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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 22, 2018 **\*Updated 9/10/18 in red**  
[Press Room](#)



Images of Mark Morris Dance Group are available for download from the Cal Performances [press room](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS  
MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP IN  
*PEPPERLAND*  
CELEBRATING THE BEATLES SGT. PEPPER AT 50  
BAY AREA PREMIERE  
FRIDAY–SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28–30**

Mark Morris Dance Group’s campus residency features a free afternoon open house exhibition that bridges the 50 years between the release of the Beatles’ iconic album and the creation of this new dance work, and includes a community dance class and an artist talk with choreographer Mark Morris and composer Ethan Iverson

Additional collaborative UC Berkeley campus residency activities include BAMPFA film series curated by Mark Morris

**Berkeley, August 22, 2018** — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley kicks off its 2018–19 season of dance programming with the **Mark Morris Dance Group** in the Bay Area premiere of *Pepperland*, a new work choreographed by **Mark Morris** with original music and arrangements by **Ethan Iverson**, Friday–Sunday, September 28–30 in Zellerbach Hall. Co-commissioned by Cal Performances, *Pepperland* celebrates the 50th anniversary of the release of the Beatles’ seminal recording, *Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band*. Morris’ work was enthusiastically received by audiences when it premiered in Liverpool in May 2017, and was widely praised for balancing technical rigor and precision with humor, wit, and exuberance. *Pepperland* is the 11th work Cal Performances has commissioned or co-commissioned from Mark Morris over the course of an artistic relationship spanning more than 30 years.

To realize the music for *Pepperland*, Morris has enlisted composer, pianist, and longtime collaborator Ethan Iverson, who leads an unprecedented chamber ensemble of voice, saxophone, trombone, harpsichord, organ, piano, theremin, and percussion in a score that intermingles arrangements of songs from the Beatles’ album with original music. Selections include re-imagined versions of the songs “Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band,” “With a Little Help From My Friends,” “A Day in the Life,” “When I’m Sixty-Four,” “Within You Without You,” and “Penny Lane” (a song recorded during the *Sgt. Pepper* studio sessions but not included on the album). To augment these, Iverson has composed six new pieces that showcase Morris’ connection to classical music/dance forms: Allegro, Scherzo, Adagio, and the blues. Costume designer **Elizabeth Kurtzman** created vibrant costumes inspired by London’s famed Carnaby Street that playfully evoke 1960s mod fashion, psychedelia, and the Beatles’ unmistakable sense of style.

A free afternoon open house “**Come Play With Us In Pepperland**” is planned in conjunction with the company’s campus residency, on Friday, September 28 from 12–3pm in Zellerbach Hall. A lobby exhibition will bridge the 50 years between the release of the Beatles’ *Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band* and the new Mark Morris work it inspired. The exhibit will feature Beatles and *Pepperland* memorabilia, costumes, art, music and video as well as a photo booth, a live theremin demonstration, games and complimentary refreshments celebrating “Sgt. Pepper at 50.” Company members from the Mark Morris Dance Group will teach *Pepperland* choreography at 12:30pm, followed by a talk with Morris and Iverson at 2pm. All activities are free and open to the public. In

addition, the exhibition will be open to performance ticket holders one hour prior and one hour following each performance.

A community dance class is also planned on Saturday, September 29 at 11am in the Bancroft Studio, where Mark Morris Dance Group company members will teach movement sequences from *Pepperland*. The class is open to all ages and abilities, and participation is \$10, with pre-registration required [online](#) beginning August 20. Capacity is limited.

In collaboration with the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA), Morris will guest-curate [Mark Morris Presents: In the Age of Pepperland](#), a series of seven films that showcase the flowering of creativity and innovation in the arts in the late 1960s and point to some of the influences on his concept for *Pepperland*. Morris will personally introduce two of the films: Michelangelo Antonioni's *Blow-Up* on Friday, September 28 at 7pm, and Mel Brooks' *The Producers* on Sunday, September 30 at 7pm. A complete schedule of Morris' film selections can be found below and at <http://bampfa.org/program/mark-morris-presents-age-pepperland>.

### **Ticket Information**

Tickets for *Mark Morris Dance Group: Pepperland* on Friday, September 28 at 8pm, Saturday, September 29 at 2pm and 8pm, and Sunday September 30 at 3pm in Zellerbach Hall range from \$36–135 (prices subject to change). Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at [calperformances.org](http://calperformances.org), and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to [calperformances.org/discounts](http://calperformances.org/discounts).

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### **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

#### **CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Friday, September 28, 8pm**  
**Saturday, September 29, 2pm**  
**Saturday, September 29, 8pm**  
**Sunday, September 30, 3pm**

**Zellerbach Hall**  
Bancroft Way at Dana Street  
UC Berkeley campus

*Dance*  
**Mark Morris Dance Group**

***Pepperland*** (Cal Performances Co-commission, Bay Area Premiere)  
**Mark Morris**, choreography  
**Ethan Iverson**, composer

**Program:** Mark Morris celebrates the 50th anniversary of the release of *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* with a new dance work that revels in the eccentric charm and joyful optimism of the Beatles' groundbreaking album. The production features a score by longtime Morris collaborator Ethan Iverson, who leads a unique chamber ensemble through arrangements of iconic songs from the record mixed with imaginative original compositions.

**Tickets:** \$36–135 (prices subject to change)

### Residency Activities

**Open House: *Come Play With Us In Pepperland***

**Friday, September 28, 12–3pm**

**Zellerbach Hall**

Free and open to the public.

*Lobby Exhibition, 12–3pm*

*Community Dance Class, 12:30pm*

*Artist Talk, 2pm*

A special lobby exhibition featuring Beatles and *Pepperland* memorabilia, costumes, art, music and video, as well as a photo booth, a live theremin demonstration and other interactive activities that bridge the 50 years between the release of *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* to the creation of Mark Morris' new *Pepperland*. Mark Morris Dance Group members will teach *Pepperland* dance moves at 12:30pm, followed by a talk at 2pm with Morris and composer Ethan Iverson about the new work, which was a smash hit when it premiered in the UK at Liverpool's "Sgt. Pepper at 50" festival in May 2017. Free and open to the public.

The lobby exhibition will also be open to ticket holders one hour prior and one hour following each performance.

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**Community Dance Class**

**Saturday, September 29, 11am**

**Bancroft Studio**

Members of Mark Morris Dance Group teach movement sequences from *Pepperland*. Open to all ages and abilities. Participation is \$10, with pre-registration required [online](#) beginning August 20. Capacity is limited.

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**Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA) Film Series**

***Mark Morris Presents: In the Age of Pepperland***

**September 28 – November 25**

**BAMPFA Barbro Osher Theater**

**2155 Center Street, Berkeley**

*High School*, Frederick Wiseman, 1969  
Friday, September 28, 3:30pm

*Blow-Up*, Michelangelo Antonioni, 1966 – *Introduction by Mark Morris*  
Friday, September 28, 7pm

*A Hard Day's Night*, Richard Lester, 1964  
Saturday, September 29, 3:30pm

*The Producers*, Mel Brooks, 1968 – *Introduction by Mark Morris*  
Sunday, September 30, 7pm

*The Leopard*, Luchino Visconti, 1963  
Saturday, October 13, 7pm  
Sunday, October 21, 7pm

*Persona*, Ingmar Bergman, 1966  
Wednesday, October 24, 3:10pm

*2001: A Space Odyssey*, Stanley Kubrick, 1968  
Saturday, November 10, 2pm  
Friday, November 16, 3:30pm  
Saturday, November 24, 6:30pm  
Sunday, November 25, 3:30pm

The Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA) screens films selected by choreographer Mark Morris that showcase the flowering of creativity and innovation in arts in the late 1960s, and point to some of the influences on his concept for the dance work *Pepperland*.

**Tickets:** \$13 general admission; \$8 for BAMPFA members; \$5 UC Berkeley students; \$9 for UC Berkeley faculty, staff, retirees, non-UC Berkeley students, 65+, 18 & under, disabled persons; \$5 for same-day feature; free for Cal Student Film Pass holders. \$2 discount off general admission tickets for any patrons holding tickets to *Pepperland*. Available at [bampfa.org](http://bampfa.org) and in person at the BAMPFA admissions desk, Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday, 11am–7pm, and Friday and Saturday, 11am–9pm.