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[Press Room](#)



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

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY OPENS THE 2019–20 SEASON WITH
MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP
IN THE REPRISE OF A SIGNATURE WORK, *MOZART DANCES*
FRIDAY–SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20–22**

The UC Berkeley residency includes a public Community Dance Class and Mozart Listening Party, and a Master Dance Class for UC Berkeley students

Berkeley, August 14, 2019 — To launch its 2019–20 season, Cal Performances at UC Berkeley welcomes back longtime collaborator the **Mark Morris Dance Group** (MMDG) for reprise performances of Morris' *Mozart Dances* on Friday, September 20 at 8pm; Saturday, September 21 at 2pm and 8pm; and Sunday, September 22 at 3pm in Zellerbach Hall. Pianist **Inon Barnatan** will serve as soloist in performances of Mozart piano concerti with the **Berkeley Symphony** conducted by MMDG music director **Colin Fowler**. Fowler will also join Barnatan at the keyboard for

Mozart's Sonata for Two Pianos in D major, K.448. *Mozart Dances* was last performed by the company in 2016, and Cal Performances will be the exclusive presenter of the work in 2019–20.

Cal Performances and Mark Morris Dance Group have enjoyed a fruitful artistic relationship spanning more than 30 years, including numerous premieres and commissions; *Mozart Dances* had its West Coast premiere at Cal Performances more than a decade ago, in 2007. Morris' choreography, praised for its emotional breadth and formal inventiveness, is set to three Mozart piano works—the Piano Concerto No. 11 in F major, K.413, the Sonata for Two Pianos in D major, K.448, and the Piano Concerto No. 27 in B-flat major, K. 595. The Mozart compositions were selected by Morris in collaboration with Mostly Mozart Festival director Louis Langrée and pianist Emanuel Ax who, along with Yoko Nozaki, performed in the work's 2006 world premiere. Although not strictly part of a story ballet, the three sections of *Mozart Dances* are linked. The first movement, titled *Eleven*, is performed to Mozart's earliest piano concerto, No. 11 in F major, K. 413, and is choreographed for eight women dancing against an abstract black and white backdrop designed by the late artist Howard Hodgkin (who also created the memorable backdrop for Morris' *Layla and Majnun*, which received its world premiere with Cal Performances in 2016). The second movement, *Double*, is set to Mozart's best-known work for two keyboards, the Sonata in D major for Two Pianos, K. 448, and features eight men in an intimate and gentle dance. The concluding section, *Twenty-Seven*, is performed to Mozart's final piano concerto, No. 27 in B-flat major, K. 595, and features the entire company. Describing the work's world premiere, the *New York Times* praised *Mozart Dances* as “one of Mr. Morris' greatest achievements.”

Several related activities are planned in conjunction with the company's campus residency. Mark Morris and Fowler will discuss Mozart's music with Jeremy Geffen, Cal Performances' executive and artistic director, at a Mozart Listening Party on Saturday, September 21 at 5pm in Zellerbach Hall. The program is free and open to the public. A community dance class, led by MMDG company members Karlie Budge and Domingo Estrada, Jr., is planned for Sunday, September 22 at 11am, in the Bancroft Studio on the UC Berkeley campus. The class is open to all ages and abilities. Participation is \$10, and registration is required via the Cal Performances website. In addition, a private master class led by MMDG rehearsal director Sam Black is planned for UC Berkeley students in the Department of Theater, Dance and Performance Studies on Friday, September 20.

Ticket Information

Tickets for *Mark Morris Dance Group: Mozart Dances* on Friday, September 20 at 8pm; Saturday, September 21 at 2pm and 8pm; and Sunday, September 22 at 3pm in Zellerbach Hall range from \$42–\$148 (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, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to calperformances.org/discounts.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, September 20, 8pm
Saturday, September 21, 2pm
Saturday, September 21, 8pm
Sunday, September 22, 3pm

Zellerbach Hall
Bancroft Way at Dana St.
UC Berkeley campus

Dance

Mark Morris Dance Group

Mozart Dances

Berkeley Symphony

Colin Fowler, *conductor and piano*

Inon Barnatan, *piano*

Program: More than a decade after its West Coast premiere in Cal Performances' 2007–08 season, Mark Morris' *Mozart Dances* returns to Zellerbach Hall. Morris' choreography is set to three Mozart piano works—the Piano Concerto No. 11 in F major, K. 413; the Sonata for Two Pianos in D major, K. 448; and the Piano Concerto No. 27 in B-flat major, K. 595. The music is performed by the Berkeley Symphony conducted by MMDG music director Colin Fowler, with both Fowler and celebrated pianist Inon Barnatan performing as soloists.

Tickets: \$42–\$148 (prices subject to change)

Residency Activities

Master Class

Bancroft Studio, UC Berkeley Campus

Friday, September 20, 10am

Mark Morris Dance Group rehearsal director Sam Black leads intermediate level dancers in a master class. This is a private event for enrolled students only, hosted by the Department of

Theater, Dance and Performance Studies.

Mozart Listening Party

Zellerbach Hall

Saturday, September 21, 5pm

Mark Morris and Mark Morris Dance Group music director Colin Fowler discuss Mozart's music with Jeremy Geffen, Cal Performances' executive and artistic director. Free and open to the public.

Community Dance Class

Bancroft Studio, UC Berkeley Campus

Sunday, September 22, 11am

A community dance class led by Mark Morris Dance Group company members Karlie Budge and Domingo Estrada, Jr. Open to all ages and abilities. Participation is \$10, and registration is required via the Cal Performances website.