



PERFORMING LIVE

WINTER 2013



INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING VENUE



MARK MORRIS DANCE

Tuesday, January 28 – Wednesday, January 29, 2014

Virginia Piper Repertory Theater

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP AND MUSIC ENSEMBLE

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Virginia Piper Repertory Theater

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

CHELSEA LYNN ACREE SAM BLACK RITA DONAHUE DOMINGO ESTRADA, JR.
BENJAMIN FREEDMAN* LESLEY GARRISON LAUREN GRANT BRIAN LAWSON
AARON LOUX LAUREL LYNCH STACY MARTORANA DALLAS McMURRAY
MAILE OKAMURA BRANDON RANDOLPH* BILLY SMITH
NOAH VINSON JENN WEDDEL MICHELLE YARD

*apprentice

MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE

COLIN FOWLER GEORGY VALTCHEV

Artistic Director

MARK MORRIS

Executive Director

NANCY UMANOFF

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, 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, Inc., 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.

PROGRAM

Canonics ¾ Studies

Music: Various composers - piano waltzes arranged by Harriet Cavalli

Lighting Design: James F. Ingalls

Colin Fowler, *piano*

Chelsea Lynn Acree, Sam Black, Brian Lawson, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Stacy Martorana,
Dallas McMurray, Billy Smith, Jenn Weddel

Premiere: July 29, 1982 – On the Boards, Washington Hall Performance Gallery, Seattle, Washington

Excursions

Music: Samuel Barber – *Excursions for the Piano* (Op. 20, IV, III, II, I)

Costume Design: Katherine M. Patterson

Lighting Design: Nicole Pearce

Colin Fowler, *piano*

Rita Donahue, Laurel Lynch, Dallas McMurray, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson, Michelle Yard

Premiere: June 26, 2008 – Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood Music Center, Lenox, Massachusetts

Commissioned in part by the Tanglewood Music Center of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

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

-INTERMISSION-

Jenn and Spencer

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

Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

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

Sam Black, Jenn Weddel

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

Grand Duo

Music: Lou Harrison – *Grand Duo for Violin and Piano*

Costume Design: Susan Ruddle

Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Prelude

Stampede

A Round

Polka

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

Chelsea Lynn Acree, Sam Black, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Brian Lawson,
Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Stacy Martorana, Dallas McMurray, Maile Okamura, Billy Smith,
Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel, Michelle Yard

Premiere: February 16, 1993 – Fine Arts Center, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts

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 Kaleda 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, Ballet du 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. 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. Morris 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. 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.

The MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP was formed in 1980 and gave its first concert that year in New York City. The company's touring schedule steadily expanded to include cities in the 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 Rauschenberg, 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*. 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. Dancer bios can be found online at mmdg.org/the_company/artistic_personnel/dancers.

The MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE, formed in 1996, performs with the Dance Group at prestigious venues around the world and is integral to the company's creative life. "With the dancers come the musicians...and what a difference it makes" (*Classical Voice of North Carolina*). The core group, supplemented by musicians from a large roster of regular guests, has helped the Dance Group present more than 1200 performances with live music. The Ensemble frequently collaborates with renowned musicians, including cellist Yo-Yo Ma, pianist Emanuel Ax and mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe, as well as leading orchestras and choirs, such as Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, Trinity Choir, and Yale Choral Artists. Under the artistic direction of Mark Morris, 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 MMDG Music Ensemble has performed with the Dance Group at the Mostly Mozart Festival at Lincoln Center, Sadler's Wells in London, the Sydney Festival in Australia, and accompanied MMDG on its first tour of China in 2012. It made its Ojai Music Festival debut in June 2013. At home in Brooklyn, members of the Ensemble participate in the Mark Morris Dance, Music & Literacy Project, a residency program in the New York City public school system, which uses Morris' masterwork *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* to introduce school children to the performing and visual arts.

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 Ken Hypes
Costume Coordinator Stephanie Sleeper
Wardrobe Supervisor Elizabeth Sargent

ADMINISTRATION

Chief Financial Officer Elizabeth Fox
Finance Manager Rebecca Hunt
Finance Associate Jamie Posnak
General Manager Huong Hoang
Company Manager Sarah Horne
Executive Assistant Jenna Nugent
Intern Kristen Rizzulo

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Director of Development Michelle Amador
Associate Director of Development Kelly Sheldon
Development Associate Rebecca Cash
Intern Katy Dammers

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Digital Content Manager Moss Allen
Marketing Associate Abby West
Interns Yesica Bello, Laurel Edge

EDUCATION

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School Director Sydnie Liggett
Outreach Director Eva Nichols
Dance for PD® Program Director
David Leventhal
Dance for PD® Program Coordinator
Maria Portman Kelly
Dance for PD® Intern
Satasia Hewitt

DANCE CENTER OPERATIONS

Facility and Production Manager Peter Gorneault
Senior Operations Manager Karyn Treadwell
Operations Manager Elise Gaugert
Operations Associate Charles Gushue
Front Desk Assistant Colleen Pictor
Maintenance Jose Fuentes, Vincent Guerrero,
Orlando Rivera, Diana 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)
Accountant O'Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, LLP
Orthopaedist David S. Weiss, M.D. (NYU Langone Medical Center)
Physical Therapist Marshall Hagins, PT, PhD
Hilot Therapist Jeffrey Cohen

Thanks to Maxine Morris.

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

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

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