

Mark Morris Dance Group

20th Anniversary Season



BAM

Mark Morris Dance Group

Mark Morris has done more to revive interest in, to dignify, and illuminate classical music to a broad audience than any conductor or musician of the last 20 years.

—BBC Music Magazine

20th Anniversary Season

Choreography by Mark Morris

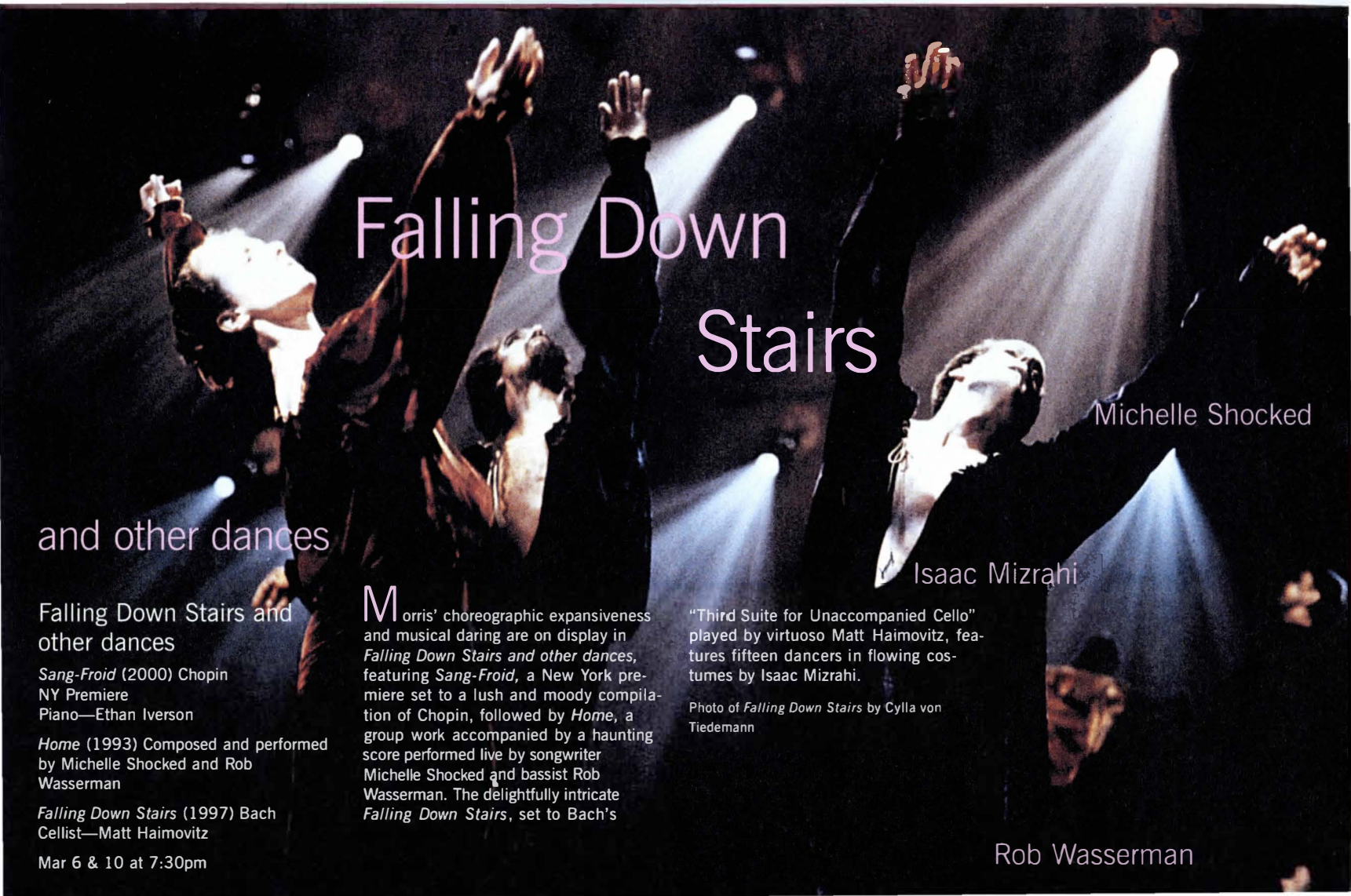
Five different programs with live music
BAM Howard Gilman Opera House
Tickets: \$20, 35, 50



Photo by Mark Rouse

The Mark Morris Dance Group's auspicious debut 20 years ago caught audiences off-guard. Here were rhythmically agile, blazingly declarative dances by a choreographer whose irreverent sensibility and deeply musical "real people" movement added a dose of modernity and an exhilarating megadose of gusto to whatever he tackled. Fearless with his subject matter (be it sex, despair, havoc, or sheer joy), and in total command of a wonderfully explicit physicality, Morris made the rapid trajectory from downtown's bad boy to one of the world's most celebrated artists, along the way completing more than 90 pieces for the MMDG and two-dozen commissions for major ballet and opera companies.

This three-week anniversary engagement features five different programs, including fifteen works created by Morris during the past 20 years, and dovetails neatly with the opening of the troupe's first permanent headquarters, across the street from BAM — the company's home theater for more than fifteen years.



Falling Down Stairs

Michelle Shocked

Isaac Mizrahi

and other dances

Falling Down Stairs and
other dances

Sang-Froid (2000) Chopin
NY Premiere
Piano—Ethan Iverson

Home (1993) Composed and performed
by Michelle Shocked and Rob
Wasserman

Falling Down Stairs (1997) Bach
Cellist—Matt Haimovitz

Mar 6 & 10 at 7:30pm

Morris' choreographic expansiveness and musical daring are on display in *Falling Down Stairs and other dances*, featuring *Sang-Froid*, a New York premiere set to a lush and moody compilation of Chopin, followed by *Home*, a group work accompanied by a haunting score performed live by songwriter Michelle Shocked and bassist Rob Wasserman. The delightfully intricate *Falling Down Stairs*, set to Bach's

"Third Suite for Unaccompanied Cello" played by virtuoso Matt Haimovitz, features fifteen dancers in flowing costumes by Isaac Mizrahi.

Photo of *Falling Down Stairs* by Cylla von Tiedemann

Rob Wasserman

Gloria and other dances

Lucky Charms (1994) Ibert

Bedtime (1992) Schubert

Beautiful Day (1992) Bach, Hoffmann

Gloria (1981, revised 1984) Vivaldi

Conducted by Craig Smith

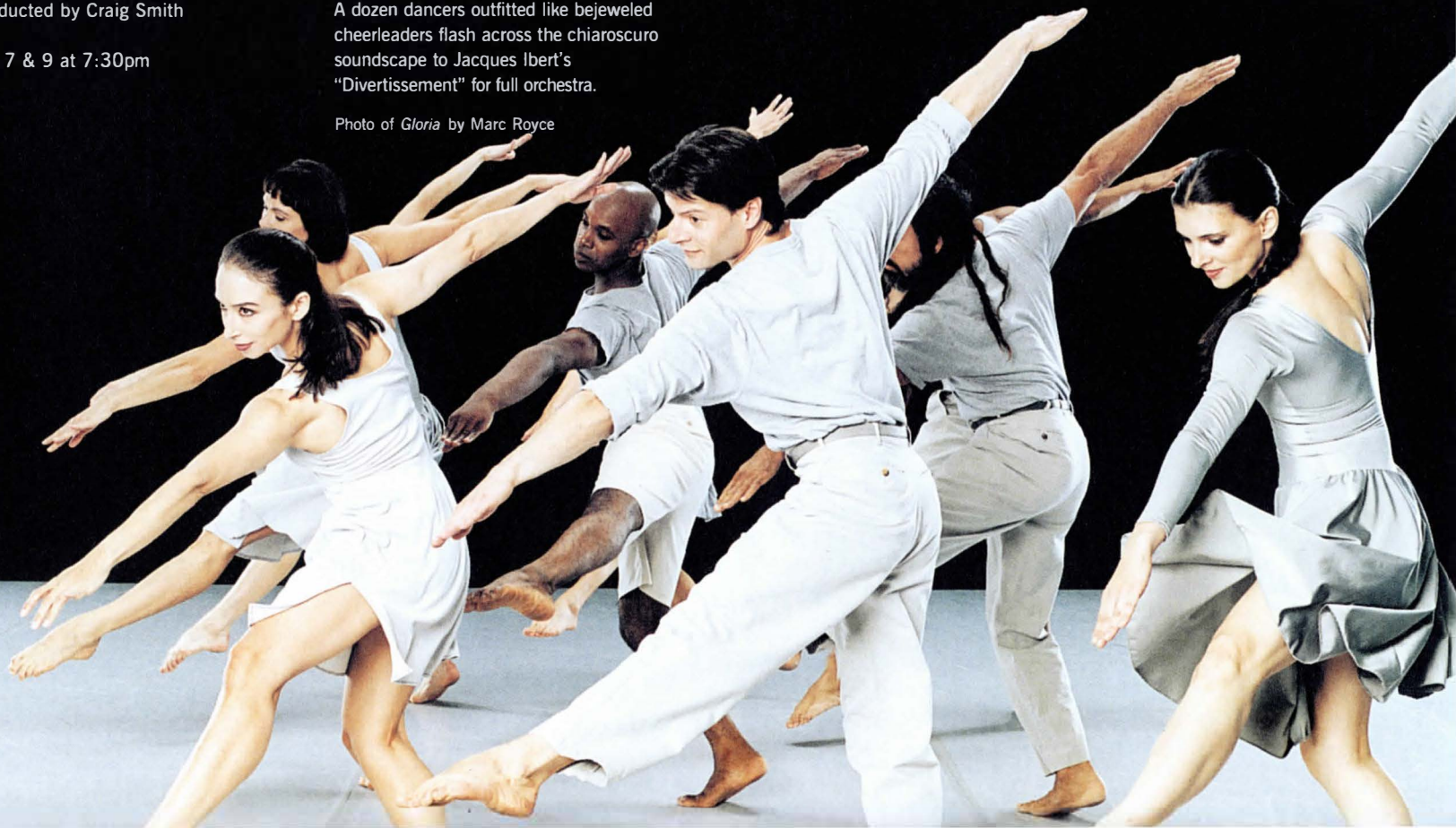
Mar 7 & 9 at 7:30pm

This program's must-sees include *Gloria*, a grandly scaled, truly heroic piece set to Vivaldi's exalted "Gloria in D" (one of the first dances Morris performed at BAM), and the humorous-with-a-twist *Lucky Charms*. A dozen dancers outfitted like bejeweled cheerleaders flash across the chiaroscuro soundscape to Jacques Ibert's "Divertissement" for full orchestra.

Photo of *Gloria* by Marc Royce

Gloria

and other dances



Four Saints in Three Acts

(2000) Thomson

NY Premiere

Conducted by Craig Smith

Soprano—Jayne West

Baritone—William Sharp

Mar 13, 16 & 17 at 7:30pm

World Power

(1995) Harrison

with gamelan orchestra

Four Saints in Three Acts

The pairing of *Four Saints in Three Acts* and *World Power* underscores Morris' attraction to 20th century American composers. In *Four Saints*, Virgil Thomson sets Gertrude Stein's libretto about the lives of sixteenth-century Spanish Saints to a collage of American music: marches, rags, Baptist hymns, and folk tunes. Morris reaches ecstatic heights with his profoundly religious and moving vision of this uniquely American opera. *World Power* looks to the East with Lou Harrison's score for Indonesian gamelan. With a chorus singing Mark Twain's denunciation of imperialism, *World Power* is the dark, flip-side of *Four Saints'* sunny spirituality.

This photo and cover photo of *Four Saints*
by Bill Cooper



World Power

Grand Duo and other dances

Mosaic and United (1993) Cowell

Dancing Honeymoon (1998) popular

songs from the 1930s

The Office (1994) Dvořák

Peccadillos (2000) Satie

Grand Duo (1993) Harrison

with MMDG Music Ensemble, directed by

Ethan Iverson

Mar 15 & 20 at 7:30pm

Grand Duo and other dances

G*rand Duo and other dances* features Morris himself at his unfettered best in *Peccadillos*, a 2000 solo set to children's piano music by Eric Satie, and *Dancing Honeymoon*, an antic septet buoyed by an irresistible medley of 1930s pop tunes ("You Were Meant for Me," "Do Do Do," "Two Little Bluebirds"...). The evening closes with the hugely popular *Grand Duo*, a seismic group work inspired by a rousing score for violin and piano by Morris favorite Lou Harrison.

Photo of *Grand Duo* by Marc Royce

filled with '70s retro fashions, gender-bending, and irrepressible joy.

Architect, Rever Oliver Rella



L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato

(1988) Handel

Conducted by Jane Glover

Soprano—Jeanne Ommerle

Soprano—Jayne West

Baritone—Stephen Salters

Mar 22—24 at 7:30pm

Mar 25 at 3pm

*Among the happiest and
most endearing works
American dance has seen
...it is a masterpiece.*

—San Francisco Chronicle

Morris' full-evening masterwork *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*, is the choreographer at his protean best. Twenty-four dancers, and a full chorus and orchestra bring Milton's cosmic poetry and Handel's oratorio to life. Adrienne Lobel's lush set underscores the movement: circling, weaving, streaming, rushing dances within dances, whose moods run from dark and dreamlike to exultant — each a lucid kinetic response to the music and words.

Photo by Ken Friedman

L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato



BAMdialogues

Don't miss your opportunity to hear and ask questions of Mark Morris in person. Both BAMdialogues will take place at the new Mark Morris Dance Center located at 3 Lafayette Avenue, one block from BAM.

Tickets: \$8 per session (\$4 for Friends of BAM). Call 718.636.4100 for tickets.

BAMdialogue with Mark Morris and filmmaker Steven Watson
(in conjunction with *Four Saints in Three Acts*)

Mar 16 at 6pm

BAMdialogue with Mark Morris, interviewed by Wendy Lesser
(in conjunction with *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*)

Mr. Morris will sign copies of the new book on *L'Allegro* following the BAMdialogue.
Mar 23 at 6pm

BAMcinématek @ BAM Rose Cinemas

Brooklyn's home for first run independent and foreign film and BAMcinématek repertory programming features daily screenings of classics, documentaries, and festivals, often accompanied by guest speakers.

General admission: \$9

Students with ID (Mon—Fri), Seniors & children under 12,

BAM Cinema Club: \$6

Advance tickets available one week prior to screenings.

Call 777-FILM (#545) or visit moviefone.com, bam.org, or the box office.

On Stage / On Film : Mark Morris

Mar 8 Two films highlighting the talents of the celebrated choreographer.

The Hidden Soul of Harmony (1990), Directed by Nigel Wattis, 6:50pm
British documentary revealing a behind-the-scenes look at MMDG in residence as the national dance company of Belgium and the staging of the masterwork *L'Allegro*.
Followed by a Q&A with Mark Morris.

The Hard Nut (1992), Directed by Matthew Diamond, 8:50pm
Morris' hilarious retelling of the E.T.A. Hoffmann / Tchaikovsky classic *Nutcracker* is filled with 70s retro fashions, gender-bending, and irrepressible joy.

Mark Morris Dance Center

The Mark Morris Dance Group will move into its first permanent home in the US in March 2001. The \$6.2 million Mark Morris Dance Center, located at 3 Lafayette Avenue in Brooklyn just one block from BAM will feature state-of-the-art facilities for the artistic, administrative, and technical staffs of MMDG.

The dance center will house three, column-free dance studios: a 3,600 square foot main studio, the largest unobstructed dance studio in New York City, which will be equipped with theatrical systems for performances with seating for 150 people. A second studio measuring 2,000 square feet, and a third at 800 square feet will complete the spaces for creating and rehearsing dance. The studios will be available to the local performing arts community under a subsidized rental program administered by MMDG. The Mark Morris Dance Center will also feature a new dance school with a diverse array of classes for adults and children.



Architect: Rever Blinder Bella

How to Order

Order tickets before Feb 23 to three or more Mark Morris programs and receive a 20% subscription discount!

Order all five programs and receive a free BAMdialogue and a free BAMcinématek screening listed in this brochure. Call BAM for details.

BAMdialogue tickets subject to availability.

Phone

BAM Ticket Services 718.636.4100, subscriptions and single tickets
Ticketmaster 212.307.4100, single tickets only

Group Sales Box Office 212.398.8383, groups of 20 or more

Internet **use our easy online order form on** www.bam.org

Fax

BAM Ticket Services 718.636.4106, subscriptions and single tickets

Box Office

30 Lafayette Avenue, Brooklyn NY, single tickets only
Mon—Sat, 12—6pm, Sun 12—4pm (performance days only)

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BAM Dance support: The Harkness Foundation for Dance

Additional support: Live Music for Dance Program of the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, administered by the American Music Center

BAMdialogues sponsored by



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Morris is our Mozart of modern dance.

—The Washington Post