FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2009, 7PM
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2009, 2PM & 8PM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2009, 3PM
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2009, 7PM
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2009, 7PM
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2009, 2PM & 8PM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2009, 3PM
ZELLERBACH HALL

THE HARD NUT

Based on Nutcracker and Mouseking, by E.T.A. Hoffmann
Production based on the work of Charles Burns

Mark Morris, choreography
Adrienne Lobel, set design
Martin Pakledinaz, costume design
James F. Ingalls, lighting design

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

Craig Biesecker    Samuel Black    Joe Bowie    Elisa Clark    Rita Donahue    Domingo Estrada, Jr.
Lauren Grant    John Heginbotham    David Leventhal    Laurel Lynch    Bradon McDonald
Dallas McMurray    Amber Star Merkens    Maile Okamura    Noah Vinson
Jenn Weddel    Julie Worden    Michelle Yard

Selena Chau    Katie Diamond    Julie Fiorenza    Katherine Fisher    Shawn Gannon
Lesley Garrison    Brian Lawson    Claudia MacPherson    June Omura    Kraig Patterson
Guillermo Resto    Kanji Segawa    William Smith III    Urafumi Takemura    Samuel von Wentz

Mark Morris, Artistic Director
Nancy Umanoff, Executive Director

BERKELEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Robert Cole, Conductor

PIEDMONT EAST BAY CHILDREN’S CHOIR

Robert Geary, Director

MetLife Foundation is the Mark Morris Dance Group’s Official Tour Sponsor.

Major support for the Mark Morris Dance Group is provided by Carnegie Corporation of New York,
The Howard Gilman Foundation, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Meyer Sound/Helen and

The Mark Morris Dance Group’s performances are made possible with public funds from the
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the New York State Council on the Arts,
a State Agency; and the National Endowment for the Arts Dance Program.

These performances are also made possible, in part, by Cal Performances’ Corporate Sponsor Bank of America.

Cal Performances’ 2009–2010 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.
Marie: Lauren Grant
Fritz: June Omura
Louise/Princess Pirlipat: Julie Worden
Dr. Stahlbaum/King: Guillermo Resto
Mrs. Stahlbaum/Queen: John Heginbotham
Housekeeper/Nurse: Kraig Patterson
Drosselmeier: Craig Biesecker
Nutcracker/Young Drosselmeier: David Leventhal
Barbie Doll: Elisa Clark
Robot: William Smith III
Party Guests: Joe Bowie, Rita Donahue, Shawn Gannon, Bradon McDonald, Amber Star Merkens, Mark Morris, Maile Okamura, Noah Vinson, Michelle Yard
Changers: William Smith III, Samuel von Wentz
Rat King: Utafumi Takemura
Rat Soldiers: Selena Chau, Katie Diamond, Julie Fiorenza, Lesley Garrison, Claudia MacPherson, Jenn Weddel
G. I. Joe Soldiers: Samuel Black, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Brian Lawson, Dallas McMurray, Kanji Segawa
Snow: Samuel Black, Selena Chau, Elisa Clark, Katie Diamond, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Julie Fiorenza, Katherine Fisher, Lesley Garrison, Brian Lawson, Claudia MacPherson, Bradon McDonald, Dallas McMurray, Amber Star Merkens, Maile Okamura, Kanji Segawa, William Smith III, Utafumi Takemura, Noah Vinson, Jenn Weddel, Julie Worden, Michelle Yard
Rat Queen: Jenn Weddel
Spanish: Bradon McDonald, Michelle Yard
Arabian: Domingo Estrada, Jr., Brian Lawson, Amber Star Merkens, William Smith III, Samuel von Wentz
Chinese: Julie Fiorenza, Kanji Segawa, Utafumi Takemura
Russian: Samuel Black, Rita Donahue, Lesley Garrison, Dallas McMurray, Claudia MacPherson, Jenn Weddel
French: Selena Chau, Elisa Clark, Maile Okamura, Noah Vinson
Suits: Brian Lawson, Kanji Segawa
Dentist: Shawn Gannon
Flowers: Samuel Black, Joe Bowie, Elisa Clark, Katie Diamond, Rita Donahue, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Lesley Garrison, Bradon McDonald, Dallas McMurray, Amber Star Merkens, Maile Okamura, June Omura, Noah Vinson, Michelle Yard

**SYNOPSIS**

**ACT I**

Dr. and Mrs. Stahlbaum’s annual Christmas Eve Party. Their children Fritz, Marie and Louise wait in the den. Party dances: polka, hokey-pokey, hesitation, stroll, bump, waltz. Friend of the family Drosselmeier brings animated toys that he has made. He gives a Nutcracker to the children. Fritz breaks it. The children fight. Dr. Stahlbaum changes the subject. The guests go home. The family goes to bed. The housekeeper cleans up.

Marie can’t sleep and comes downstairs to see if the Nutcracker is resting comfortably. At midnight she is frightened by rats. Everything in the room grows to giant size. G. I. Joe led by the Nutcracker battle rats led by the mutant Rat King. Marie kills the Rat King with her slipper. She falls unconscious. The Nutcracker is transformed into a young man. Marie is tucked in. A worried Drosselmeier makes his way through the blizzard.

**ACT II**

Marie is in a fever. Drosselmeier comes to see if Marie is resting comfortably and tells her one of his stories:

**THE HARD NUT**

Once upon a time, a King and a Queen had a beautiful baby girl named Pirlipat. The Queen’s old enemy, the Rat Queen, threatened to ruin little Pirlipat. The nurse and the cat were left to guard the baby at night. While the nurse and cat slept, the Rat Queen destroyed Princess Pirlipat’s face. The Royal Family was horrified by the sight of their formerly beautiful daughter. The Rat Queen explained that the Princess would regain her beauty only after a young man cracked the hard nut, Krakatuk, with his teeth and stepped backwards seven times. The King commanded Drosselmeier to find the hard nut or face decapitation. Drosselmeier set off in search of the hard nut. He traveled the world for 15 years before finding it back at home.

The ugly teenage Pirlipat watched as one young man after another attempted to crack the hard nut. The last one to try was Drosselmeier’s own nephew. He succeeded. On his seventh step backward, he stepped on the Rat Queen, killing her. Pirlipat became beautiful and rejected the young Drosselmeier as he started to become ugly—like a nutcracker.

At this point, Marie interrupts the story and offers her love to young Drosselmeier. Mrs. Stahlbaum acknowledges her daughter’s new maturity with a flower dance. Everyone in the world joins Marie and young Drosselmeier in celebrating their love. The two go away together forever.

**EPILOGUE**

Louise and Fritz are sent to bed.

**CURTAIN**
BERKELEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Joana Carneiro, Music Director
Kent Nagano, Conductor Laureate

VIOLIN I
Franklyn D’Antonio, Concertmaster
Robert F. Peterson, Associate Concertmaster
Noah Strick, Assistant Concertmaster
Virginia Baker
Emanuela Nikiforova
Candy Sanderson
Lisa Zadek
Larisa Kopylovsky

VIOLIN II
Richard Altenbach, Principal
Karsten Windt, Assistant Principal
Yasushi Ogura
Sam Fischer
Ellen Gronningen
Josepha Fath

VIOLA
Darcy Rindt, Principal
Harold Levin, Assistant Principal
Ilana Marfis
Stephanie Ng

CELLO
Carol Rice, Principal
Tamara Bohlin, Assistant Principal
Nancy Bien Souza
Wanda Warkentin

BASS
Michel Taddei, Principal
Jon Kegwin, Assistant Principal

FLUTE
Emma Moon, Principal
Stacey Pelinka
Rena Urso-Trapani

PICCOLO
Rena Urso-Trapani

OBOE
Laura Reynolds, Principal
Barbara Midney

ENGLISH HORN
Bennie Cottone

CLARINET
Roman Fukshansky, Principal
Diana Dorman

BASS CLARINET
Bruce Foster

BASSOON
Carla Wilson, Principal
Karla Ekholm

HORN
Stuart Gronningen, Principal
Darby Hinshaw
Loren Tayerle
David Goldklang

TRUMPET
Adam Luftman, Principal
Kale Cumings

TROMBONE
Tom Hornig, Principal
Bruce Chrip

TROMBONE
Craig McAmis

TUBA
Jerry Olson, Principal

TIMPANI
Kevin Neuhoff, Principal

PERCUSSION
Ward Spangler, Principal
Scott Bleaken

HARP
Natalie Cox, Principal

CELESTA
John Farr, Principal

CHOIR ROSTER
PIEDMONT EASY BAY CHILDREN’S CHOIR
Robert Geary, Director

Rachel Adams
Madeleine Ahlers
Lauren Boranian
Alexander Browne
Antonia Calabrese-Thomas
Kennedy Christensen
Renzo Downey
Emi Fogg
Emma Grove
Rebecca Havian
Madeline Heaps
Kristi Hong
Apriy Hsu
Erin Hutchinson
Amalia Isen
Samantha Lai
Andrea Lee
Sarah Lo
Alison Mathews
Tlalli Aztlan Moya-Smith
Bahar Ostadan
Francine Penikis
Cartherine Phillips
Annalisia Piccinini
Claire Pinkham
Ailey Simpson
Josef Starc
Rachel Stewart
Sabrina Tobe
Kai Vogel
Michelle Wan
Alina Whatley
Daphne Williams
Maya Wong
Paige Woolman
Steve You
Pyotr Il'yich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893) began his career as a civil servant. In 1862, he gave up his job and enrolled at the St. Petersburg conservatory. He was offered the Professorship of Harmony at the newly opened Moscow conservatory in 1866. After the success of his first piano concerto, he began a correspondence with Nadezhda von Meck, a wealthy widow, whose financial support enabled him to devote himself to composition. They remained correspondents until a misunderstanding in 1890 ended their relationship, but they never actually met. Tchaikovsky made a disastrous marriage in 1877, possibly in an attempt to conceal his homosexuality; a separation followed an attempted suicide after only 11 weeks of marriage. Despite his subsequent depressions, he managed to produce his most successful opera, Eugene Onegin (1877–1878), his Fourth Symphony (1878) and his Violin Concerto (1878) during this period. In 1881, he gave up teaching at the conservatory and for the next seven years was deeply involved in composition. His death in St. Petersburg from cholera, after immoderately drinking unboiled water, occurred soon after the first performance of his Symphony No. 6 (Pathétique) in 1893.

Mark Morris was born on August 29, 1956, in Seattle, Washington, where he studied as a young man with Verla Flowers and Perry Brunson. Early in his career, he performed with Lar Lubovitch, Hannah Kahn, Laura Dean, Eliot Feld and the Kolada Balkan Dance Ensemble. He formed the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1980, and has since created more than 120 works for the company. From 1988 to 1991, he was Director of Dance at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels, the national opera house of Belgium. Among the works created during his tenure were three evening-length dances: The Hard Nut, L’Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato; and Dido and Aeneas. In 1990, he founded the White Oak Dance Project with Mikhail Baryshnikov. Morris is also much in demand as a ballet choreographer. He has created seven works for San Francisco Ballet since 1994 and received commissions from American Ballet Theatre and Boston Ballet, among others. His work is also in the repertory of the Pacific Northwest Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, New Zealand Ballet, Houston Ballet, English National Ballet and The Royal Ballet. Morris is noted for his musicality and has been described as “undeviating in his devotion to music.” He has worked extensively in opera, directing and choreographing productions for the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, English National Opera and The Royal Opera, Covent Garden. Mr. Morris was named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation in 1991. He has received nine honorary doctorates to date. In 2006, Mr. Morris received the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Mayor’s Award for Arts & Culture and a WQXR Gramophone Special Recognition Award. He is the subject of a biography by Joan Acocella (Farrar, Straus & Giroux) and Marlowe & Company published a volume of photographs and critical essays entitled Mark Morris’ L’Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato: A Celebration. Mr. Morris is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society. In 2007, he received the Samuel H. Scripps/American Dance Festival lifetime achievement award.

The Mark Morris Dance Group (MMDG) was formed in 1980 and gave its first concert that year in New York City. The company’s touring schedule steadily expanded to include cities both in the United States and in Europe, and in 1986 it made its first national television program for the PBS series Dance in America. In 1988, MMDG was invited to become the national dance company of Belgium, and spent three years in residence at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels. The company returned to the United States in 1991 as one of the world’s leading dance companies, performing across the United States and at major international festivals. Based in Brooklyn, New York, the company has maintained and strengthened its ties to several cities around the world, most notably its West Coast home, Cal Performances, and its Midwest home, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts in Urbana, Illinois. MMDG also appears regularly in New York City; Boston; Fairfax, Virginia; Seattle; and at the Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival in Becket, Massachusetts. MMDG made its debut at the Mostly Mozart Festival in 2002 and at the Tanglewood Music Festival in 2003 and has since been invited to both festivals annually. The company’s London seasons have garnered two Laurence Olivier Awards. MMDG is noted for its commitment to live music, a feature of every performance on its full international touring schedule since 1996. MMDG collaborates with leading orchestras, opera companies, and musicians including cellist Yo-Yo Ma in the Emmy Award-winning film Falling Down Stairs (1997); Indian composer Zakir Hussain, Mr. Ma and jazz pianist Ethan Iverson in Kolam (2002); The Bad Plus in Violet Cavern (2004); pianists Emanuel Ax, Garrick Ohlsson and Yoko Nozaki for Mozart Dances (2006); and with English National Opera in Four Saints in Three Acts (2000) and King Arthur (2006), among others. MMDG’s film and television projects also include Dido and Aeneas, The Hard Nut and two documentaries for the UK’s South Bank Show. In fall 2001, MMDG opened the Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn, New York, housing rehearsal space for the dance community, outreach programs for local children, as well as a school offering dance classes to students of all ages.

Robert Cole (conductor) received his M.A. in music from the University of Southern California School of Music, where he studied conducting with Ingolf Dahl. He continued his studies with Richard Lert and Fritz Sweig in California, Leonard Bernstein and Leon Barzin at the Tanglewood Music Center, and Hans Swarowsky in Europe. He served as associate conductor of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and has appeared as guest conductor with the Florida Philharmonic, the Sacramento Symphony, the Pasadena Symphony, the Hartford Ballet and the Chautauqua Symphony. Mr. Cole was the executive director and music director of the Ballet Society of Los Angeles, and has conducted and produced both opera and musical theater in California and New York.

In recent years, Mr. Cole has appeared as guest conductor with the State Ballet of Georgia and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra at the 2008 Edinburgh Festival and the Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theatre with the Perm Ballet at the White Nights Festival in St. Petersburg. Mr. Cole has conducted Mark Morris’s The Hard Nut at Sadler’s Wells in London, the Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York and at Cal Performances in Berkeley.

From 1986 to 2009, Robert Cole served as director of Cal Performances. He was also general director of the Berkeley Festival and Exhibition, an international festival of early music he founded in June 1990. In 1995, Mr. Cole was made a Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters by the Government of France. In 2008, he was honored by Early Music America with the Howard Mayer Brown Award for lifetime achievement in Early Music.

Berkeley Symphony Orchestra celebrates 40 years of music-making in 2009. Known for its innovative mix of traditional repertoire and contemporary works, Berkeley Symphony this season welcomes 33-year-old Lisbon native Joana Carneiro as only the third Music Director in its history.

Berkeley Symphony presents a four-concert subscription series at UC Berkeley’s Zellerbach Hall. Berkeley Akademie, a new program of Berkeley Symphony founded in 2007, explores repertoire for small orchestra under the direction of Conductor Laureate Kent Nagano at the First Congregational Church of Berkeley. Berkeley Symphony’s Under Construction new music series presents works by four Emerging Composers-In-Residence at St. John’s Presbyterian Church. Berkeley Symphony also serves every public elementary school in Berkeley with its year-long, award-winning Music in the Schools program, which provides every student with the experience of becoming a performer.

Berkeley Symphony was founded in 1966 as the Berkeley Promenade Orchestra by Thomas Rarick. Reflecting the spirit of the times, the Promenade replaced tuxedos with informal street dress and performed in unusual locations, including the University Art Museum.

When Kent Nagano was appointed Music Director in 1978, he charted a new course by offering innovative programming that included many
rarely heard 20th-century scores. Notable events which gained the orchestra international attention included West Coast premières at Davies Hall of works by Olivier Messiaen with the composer present, and an evening of works by Frank Zappa with augmented orchestra, life-size puppets and moving stage sets.

For more information on Berkeley Symphony’s 2009–2010 inaugural season with Joana Carneiro, please visit www.berkeleysymphony.org or call (510) 841-2800.

For 27 years, the internationally acclaimed Piedmont East Bay Children’s Choir has been offering children from throughout San Francisco’s East Bay an outstanding program of choral training and performance. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Robert Geary, the Choir has established itself as a leading force in international choral activities and new music. With concert tours to more than 25 nations, and sponsorship of the Golden Gate International Children’s Choral Festival (the oldest and only international children’s choral competition in the United States), the Piedmont East Bay Children’s Choir is vigorously engaged in the global community of choral ensembles. Recognizing that the creation of art is a forward-looking and forward-thinking endeavor, the Choir has commissioned and premiered 26 new works by 16 living composers, has won numerous first-prize awards for new music in international competitions, and engages in a never-ceasing exploration of innovative repertoire from around the world.

The Choir’s flagship group, Ensemble, has earned grand prizes, first prizes and gold medals at prestigious competitions in Canada, Poland, Germany, Austria, Italy, Hong Kong and the United States. They have commissioned and premiered new works by Kui Dong, Mark Winges, and the folk rock group Barenaked Ladies. They have performed for radio, television, opera, symphony and music festivals nationally and internationally. Mr. Geary also has prepared his choirs for some of the world’s leading conductors, including Helmuth Rilling, Robert Shaw, Kurt Herbert Adler, Edo de Waart, Krzysztof Penderecki, Michael Tilson Thomas, Herbert Blomstedt, Dale Warland and Kent Nagano. His choirs have been recorded by Harmonia Mundi, Koch International, Swiss International Radio and Innova. In 1998, Mr. Geary served on the California Arts Commission’s Peer Review Panel, and, in June 1999, he was chosen to judge the Jyväskylä International Children’s Choir festival in Finland.

Robert Geary, founder of the Piedmont East Bay Children’s Choir and the highly acclaimed new music ensemble Vesti, also holds directorial positions with the San Francisco Choral Society and the Golden Gate International Children’s Choral Festival. For 14 years, Mr. Geary was the director of the Baroque Choral Guild, and he served for 13 years as the Music Director of the First Unitarian Universalist Church in San Francisco.

A champion of contemporary music, Mr. Geary and his choirs have won numerous international and national awards from ASCAP and at prestigious competitions in Gorizia, Italy; at the Choral Olympics in Linz, Austria (July, 2000); the Międzyzdroje Choral Festival in Poland; the Giessen (Germany) International Children’s and Youth Choir Festival, where Mr. Geary received a special award for Outstanding Conductorial Achievement; the Des Moines International Children’s Choral Festival; and the Kauthaumixw Festival in British Columbia. Mr. Geary was awarded the International Peace Child Medal for his role as co-founder of the Golden Gate International Children’s Choral Festival (1991), he was named Music Educator of the Year by KDFC radio in 2002, and he received the Lois B. Rawlings Educational Inspiration award in 2003.

Mr. Geary’s choirs have performed throughout North America, Europe, the United Kingdom, Scandinavia, Russia and the Far East. They have been selected to perform for the national conferences of Chorus America, the American Choral Directors Association, the Organization of American Kodály Educators and the College Music Society. They have performed for radio, television, opera, symphony and music festivals nationally and internationally. Mr. Geary also has prepared his choirs for some of the world’s leading conductors, including Helmuth Rilling, Robert Shaw, Kurt Herbert Adler, Edo de Waart, Krzysztof Penderecki, Michael Tilson Thomas, Herbert Blomstedt, Dale Warland and Kent Nagano. His choirs have been recorded by Harmonia Mundi, Koch International, Swiss International Radio and Innova. In 1998, Mr. Geary served on the California Arts Commission’s Peer Review Panel, and, in June 1999, he was chosen to judge the Jyväskylä International Children’s Choir festival in Finland.

THE ARTISTS

About the Artists

Adrienne Lobel (scenic design)’s past projects for Mark Morris include Platée (Royal Opera, London, Edinburgh and New York City Opera); L’Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato (La Monnaie, Brussels; Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York); The Hard Nut (La Monnaie, BAM); Le Nozze di Figaro (Brussels); and Orfeo ed Euridice (BAM, U.S. tour). Her sets for Broadway include On the Town, directed by George C. Wolfe; and The Diary of Anne Frank, the Tony Award-winning Passion and Twelve Dreams (Lincoln Center), all directed by James Lapine. Her European commissions include Lady in the Dark (Royal National Theatre, London) and Street Scene (Houston Grand Opera), both directed by Francesca Zambello. Her projects for Peter Sellars include The Rake’s Progress (Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris), Nixon in China (BAM; Bobigny; Paris; Amsterdam), The Marriage of Figaro (Pepisco Summerfare, New York; Bobigny); Cosi fan tutte (Pepisco Summerfare), The Magic Flute (Glyndebourne Festival, England) and The Mikado (Chicago Lyric Opera). Her honors include Lucille Lortel, Obie, Long Wharf’s Murphy Award, Emmy and Jefferson awards and Drama Desk, Maharam and Fanny nominations. Ms. Lobel teaches graduate set design at NYU and in 2004 produced and designed A Year with Frog and Toad, a musical based on the children’s books by her father. Most recent collaboration with MMDG is on the Purcell opera, King Arthur.

Martin Pakledinaz (costume design) has designed costumes for theater, opera, and dance. He has collaborated with Mark Morris on works for MMDG, San Francisco Ballet and Boston Ballet, and has worked with the New York City Ballet, including Christopher Wheeldon’s recent The Nightingale and the Rose. Mr. Pakledinaz’s New York credits include Gypsy, starring Patti LuPone and directed by Arthur Laurents; The Pirate Queen; The Pajama Game (Tony Award nomination); The Trip to Bountiful; Thoroughly Modern Millie; Wonderful Town; The Wild Party; A Year with Frog and Toad; Kiss Me, Kate; Golden Child; The Diary of Anne Frank; Waste; and The Life. His work in opera includes Rodelinda for the Metropolitan Opera; Tristan and Isolde for the Paris Opera/Bastille, directed by Peter Sellars with video installations by Bill Viola; as well as two other world premiere works directed by Mr. Sellars, L’amour de Loin and Adriana Mater, composed by Kaija Saariaho with libretti by Amin Maalouf. He has been awarded two Tony Awards and the Obie, Drama Desk and Lucille Lortel awards, among others.

James F. Ingalls (lighting design)’s designs for Mark Morris include Orfeo ed Euridice (Metropolitan Opera); King Arthur (English National Opera); Sylvia, Sandpaper Ballet, Maelstrom and Pacific (San Francisco Ballet); Platée (Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and New York City Opera); L’Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato, Didò aenea and The Hard Nut (MMDG); Ein Herz (Paris Opera Ballet); and the initial White Oak Project tour. His work for Lincoln Center includes Zaide, Ainadamar and Bach Cantatas, all directed by Peter Sellars; and Renaissance Muse, directed by Mark Lamos. At the Metropolitan Opera, Mr. Ingalls has also designed An American Tragedy, Salome, Benvenuto Cellini, The Gambler, War and Peace and Wozzeck. Most recently, he designed A Flowering Tree and La Passion de Simone (New Crowned Hope at the Barbican Centre, London), Dr. Atomic (Holland Festival/De Nederlandse
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Opera and San Francisco Opera), and *The Cherry Orchard* at Oregon Shakespeare Festival. He often collaborates with Saint Joseph Ballet in Santa Ana, California.


DANCERS

Craig Biesecker, from Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, received a B.S. in music education from West Chester University of Pennsylvania. While teaching music in Philadelphia, he studied ballet with John White, Margarita de Saa and Bryan Koulman, and worked with choreographers Tim and Lina Early. In New York City, he has worked with Pascal Rioult, Carolyn Dorfman, New York Theater Ballet, Mark Dendy and Gerald Casel. Mr. Biesecker joined MMDG in 2003.

Samuel Black is originally from Berkeley, California, where he began studying tap at age nine with Katie Maltsberger. He received his B.F.A. in Dance from SUNY Purchase and also studied at the Rotterdamse Dansacademie in Holland. He has performed in New York with David Parker, Takehiro Ueyama and Nelly van Bommel. Mr. Black first appeared with MMDG in 2005 and became a company member in 2007.

Joe Bowie was born in Lansing, Michigan, and began dancing while attending Brown University, from which he graduated with honors in English and American literature. In New York, he has performed in works of Robert Wilson and Ulysses Dove and also danced with the Paul Taylor Dance Company for two years before going to Belgium to work with Mark Morris in 1989.

Selena Chau received her early dance training on scholarship at California Ballet School in San Diego. After graduating with honors in Animal Sciences from the University of Illinois, she was further mentored by Reginald Ray-Savage in Oakland. She has performed with Savage Jazz Dance Company, Kazuko Hirabayashi Dance Theater, Christopher Caines Dance Company, Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, Tania Pérez-Salas Compañía de Danza, Santa Fe Opera and the Metropolitan Opera. Ms. Chau is excited to be performing *The Hard Nut* in her home town.

Elisa Clark received her early training from the Maryland Youth Ballet and her B.F.A. from The Juilliard School under the direction of Benjamin Harkarvy. She danced with the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, Nederlands Dans Theater and Balletparks Dance Company before joining MMDG in 2006. Ms. Clark has also worked with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, as assistant to Robert Battle. She has been on faculty at the American Dance Festival and teaches for MMDG. She is a 2008–2009 Princess Grace Modern Dance Honorarium Award Winner.

Domingo Estrada, Jr., a native of Victoria, Texas, recently acquired a B.F.A. in ballet and modern dance from Texas Christian University. Currently, he works with choreographers Leslie Scott, BODYart Dance; Mary Seidman, Mary Seidman & Dancers; and Christian von Howard, Von Howard Project. He made his MMDG debut during *The Hard Nut* at Cal Performances in 2007 and became a company member in 2009. Mr. Estrada would like to thank God, his family and all who support his passion!

Jennie Foti is a soloist with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, as assistant to Robert Battle. She has been on faculty at the American Dance Festival and teaches for MMDG. She is a 2008–2009 Princess Grace Modern Dance Honorarium Award Winner.

Katie Diamond is from Moraga, California, and studied ballet with Richard Cammack and Zola Dishongh at Contra Costa Ballet. As a student, she performed the works of George Balanchine and David Lichine and studied at both the Joffrey Ballet and London Contemporary Dance schools. In 2005, Ms. Diamond joined the Limón Dance Company, with which she performed until 2009. While with Limón, she danced the repertory of José Limón, Doris Humphrey, Anna Sokolow, Jiří Kylián and Lar Lubovitch, and had the pleasure of dancing in Mark Morris’s *Orfeo ed Euridice* with the Metropolitan Opera Ballet. She has performed solo concerts, taught workshops and set Limón repertory in the United States, Chile and Italy. Ms. Diamond holds a B.F.A. in performance and choreography from the California Institute of the Arts.

Rita Donahue was born and raised in Fairfax, Virginia, and attended George Mason University, from which she graduated with honors in dance and English in 2002. She danced with hopi’s black sheep/ dances by kraig patterson and joined MMDG in 2003.

Dancing with both the Joffrey Ballet and London Contemporary Dance schools, in 2005, Ms. Diamond joined the Limón Dance Company, with which she performed until 2009. While with Limón, she danced the repertory of José Limón, Doris Humphrey, Anna Sokolow, Jiří Kylián and Lar Lubovitch, and had the pleasure of dancing in Mark Morris’s *Orfeo ed Euridice* with the Metropolitan Opera Ballet. She has performed solo concerts, taught workshops and set Limón repertory in the United States, Chile and Italy. Ms. Diamond holds a B.F.A. in performance and choreography from the California Institute of the Arts.

Katie Diamond is from Moraga, California, and studied ballet with Richard Cammack and Zola Dishongh at Contra Costa Ballet. As a student, she performed the works of George Balanchine and David Lichine and studied at both the Joffrey Ballet and London Contemporary Dance schools. In 2005, Ms. Diamond joined the Limón Dance Company, with which she performed until 2009. While with Limón, she danced the repertory of José Limón, Doris Humphrey, Anna Sokolow, Jiří Kylián and Lar Lubovitch, and had the pleasure of dancing in Mark Morris’s *Orfeo ed Euridice* with the Metropolitan Opera Ballet. She has performed solo concerts, taught workshops and set Limón repertory in the United States, Chile and Italy. Ms. Diamond holds a B.F.A. in performance and choreography from the California Institute of the Arts.

Dancing with both the Joffrey Ballet and London Contemporary Dance schools, in 2005, Ms. Diamond joined the Limón Dance Company, with which she performed until 2009. While with Limón, she danced the repertory of José Limón, Doris Humphrey, Anna Sokolow, Jiří Kylián and Lar Lubovitch, and had the pleasure of dancing in Mark Morris’s *Orfeo ed Euridice* with the Metropolitan Opera Ballet. She has performed solo concerts, taught workshops and set Limón repertory in the United States, Chile and Italy. Ms. Diamond holds a B.F.A. in performance and choreography from the California Institute of the Arts.

Rita Donahue was born and raised in Fairfax, Virginia, and attended George Mason University, from which she graduated with honors in dance and English in 2002. She danced with hopi’s black sheep/ dances by kraig patterson and joined MMDG in 2003.

Katherine Fisher is a Brooklyn-based dancer and choreographer. She has had the pleasure of dancing with Lucinda Childs, MOMIX, ODC/San Francisco, Jennifer Muller/The Works, Johannes Wieland, Pearson/Widrig Dancetheater, Mark Dendy, Janis Brenner, Ann Carlson and Breezy Berryman. Her choreographic work has appeared on stage and, at the Slamdance Festival, in film. Seven Dolors, a solo work, was selected to be performed at Dancers Respond to AIDS, DanceNOW, as well as at the Brooklyn Museum of Art. She co-produced *In the Company of Women*, a dance festival featuring the work of emerging female choreographers. After attending the Baltimore School for the Arts, Ms. Fisher earned her B.F.A. with honors from the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. She is thankful to have the opportunity to dance the work of Mark Morris.
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Shawn Gannon received his early dance training with Dorothy Wescott Rosen and first danced with MMDG from 1994 to 2004. Originally from Dover, New Jersey, he was a featured soloist in *Resurrection* (2002), was part of the original cast for *The Argument* (1998), and danced the bird solo in *L’Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*. Along with Mark Morris, Mr. Gannon has the distinct honor of being one of a handful of men to have performed Ted Shawn’s historical solo, *Medea’s Dervish*. He has also performed with Lee Theodore’s Dance Machine, Mark Dendy Dance Group, Laura Dean Dancers and Musicians, and Jane Comfort and Company.

Lesley Garrison grew up in Swansea, Illinois, and received much of her early training at the Center of Creative Arts in St. Louis. She is a 2007 graduate of the Conservatory of Dance at the State University of New York at Purchase. She has also studied at Interlochen Arts Academy, Rotterdamse Dansacademie, Jacob’s Pillow and The Professional Project. She has performed with the Kevin Wynn Collection, Nelly van Bommel’s NOA Dance and Sidra Bell Dance New York. She first performed with MMDG in *L’Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* two seasons ago, and toured with Mark Morris’s *Romeo & Juliet*, *On Motifs of Shakespeare* last season.

Lauren Grant, born and raised in Highland Park, Illinois, has danced with MMDG since 1996. Appearing in over 40 of Morris’s works, she performs leading roles in *The Hard Nut* and *Mozart Dances*. Ms. Grant has been featured in *Time Out New York, Dance Magazine* and the book *Meet the Dancers*, and is the subject of a photograph by Annie Leibovitz. She graduated with a B.F.A. from the Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. She serves on the faculty at MMDG’s school and also teaches dance internationally. Ms. Grant is married to fellow dancer David Leventhal.

John Heginbotham is from Anchorage, Alaska. He is a graduate of The Juilliard School (B.F.A. ’93) and has danced in the companies of Susan Marshall, Pilobolus Dance Theater (guest artist), John Jasperse and Ben Munisteri. His choreography is featured in the work of recording artists Fischerspooner and in *Champ: A Space Opera* (New York International Fringe Festival). As a teacher, Mr. Heginbotham works regularly with members of the Brooklyn Parkinson’s Group. He joined MMDG in 1998.

Brian Lawson began his dance training in Toronto at Canadian Children’s Dance Theatre. There, he worked with such choreographers as David Earle, Carol Anderson and Michael Trent. He spent a year studying at the Rotterdamse Dansacademie and is currently working towards his B.F.A. at the State University of New York at Purchase. At Purchase, he has had the opportunity to perform works by Merce Cunningham and Nelly van Bommel. This is his second *Hard Nut*.

David Leventhal has danced with MMDG since 1997. He performs principal roles in *The Hard Nut, L’Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* and *Romeo & Juliet*, *On Motifs of Shakespeare*. He is a faculty member of the Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn and teaches technique and repertory at schools and universities. He is one of the founding teachers of MMDG’s Dance for Parkinson’s program and leads classes around the world for people with Parkinson’s disease. Raised in Newton, Massachusetts, Mr. Leventhal received his early training from Boston Ballet School and graduated from Brown University with honors in English literature. He is married to fellow dancer Lauren Grant.

Laurel Lynch began her dance training in Petaluma, California. After a few too many *Nutcrackers*, she moved to New York to attend The Juilliard School, where she performed works by Robert Battle, Margie Gillis, José Limón and Ohad Naharin. Since graduation in May 2003, Ms. Lynch has danced for Dusan Tynék Dance Theatre, Sue Bernhard Danceworks, Pat Catterson, Stephan Koplowitz and T.E.A. (Transpersonal Education and Art). She performed at the Festival Oltre Passo in Lecce, Italy, and appeared as a guest artist with Petaluma City Ballet. Ms. Lynch performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.

Claudia MacPherson was born in Wisconsin, but she calls Kentucky home. She received her B.F.A. in dance from Alvin Ailey/Fordham University, where she worked with Nathan Trice, Jennifer Muller and Ron Brown, among others, and performed at City Center in Alvin Ailey’s *Memoria*. She has also worked with Eva Dean Dance, the Kevin Wynn Collection, SuriCo and the Tattooed Ballerinas. She is excited to be in her second *Hard Nut*.

David McDonald received his B.F.A. from The Juilliard School in 1997. He danced with the Limón Dance Company for three years and was the recipient of the 1998 Princess Grace Award. He has choreographed and presented his own works internationally, served as choreographer for seven Juilliard Opera Company productions under director Frank Corsaro, and was the choreographic assistant to Donald McKayle at the Alvin Alley American Dance Theater. Mr. McDonald joined MMDG in 2000.

Dallas McMurray, from El Cerrito, California, began dancing at age four, studying jazz, tap and acrobatics with Katie Maltsberger, and ballet with Yukiko Sakakura. He received a B.F.A. in dance from the California Institute of the Arts. Dallas performed with the Limón Dance Company in addition to works by Jifi Kylián, Alonzo King, Robert Moses and Colin Connor. Mr. McMurray joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.

Amber Star Merkens is originally from Newport, Oregon, where she began her dance training with Nancy Mittelman. She received her B.F.A. from The Juilliard School in 1999 and then danced with the Limón Dance Company for two years. She is a recipient of the 2001 Princess Grace Award and has presented her own choreography both in New York and abroad. Ms. Merkens joined MMDG in 2007.

Maile Okamura is originally from San Diego, California. She was a member of Boston Ballet II from 1992 to 1993 and Ballet Arizona from 1993 to 1996. She has danced with choreographers Neta Pulvermacher, Zvi Gotheiner and Gerald Casel, among others. Ms. Okamura began working with MMDG in 1998 and became a company member in 2001.
June Omura was born in New York, grew up in Birmingham, Alabama, and graduated from Barnard College with honors in dance and English. She first studied with Mark Morris in 1986, joined MMDG in 1988. In 2005, she received a New York Dance and Performance Award (“Bessie”) for her career with the company. Ms. Omura and her husband are the proud parents of twin girls, born in 2003, and a baby boy, born in September 2006. She is grateful to her family, Mark Morris and MMDG for their love and support.

Kraig Patterson was born in Trenton, New Jersey. He was inspired to pursue a career in dance after performing in high-school musicals. He continued his formal dance training via scholarships from the Princeton Ballet, The Ailey School, and the Cunningham Studio. He received his B.F.A. from The Juilliard School in 1986, joined the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1987, and danced with the company until 1999. Mr. Patterson, also known as bopi, has performed with Mark Haim, the Danny Lewis Repertory Ensemble, Ohad Naharin, Neta Pulvermacher and the American Dance Festival. Mr. Patterson has danced with Freefall, Ltd., Amy Cox, Xipólytos Dance Theatre, Mark Jarecke, Jo/Anna Mendl Shaw, Carol Fonda, Maja Lorkovic, KDNJ/Kathleen Dyer and Wil Swanson/Danceworks, among others. She currently works with Rebecca Katz-Harwood, Pam Tanowitz Dance, Paz Tanjuaquio and Andrea Haenggi/AMDzT.

Guillermo Resto has danced with Mark Morris since 1983.

Kanji Segawa began his training with his mother, Erika Akoh, and studied ballet with Kan Horiuchi in Tokyo, Japan. In 1997, he came to the United States to study at The Ailey School under a Japanese government fellowship. Mr. Segawa has been a member of Battleworks Dance Company, Jennifer Muller/The Works and Ailey II. He first performed with MMDG in The Hard Nut in London in 2004 and has since appeared in Mark Morris’s productions of L’Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato, Romeo & Juliet, On Motifs of Shakespeare and King Arthur with English National Opera and Orfeo ed Euridice with the Metropolitan Opera.

William Smith III grew up in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and attended George Mason University under a full academic and dance talent scholarship. He graduated magna cum laude in 2007 and received achievement awards in performance, choreography and academic endeavors. While at George Mason, he performed the works of Mark Morris, Paul Taylor, Lar Lubovitch, Doug Varone, Daniel Ezralow, Larry Keigwin, Susan Marshall and Susan Shields. Mr. Smith’s own piece, 3-Way Stop, was selected to open the 2006 American College Dance Festival Gala at Ohio State University, and his original choreography for a production of Bye Bye Birdie garnered much critical praise. As an actor, Mr. Smith’s regional theatre credits include Tulsa in Gypsy, Mr. Mistoffelees in CATS and Dream Curly in Oklahoma! Since May 2007, he has spent his time traveling the world as a member of Parsons Dance. This is his first Hard Nut.

Utafumi Takemura received her B.F.A. in dance from the State University of New York at Purchase and her M.F.A. from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University, where she was a recipient of the Siedman Award for Dance. She has performed with Freefall, Ltd., Amy Cox, Xipólytos Dance Theatre, Mark Jarecke, Jo/Anna Mendl Shaw, Carol Fonda, Maja Lorkovic, KDNJ/Kathleen Dyer and Wil Swanson/Danceworks, among others. She currently works with Rebecca Katz-Harwood, Pam Tanowitz Dance, Paz Tanjuaquio and Andrea Haenggi/AMDzT.

Noah Vinson received his B.A. in dance from Columbia College Chicago, where he worked with Shirley Mordine, Jan Erkert and Brian Jeffrey. In New York, he has danced with Teri and Oliver Steele and the Kevin Wynn Collection. He began working with MMDG in 2002 and became a company member in 2004.

Samuel von Wentz hails from the land of open spaces, strong Christian values and monthly livestock auctions. Leaving the ranch behind, he left North Dakota and explored the perilous mountains of Idyllwild, California, for many years. He has worked and studied with Gerald Casel, whom he met while he was continuing his academic adventure at the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. He joined MMDG in June 2009 and enjoys jigsaw puzzles and origami. This is Mr. von Wentz’s second Hard Nut.

Michelle Yard was born in Brooklyn, New York, and began her professional dance training at the New York City High School of the Performing Arts. Upon graduation she received the Helen Tamiris and B’nai B’rith awards. For three years, she was a scholarship student at the Alvin Ailey Dance Center, and she attended New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts, where she graduated with a B.F.A. Ms. Yard joined MMDG in 1997. Mom, thank you.

Jenn Weddel received her early training from Boulder Ballet Company near where she grew up in Longmont, Colorado. She holds a B.F.A. from Southern Methodist University and also studied at Boston Conservatory, Colorado University and the Laban Center, London. Since moving to New York in 2001, Ms. Weddel has created and performed with RedWall Dance Theater, Sue Bernhard Danceworks, Vencel Dance Trio, Rocha Dance Theater, TEA Dance Company and with various choreographers including Alan Danielson and Ella Ben-Aharon. Ms. Weddel performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.

Julie Worden graduated from the North Carolina School of the Arts and joined MMDG in 1994.

CAL PERFORMANCES

CAL PERFORMANCES
### Mark Morris Dance Group Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artistic Director</td>
<td>Mark Morris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Nancy Umanoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Production</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Director</td>
<td>Johan Henckens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Technical Director</td>
<td>Matthew Eggleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assistant</td>
<td>Dirk Loomans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehearsal Director</td>
<td>Matthew Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighting Supervisors</td>
<td>Michael Chybowski, Keri Thibodeau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sound Supervisor</td>
<td>Jim Abdou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wardrobe Supervisor</td>
<td>Katherine M. Patterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair &amp; Makeup Supervisor</td>
<td>Leslee Newcomb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Hair &amp; Makeup Supervisor</td>
<td>Sara Beukers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Administration</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Manager</td>
<td>Aaron Mattocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Managers</td>
<td>Adrienne Bryant, Daniel A. Finney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Financial Officer</td>
<td>Elizabeth Fox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Associate</td>
<td>Marea Chaveco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Education</td>
<td>Eva Nichols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Administrator</td>
<td>Diane Ogunusi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Bursar</td>
<td>Marc Castelli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marketing &amp; Development</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Marketing and Development</td>
<td>Lauren Cherubini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Director of Marketing and Corporate Support</td>
<td>Christy Bolingbroke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Projects Manager</td>
<td>Alexandro Pacheco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Associate</td>
<td>Kelly Sheldon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Assistant</td>
<td>Moss Allen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Assistant</td>
<td>Ashley Matthews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Assistant</td>
<td>Jay Selinger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dance Center Operations</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studio Manager</td>
<td>Karyn Treadwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production and Facilities Manager</td>
<td>Matthew Eggleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Facilities Manager</td>
<td>Chris Sperry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Hilary Tanabe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receptionists</td>
<td>Sara Genoves-Sylvan, Colleen Macomber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Coordinator</td>
<td>Bruce Lazarus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>David Axelrod, Ramon Calderon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Costumes refurbished by Bobby Condon, Stephanie Sleeper, Alan Smith, Joy Havens, Jennifer Perry, Carli Beardsley, Katherine M. Patterson and Cindy Chock.

Thanks to Maxine Morris.

Sincerest thanks to all the dancers for their dedication, commitment and incalculable contribution to the work.

The Mark Morris Dance Group New Works Fund is supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, The PARC Foundation, Meyer Sound/Helen and John Meyer, and Pos Family Foundation.

Additional funding has been received from the Altman Foundation; The Capezio/Ballet Makers Dance Foundation; Brooklyn Community Foundation; the Susan Buck Family Fund; JP Morgan Chase Foundation; Dance Heritage Coalition; The Harkness Foundation for Dance; the William Randolph Hearst Foundation; The Iovino Family Foundation; Leon Lernerstein Foundation; McDermott, Will & Emery; New England Foundation for the Arts; USAArtists International; and the Friends of the Mark Morris Dance Group.

For more information, contact
Mark Morris Dance Group
3 Lafayette Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11217-1415
phone (718) 624-8400
fax (718) 624-8900
info@mmdg.org
www.mmdg.org