



New York

State

Governor's

Arts

Awards

2001

*2001 New York State
Governor's Arts Awards*

Recipients

BOA Editions, Ltd.

Cora Cahan and Bernard Gersten

CEPA Gallery

James Ivory and Ismail Merchant

Mark Morris and
the Mark Morris Dance Group

The Museum of Modern Art

Pregones Theater

Max Roach

The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Cindy Sherman

Society for New Music

Monday, November 19, 2001
The Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York City

7:00pm
Awards Ceremony

8:30pm
Reception

Mark Morris and the Mark Morris Dance Group



Mark Morris, Choreographer



Dancing Honeymoon. Mark Morris Dance Group

*Prodigiously talented,
always fascinating
and provocative creator
and artistic presence*

In just over two decades, Mark Morris has choreographed over 100 works both for his own company, the Mark Morris Dance Group, and for other major companies such as the San Francisco Ballet, American Ballet Theatre and the Paris Opera Ballet. In doing so, he has established himself as one of the most original, most intelligent, most accessible choreographers working in the world today.

In 1980, Mr. Morris formed the Mark Morris Dance Group (MMDG). From 1988 to 1991 he was Director of Dance at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels. During his tenure there, he created twelve pieces including three evening-length works: *The Hard Nut*; *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*; and *Dido and Aeneas*. In 1990, in collaboration with Mikhail Baryshnikov, he founded the White Oak Dance Project, which consists of seasoned dancers who perform contemporary and newly commissioned works. Mr. Morris is noted for his musicality. He has been

described as “undeviating in his devotion to music,” and for his “ability to conjure so many contradictory styles and emotions.”

He has also worked extensively in opera. He directed and choreographed a Royal Opera, Covent Garden production of Rameau’s *Platée* that premiered at the Edinburgh International Festival in 1997 and had its New York City debut with The New York City Opera in April 2000 at Lincoln Center. Most recently, he choreographed the June 2000 English National Opera production of *Four Saints in Three Acts*.



Gloria. Mark Morris Dance Group



Sang-Froid. Mark Morris Dance Group



Lucky Charms. Mark Morris Dance Group

In addition to a full international touring schedule, Mr. Morris's Dance Group has recently completed several film projects including an Emmy Award-winning collaboration with cellist Yo-Yo Ma entitled *Falling Down Stairs* and a film version of Mr. Morris's *Dido and Aeneas*. In 1997, the Dance Group won the Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Dance Production for their British premiere performances

of *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* with the English National Opera. In fall 2000, MMDG was the subject of a second documentary for London's South Bank Show.

Mr. Morris was named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation in 1991, and he is the subject of a biography by Joan Acocella.

In fall 2001, MMDG opened the Mark Morris Dance

Center in Fort Greene, Brooklyn. The 30,000 square foot facility features three studios, and is the headquarters for the company.

Over the last 20 years, Mr. Morris's work has evolved into a distinct style all his own, which will continue to provide endless joy for audiences all over the world.



Grand Duo. Mark Morris Dance Group



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