording of the piano music of Claude Debussy and Pierre Boulez was selected by rhapsody.com as one of the top 25 classical albums of 2013. Shevtsov has appeared in concert with members of the American String Quartet, Red Light New Music, Mivos Quartet, International Contemporary Ensemble, Bang on a Can, red fish blue fish, Alarm Will Sound, Argento Ensemble, Flexible Music, Wet Ink Ensemble and Manhattan Sinfonietta, among others. Among the composers who have heard Shevtsov perform their works are Pierre Boulez, John Luther Adams, Elliott Carter, Charles Wuorinen, Steve Reich, Louis Andriessen and George Crumb. Shevtsov is on the faculty of the Manhattan School of Music and the MSM Precollege Division. He currently studies flamenco in the studio of Soledad Barrio. More information on yegorshevtsov.com



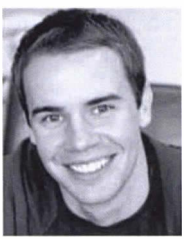
BILLY SMITH grew up in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and attended George Mason University under a full academic and dance talent scholarship. He graduated magna cum laude in 2007 and received achievement awards in performance, choreography, and academic endeavors. While at George Mason he performed the works 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.



JESSICA TROY (viola) wears a variety of freelance hats. She first performed with the MMDG Music Ensemble in 1998, and has toured with them extensively, including performances with Yo-Yo Ma across the US and Japan. On baroque viola she performs with the Sebastian Chamber Players, Trinity Baroque Orchestra, Clarion, Opera Lafayette, and appeared with Renée Fleming on the David Letterman Show. A member of the Orchestra of St. Luke's, Westchester Philharmonic, and NYC Opera Orchestra, she performs frequently with many other ensembles, including the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra and NOVUS NY. She has recorded for Lou Reed and Ani DiFranco, performed on TV with Whitney Houston, and on film with David Byrne. A participant at many illustrious music festivals, including Tanglewood, Spoleto, and Marlboro, she can be heard on Marlboro's 50th anniversary CD in György Kurtág's Microludes for string quartet, which she prepared with the composer.



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 is originally from Springfield, Illinois, and received his B.A. in dance from Columbia College Chicago. He was named one of *Dance Magazine*'s "Dancer on the Rise" in 2009 and assisted Mark Morris in the creation of his most recent work for Houston Ballet, *The Letter V*, which premiered in May 2015. He began dancing 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, 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.

Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart 50

AUGUST 24-27, 2016
THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOZART DANCES

"A not-to-be-missed revival of one of Mark Morris's most celebrated dance masterpieces."

with the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra and pianists Garrick Ohlsson and Inon Baratan



MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Resnicow, *Chairman*
Mark Selinger, *Vice-Chairman*
Isaac Mizrahi, *Secretary*
Sarabeth Berman
Frederick Bland
Allan Bufferd
Margaret Conklin
Suzy Kellems Dominik
Judith R. Fishman
Shelby Gans
Sandy Hill
Timothy J. McClimon
Helen Meyer
Mark Morris
Ellen Offner
Jane Stine
Nancy Umanoff
Jennifer Goodale, *Ex Officio*

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP STAFF

Artistic Director.....Mark Morris
Executive Director.....Nancy Umanoff

PRODUCTION

Technical Director.....Johan Henckens
Rehearsal Director.....Matthew Rose
Music Director.....Colin Fowler
Lighting Supervisor.....Nick Kolin
Sound Supervisor.....Rory Murphy
Costume Coordinator.....Stephanie Sleeper
Production Assistant.....Sam Owens
Wardrobe Supervisor.....Maria Garcia

FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

Chief Financial Officer.....Elizabeth Fox
Finance Manager.....Rebecca Hunt
Finance Associate.....Natalia Kurylak
Administrative Assistant.....Marianny Loveras
General Manager.....Huong Hoang
Company Manager.....Jen De Santo
Interns.....Diamond Croney, Marlie Delisfort, Julia Weber

DEVELOPMENT

Director of Development.....Michelle Amador
Development Associates.....Tyler Mercer, Sophie Mintz
Development Assistant.....Kristen Gajdica
Intern.....Michel Ashley Chord

MARKETING

Director of Marketing.....Karyn LeSuer
Marketing & Digital Media Manager..... Cortney Cleveland
Marketing Assistant .....Myriam Varjacques

EDUCATION

Director of Education ..... Sarah Marcus
School Director..... Sydnie Liggett
Education Programs Coordinator.....Jennifer Dayton
School Administrator.....Rachel Merry
Outreach Director.....Eva Nichols
Dance for PD® Program Director.....David Leventhal
Dance for PD® Program Coordinator.....Maria Portman Kelly
Dance for PD® Program Interns ..... Amy Motson, Ginny Mottla, Pia Vinson
Education Interns.....Naomi Johson, Johanna Kitenge, Jessica Pearson

DANCE CENTER OPERATIONS

Operations Manager.....Elise Gaugert
Rentals & Office Manager.....Erica Marnell
Retail Store Manager..... Janice Gerlach
Front Desk Manager.....Jillian Greenberg
Front Desk Assistants.....Tyrone Bevans, Alyssa Filoramo, Noelle Lazor, Laura Merkel
Facilities Manager.....Mark Sacks
Maintenance.....Jose Fuentes, Hector Mazariego, Andy Rivera, Justin Sierra, Arturo Velazquez

Booking Representation.....Michael Mushalla (Double M Arts & Events)
Media and General Consultation Services.....William Murray (Better Attitude, Inc.)
Legal Counsel.....Mark Selinger (McDermott, Will & Emery)
Development Consultant ..... Dunch Arts, LLC.
Education Consultants ..... Dr. Carol Fineberg and Dr. Fran Schwartz
Accountant.....O'Connor, Davies, Munns & Dobbins, LLP
Orthopaedist .....David S. Weiss, M.D. (NYU Langone Medical Center)
Physical Therapist..... Marshall Hagins, PT, Ph.D.
Hilot Therapist.....Jeffrey Cohen

Thanks to Maxine Morris.

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

Additional support provided by Arnow Family Fund, The Amphion Foundation, Inc., Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Inc., Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners, LLP, Billy Rose Foundation, Inc., Boosak/Heilbron Charitable Foundation, Credit-Suisse, Joseph and Joan Cullman Foundation for the Arts, Inc., The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, The Harkness Foundation for Dance, JP Morgan Chase, Kinder Morgan Foundation, Leatherwood Foundation, Materials for the Arts, McDermott, Will & Emery, Morgan Stanley, New York Life Insurance Company, Resnicow + Associates, Jerome Robbins Foundation, San Antonio Area Foundation, Schneer Foundation, SingerXenos Wealth Management, Solon E. Summerfield Foundation, Tiffany & Co., and Trust for Mutual Understanding.

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

A Mark Morris Dance Group/Cal Performances, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, California production in association with Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Chicago, Illinois; Hopkins Center for the Arts, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire; The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C.; Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois; Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, New York, New York; Meany Center for the Performing Arts, Seattle, Washington; Sadler's Wells, London, England; and University Musical Society, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Mark Morris Dance Group
and
The Silk Road Ensemble
in

Layla and Majnun

World Premiere | *September 2016*

Learn about Mark Morris' newest work at

LAYLAandMAJNUN.org

Layla and Majnun is made possible, in part, through the MMDG New Works Fund with support from the Friends of MMDG, the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art, and The Howard Gilman Foundation, Ellsworth Kelly Foundation, Elizabeth Liebman, PARC Foundation, Poss Family Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Funding has also been provided by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

TAKE PART IN ANOTHER YEAR OF EXTRAORDINARY DANCE AND MUSIC

FRIENDS OF MMDG SUPPORT

- Creation and rehearsal of new works by Mark Morris
- Performances with live music
- Community engagement programs in the U.S. and abroad
- Free and low-cost music and dance classes at the Mark Morris Dance Center, throughout NYC, and on tour
- Deeply reduced studio rental rates for local artists



mmdg.org/takepart
718.624.8400

Cargo ©2005 Discalced, Inc.
A Forest ©2016 Discalced, Inc.
Foursome ©2002 Discalced, Inc.
The ©2015 Discalced, Inc.

For more information contact:
MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP
3 Lafayette Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11217-1415
(718) 624-8400
www.mmdg.org

facebook: markmorrisdancegroup
twitter: markmorrisdance
instagram : markmorrisdance
tumblr: mmdgontheroad
youtube: markmorrisdancegroup

