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CULTURAL PARK • SPRING FESTIVAL 2021



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CULTURAL PARK • SPRING FESTIVAL 2021

May 20-23 & May 27-30, 2021

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THE SPRING FESTIVAL.
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Presents

Dorrance Dance
Mark Morris Dance Group
American Ballet Theatre

Saturday, May 22

Sunday, May 23

6:30pm

Dorrance Dance

Dorrance Dance is an award-winning tap dance company based in New York City celebrating its 10th Anniversary! Led by Founder/Artistic Director Michelle Dorrance and Artistic Associates Josette Wiggan-Freund and Nicholas Van Young, the company supports dancers and musicians who embody and push the dynamic range that tap dance has to offer. The company's mission is to engage with audiences on a musical and emotional level, and to share the complex history and powerful legacy of this Black American art form through performance and education.

Dorrance Dance

it's your choice

Choreography by Michelle Dorrance in collaboration with the performers

Original Music (Invocation) by Aaron Marcellus and
Original Music (7 Dead) by Penelope Wendtlandt

Performers

Michelle Dorrance & Byron Tittle
Aaron Marcellus & Penelope Wendtlandt



Michelle Dorrance is a New York City based performer, choreographer, teacher, and the Artistic Director of Dorrance Dance. Mentored by Gene Medler (North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble), she was lucky to study under many of the last master hoofers. Career highlights include: STOMP, Derick Grant's Imagine Tap, Jason Samuels Smith's Charlie's Angels/Chasing the Bird, Savion Glover's ti dii, and solo work ranging from "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert" to commissions for the Martha Graham Dance Company and American Ballet Theatre. A 2018 Doris Duke artist, a 2017 Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellow and 2015 MacArthur Fellow, Michelle holds a B.A. from New York University and is a Capezio Athlete.



Byron Tittle, started tap dance at a young age with David Rider and Kendrick Jones II, and the American Tap Dance Foundation in his hometown of New York. Wanting to study other disciplines, he also trained at Broadway Dance Center and Steps on Broadway. Byron recently toured the United States, Australia, and New Zealand with Hugh Jackman in “The Man, The Music, The Show,” and is humbled to have received a 2019 Princess Grace Foundation Dance Fellowship Award.



Aaron Marcellus, a singer, vocal coach, writer, musician, dancer, and actor from Atlanta—got his start in gospel music and has performed around the world. He has recorded albums and was voted top 24 on “American Idol” in 2011. After a world tour, Marcellus was featured in a ChapStick commercial, NBC’s “Next Caller,” and STOMP. He has a band called “The Marcellus Collective” and vocal company Adventure Voice.



Penelope Wendtlandt is a multi-disciplinary performer originally from Germany. Some of her favorite credits along with being a former company member of STOMP have been; performing with Dorrance Dance at NY City Center, Jacobs Pillow, the Guggenheim Museum, creating a new role in the upcoming immersive show "The Fallen Saint" and most recently, composing and performing the live score accompaniment for the new play "The Historical Range of Ursus Americanus" at Columbia University made entirely with voice, body percussion and a kick drum on her loop pedal. Trained in multi-form dance, theatre and music she is currently finishing her first solo EP.

Mark Morris Dance Group

Artistic Director
Mark Morris

Executive Director
Nancy Umanoff

Celebrating its 40th Anniversary, Mark Morris's internationally-renowned Mark Morris Dance Group (MMDG) has received "highest praise for their technical aplomb, their musicality, and their sheer human authenticity." (*Bloomberg News*). Live music and community engagement are vital components of the Dance Group. It has toured with its own musicians, the MMDG Music Ensemble, since 1996, and regularly collaborates with orchestras and opera companies around the world. MMDG's film and television projects include *Dido and Aeneas*, *The Hard Nut*, *Falling Down Stairs*, the U.K.'s *South Bank Show*, and *Live from Lincoln Center*. In 2015, Morris's signature work *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* premiered on PBS's *Great Performances*. The Mark Morris Dance Center was opened in 2001 to provide a home for the Dance Group, subsidized rental space for local artists, programs for local children and seniors, and dance classes for students of all ages and abilities.

Official Tour Sponsor
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Mark Morris has been praised as “the most successful and influential choreographer alive, and indisputably the most musical.” (*New York Times*). In addition to creating over 150 works for the Mark Morris Dance Group, he conducts orchestras, directs opera, and choreographs for ballet companies worldwide. Morris’s work is acclaimed for its ingenuity, musicality, wit, and humanity. Named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation in 1991, he has received eleven honorary doctorates to date, and a multitude of awards, including 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 Cal Performances Award of Distinction in the Performing Arts, the Orchestra of St. Luke’s Gift of Music Award, and the 2016 Doris Duke Artist Award. In 2015, Morris was inducted into the National Museum of Dance in Saratoga Springs, New York. Morris’s memoir, *Out Loud*, co-written with Wesley Stace, was published by Penguin Press in 2019.

Mark Morris Dance Group

Three Preludes

Music: George Gershwin – *Preludes for Piano*

Choreography by Mark Morris

Costume Design by Isaac Mizrahi

Lighting Design by James F. Ingalls

- I. Allegro Ben Ritmato E Deciso
- II. Andante Con Moto E Poco Rubato
- III. Allegro Ben Ritmato E Deciso

Colin Fowler, *piano*

Laurel Lynch

Premiere: June 2, 1992 – Emerson Majestic Theatre, Dance Umbrella, Boston, Massachusetts

Commissioned in part by Dance Umbrella, Boston

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Mark Morris Dance Group

Words

Music: Felix Mendelssohn – *Songs Without Words*

Choreography by Mark Morris
Costume Design by Maile Okamura
Lighting Design by Nick Kolin

Colin Fowler, *piano*
Domingo Estrada, Jr., Aaron Loux

Premiere: October 8, 2014 – New York City Center, Fall for Dance Festival, New York, New York

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

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Colin Fowler (music director, piano) began his musical training at the age of five and went on to study at Interlochen Arts Academy. He attended The Juilliard School, receiving his Bachelor of Music in 2003 and his Master of Music in 2005. Fowler is a Broadway veteran and has performed with numerous world-renowned musicians and ensembles, including Deborah Voigt and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Hailed by the *New York Times* as “invaluable” and “central to Morris’ music,” he first collaborated with MMDG in 2005 and was appointed Music Director in 2013.



Domingo Estrada, Jr., a native of Victoria, Texas, studied martial arts and earned his black belt in 1994. He danced ballet folklórico through his church for eleven 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.



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.

American Ballet Theatre

Artistic Director
Kevin McKenzie

Executive Director
Kara Medoff Barnett

American Ballet Theatre is one of the great dance companies in the world. Few ballet companies equal ABT for its combination of size, scope and outreach. Recognized as a living national treasure since its founding in 1940, ABT annually tours the United States, performing for more than 300,000 people, and is the only major cultural institution to do so. For over 80 years, the Company has appeared in a total of 45 countries and has performed in all 50 states of the United States. ABT has recently enjoyed triumphant successes with engagements in Paris, Singapore, and Hong Kong. On April 27, 2006, by an act of Congress, American Ballet Theatre was designated America's National Ballet Company®.

A Time There Was
(Pas de Deux)

Choreography by Gemma Bond

Music by Benjamin Britten

Costumes by Sylvie Rood

Katherine Williams

Blaine Hoven

A Time There Was is a part of the ABT Women's *Movement*. Champion Support for the ABT Women's *Movement* is provided by Jenna Segal.

Additional Leadership support provided by Denise Littlefield Sobel, Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation, and through an endowed gift from The Toni and Martin Sosnoff New Works Fund.

Costumes executed by John Kristiansen New York Inc.

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“Variations on a theme of Frank Bridge, Op 10: XI. Fugue & Finale”

Performed by the English Chamber Orchestras, Benjamin Britten

Courtesy of Decca Music Group Ltd. under license from Universal Music Enterprises

American Ballet Theatre

Don Quixote
(Act III Pas de Deux)

Choreography by Marius Petipa and Alexander Gorsky

Music by Ludwig Minkus

Costumes by Santo Loquasto

Christine Shevchenko

Joo Won Ahn

Joo Won Ahn, Principal Dancer, is originally from Wonju, Korea and began his formal training in 2006 at Y.J. Ballet People Academy and Sunhwa Arts School. In 2012, he became a student at Korea National University of Arts in Seoul. Ahn won the Silver Medal at the Korean International Ballet Competition and 3rd Prize at the 2012 Varna International Ballet Competition in Bulgaria. Ahn was invited to join ABT Studio Company in 2013 after winning the Gold Medal at Youth America Grand Prix in New York City.

Ahn joined ABT as an apprentice in January 2014 and the corps de ballet in June 2014. He was promoted to Soloist in September 2019 and to Principal Dancer in September 2020. His repertoire with the Company includes the title role in *Apollo*, Solor in *La Bayadère*, Albrecht in *Giselle*, the Nutcracker Prince in Alexei Ratmanský's *The Nutcracker*, Dionysius in *Of Love and Rage*, leading roles in *AFTERITE*, *The Brahms-Haydn Variations*, *Garden Blue*, *Serenade after Plato's Symposium*, *Theme and Variations*, and *Thirteen Diversions*, and featured roles in *AfterEffect*, *Bach Partita*, and *In the Upper Room*.

He created Murasaki in *A Gathering of Ghosts* and roles in *After You*, *New American Romance*, and *Songs of Bukovina*.



Christine Shevchenko, Principal Dancer, was born in Odessa, Ukraine where she trained in rhythmic gymnastics and ballet at an Olympic School. At the age of eight, she moved to the United States and trained in ballet for nine years at The Rock School. In 2003, Shevchenko became the youngest recipient of the Princess Grace Award. Other awards include the Bronze Medal in the USA International Ballet Competition, 2005 Gold Medal and Laureate at the Moscow International Ballet Competition, and the 2010 Margaret Moore Dance Award.

Shevchenko joined ABT Studio Company in August 2006. She joined the main Company as an apprentice in December 2007 and the corps de ballet in June 2008. She became a Soloist in 2014 and a Principal Dancer in September 2017. Her repertoire with the Company includes Gamzatti in *La Bayadère*, Medora in *Le Corsaire*, Kitri in *Don Quixote*, the title role in *Firebird*, Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake*, leading roles in *Her Notes*, *Piano Concerto #1*, and *Symphonie Concertante*, and featured roles in *Company B*, *Deuce Coupe*, and *Sinfonietta*.

She created Irene in *A Gathering of Ghosts*, a leading role in *Songs of Bukovina*, and featured roles in *Everything Doesn't Happen at Once*, *Praedicere*, and *Private Light*.



Blaine Hoven, Soloist, born in Mobile, Alabama, began his training at Mobile Ballet under the direction of Winthrop Corey and Ann Duke. During his high school years, Hoven trained at the North Carolina School of the Arts. He received American Ballet Theatre's National Training Scholarship from 1999-2002 and attended ABT's Summer Intensive for five summers.

Hoven joined ABT Studio Company in September 2003 and the main Company as a member of the corps de ballet in April 2004. He was appointed a Soloist in August 2016. His repertoire with the Company includes Lankendem in *Le Corsaire*, Espada in *Don Quixote*, Lescout in *Manon*, Benvolio and Paris in *Romeo and Juliet*, leading roles in *Désir*, *Seven Sonatas*, *A Time There Was*, and *Troika*, and featured roles in *Airs*, *Baker's Dozen*, *Brief Fling*, *Clear*, and *Sinfonietta*.

He created Louis XIV in *A Gathering of Ghosts*, The Faun in *The Seasons*, Don Zuccherio in *Whipped Cream*, leading roles in *AFTERITE*, *Her Notes*, and *Serenade after Plato's Symposium*, and featured roles in *Citizen*, *From Here On Out*, and *Pretty Good Year*.

Hoven was a recipient of the 2008 Princess Grace Award and the Chris Hellman Award.



Katherine Williams, Soloist, was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and began her early training with the Hawaii State Ballet. After moving to Maryland, she studied at the Ballet Royale Academy under the direction of Donna Pidel. She was awarded the Youth Grand Prix at the 2003 YAGP New York Finals, and was a Top 12 Finalist at the 2005 Finals. From 2004-2006, she attended American Ballet Theatre's Summer Intensives as a National Training Scholar.

Williams joined the ABT Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School in the fall of 2005 and trained there until joining ABT Studio Company in January 2007. She joined the main Company as an apprentice in December 2007 and the corps de ballet in June 2008. She was promoted to Soloist in September 2018.

Her repertoire with the Company includes Polyhymnia in *Apollo*, Gulnare in *Le Corsaire*, the Dryad Queen in *Don Quixote*, Myrta in *Giselle*, Princess Florine in Alexei Ratmansky's *The Sleeping Beauty*, and roles in *Company B*, *Continuo*, *Deuce Coupe*, and *Jardin aux Lilas*.

She created the Queen of Babylon in *Of Love and Rage*, Ice in *The Seasons*, leading roles in *Garden Blue* and *New American Romance*, and featured roles in *Convivium*, *Songs of Bukovina*, and *A Time There Was*.



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Curated by Hilary Greene and Jen Dragon of Cross Contemporary Partners

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The mission of Kaatsbaan Cultural Park is to provide an extraordinary environment for cultural innovation and excellence. As both an incubator for creativity and presenter for world-class artists in dance, theater, music, film, poetry, culinary and visual arts, Kaatsbaan provides artists with state-of-the-art dance studios, accommodations, an indoor theater, and two outdoor stages. Sitting on 153 Hudson River-adjacent acres, Kaatsbaan is free of urban facilities' space and time constraints, allowing for exciting levels of artistic exploration, creative action, and achievement – just two hours north of New York City. Kaatsbaan Cultural Park is committed to the advancement of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the arts as we aim to present, promote, and embrace programming that accurately reflects our society. We encourage a broadly diverse group of individuals to participate in our programs and join our Board and Staff and insist on being inclusive of all peoples regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, socio-economic background, physical or mental ability.

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