

Mark Morris Dance Group

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Jeremy Geffen

With this weekend's performances by our longtime friends and artistic partners at the **Mark Morris Dance Group**, we reach the close of Cal Performances' 2021 Fall Season. It's a particular pleasure to celebrate this milestone with Mark and his terrific dancers and musicians performing a wide-ranging repertoire program—including the brand new *Water*, which premiered only three months ago at Brooklyn Bridge Park—that spans almost 25 years of this singular choreographer's magnificent career. I'm delighted that you could join us during what promises to be a memorable weekend; after such a long period of imposed shutdown, it's wonderful that we can gather together again, enjoying great dance under the same roof!

When the pandemic forced Cal Performances to close its doors in March 2020, no one could have imagined what lay ahead. Since then, we've witnessed a worldwide health crisis unlike any experienced during our lifetimes, an extended period of political turmoil, recurring incidents of civil unrest and racially motivated violence, and a consciousness-raising human rights movement that has forever—and significantly—changed how each of us views social justice in our time.

Of course, the pandemic remains with us to this date and future challenges—including many adjustments to "normal" procedures and policies—can certainly be expected. I encourage you to check Cal Performances' website regularly for the most current information regarding our COVID-19 response. First and foremost, I assure you that there is nothing more important to us than the health and safety of our audience, artists, and staff. (And I remind one and all that proof of vaccination is mandatory today, as is protective masking throughout the event.)

Our season continues next year with a calendar packed with the kind of adventurous and ambitious programming you've come to expect from Cal Performances. You won't want to miss...

- the ever-popular **Les Ballet Trockadero de Monte Carlo** (Feb 4–5); **Joffrey Ballet** (Mar 4–6); and **Alvin Ailey American Dance Company** (Mar 29 – April 3)
- jazz legend **Wayne Shorter** and the brilliant **esperanza spalding** with their thrilling new opera ...(*Iphigenia*) (Feb 12)
- early-music masters **Jordi Savall** and **Le Concert des Nations** (Mar 4) and the **English Baroque Soloists** with conductor **Sir John Eliot Gardiner** (Apr 10)
- the peerless **London Symphony Orchestra**, appearing under the direction of superstar conductor **Simon Rattle** (Mar 20)
- pianist **extraordinaire Mitsuko Uchida** with the **Mahler Chamber Orchestra** (Mar 27)
- our brilliant 2021–22 artist-in-residence **Angélique Kidjo** in her exciting new music-theater piece *Yemandjá* (a highly anticipated Cal Performances co-commission, Apr 23)

And so much more... with dozens of performances by the world's finest music, dance, and theater artists, stretching into June. In particular, I want to direct your attention to this year's *Illuminations*: "Place and Displacement" programming, through which we'll explore both loss and renewal, disempowerment and hope, while seeking paths forward for reclaiming and celebrating vital cultural connections that can fall victim to political and social upheaval.

Please take the opportunity to explore the complete schedule through our website and season brochure and begin planning your performance calendar; now is the perfect time to guarantee that you have the best seats for all the events you plan to attend.

continued on p 32



Friday and Saturday, December 17–18, 2021, 8pm
Sunday, December 19, 2021, 3pm
Zellerbach Hall

Mark Morris Dance Group

Mica Bernas Karlie Budge Brandon Cournay Domingo Estrada, Jr.
Lesley Garrison Sarah Haarmann Deepa Liegel Aaron Loux
Laurel Lynch Matthew McLaughlin Dallas McMurray Maile Okamura
Brandon Randolph Nicole Sabella Christina Sahaida Billy Smith
Noah Vinson Malik Q. Williams

MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE

Colin Fowler Colin Jacobsen Wolfram Koessel Greg Luce
Stefan Schatz Mary Sherhart Georgy Valtchev

Artistic Director
Mark Morris

Executive Director
Nancy Umanoff

Official Sponsor
Bloomberg Philanthropies

Major support for the Mark Morris Dance Group provided by American Express, Anonymous, The Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, Timothy McClimon and Suzanne Berman, Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners, LLP, Frederick and Morley Bland, Eliot Nolan and Timothy Bradley, Mark Selinger and Iris Cohen, Beth and Ravenel Curry Foundation, Dance/NYC, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Darryl Pinckney and James Fenton, Judith R. and Alan H. Fishman, Shelby and Frederick Gans, Candace and Vincent Gaudiani, Isaac Mizrahi and Arnold Germer, Howard Gilman Foundation, York-Chi and Stephen Harder, John and Tommye Ireland (in memoriam), Marc and Melissa James, Suzy Kellems Dominik, Elizabeth Amy Liebman, Nicholas Ma and William Lopez, Helen and John Meyer, Mark Morris, National Endowment for the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, Mayor Bill de Blasio, Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams, City Council Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo, and Council Member Helen Rosenthal, New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Ellen and Arnold Offner, Sarabeth Berman and Evan Osnos, PARC Foundation, Parkinson's Foundation, Onay Payne, Poss Family Foundation, Drs. Jocelyne and Perry Rainey, Diane E. Solway and David Resnicow, The Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative, Billy Rose Foundation, Margaret Conklin and David Sabel, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The SHS Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, Jane and R.L. Stine, Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund, Nancy Umanoff, and Jamie Gorelick and Richard Waldhorn.

These performances are made possible, in part, by Helen and John Meyer.



PROGRAM

Water

(Theater Premiere)

Music: George Frideric Handel – Suite in F Major, HWV 348 (*Water Music*),
arranged by Colin Fowler

Adagio e staccato

Air

Bourrée

Hornpipe

Lighting Design: Nick Kolin

Colin Jacobsen, *violin*; Georgy Valtchev, *violin*; Greg Luce, *viola*; Wolfram Koessel, *cello*;
Colin Fowler, *piano*

Mica Bernas, Karlie Budge, Brandon Cournay, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Sarah Haarmann,
Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Matthew McLaughlin, Brandon Randolph,
Christina Sahaida, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson, Malik Q. Williams

Premiere: September 25, 2021 – Brooklyn Bridge Park, Brooklyn, New York

Jenn and Spencer

Music: Henry Cowell – Suite for Violin and Piano

Largo

Allegretto

Andante tranquillo

Allegro marcato

Andante calmato

Presto

Costume Design: Stephanie Sleeper

Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Georgy Valtchev, *violin*; Colin Fowler, *piano*

Karlie Budge, Brandon Randolph

Premiere: April 3, 2013 – James and Martha Duffy Performance Space,
Mark Morris Dance Center, Brooklyn, New York

Dancing Honeymoon

Music: "Limehouse Blues," "You Were Meant for Me," "Do Do Do,"
"Someone to Watch Over Me," "A Cup of Coffee, A Sandwich, and You," "Wild Thyme,"
"Experiment," "Dancing Honeymoon," "And Her Mother Came Too," "Fancy Our Meeting,"
"Who," "Two Little Bluebirds," "Goodnight, Vienna," "It's Not You," "There's Always Tomorrow"

Transcribed and arranged by Ethan Iverson,
from historical recordings of Gertrude Lawrence and Jack Buchanan

Costume Design: Elizabeth Kurtzman
Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Mark Morris and Mary Sherhart, *vocals*; Georgy Valtchev, *violin*;
Colin Fowler, *piano*; Stefan Schatz, *percussion*

Mica Bernas, Brandon Cournay, Sarah Haarmann,
Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Billy Smith, Noah Vinson

Premiere: September 22, 1998 – University of Washington World Series,
Meany Hall, Seattle, Washington

This dance was created under the auspices of the Mark Morris Dance Group New Works Fund,
sponsored by Philip Morris Companies Inc.

INTERMISSION

V

Music: Robert Schumann – Quintet in E flat major for Piano and Strings, Op. 44
Allegro brillante

In modo d'una Marcia. Un poco largamente – Agitato
Scherzo molto vivace
Allegro, ma non troppo

Costume Design: Martin Pakledinaz
Lighting Design: Michael Chybowski

Colin Jacobsen, *violin*; Georgy Valtchev, *violin*; Greg Luce, *viola*; Wolfram Koessel, *cello*;
Colin Fowler, *piano*

Mica Bernas, Karlie Budge, Brandon Cournay, Domingo Estrada, Jr., Sarah Haarmann,
Deepa Liegel, Aaron Loux, Laurel Lynch, Dallas McMurray, Maile Okamura,
Brandon Randolph, Christina Sahaïda, Billy Smith, Malik Q. Williams

Premiere: October 16, 2001 – Sadler's Wells, London, United Kingdom



MARK MORRIS was born on August 29, 1956, in Seattle, Washington, where he studied with Verla Flowers and Perry Brunson. In the early years of his career, he performed with the companies of Lar Lubovitch, Hannah Kahn, Laura Dean, Eliot Feld, and the Koleda Balkan Dance Ensemble. He formed the Mark Morris Dance Group (MMDG) in 1980 and has since created over 150 works for the company. From 1988 to 1991, he was Director of Dance at Brussels' Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie, the national opera house of Belgium. In 1990, he founded the White Oak Dance Project with Mikhail Baryshnikov. Much in demand as a ballet choreographer, Morris has created 22 ballets since 1986 and his work has been performed by companies worldwide, including San Francisco Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève, and the Royal New Zealand Ballet. Noted for his musicality, Morris has been described as "undeviating in his devotion to music" (*The New Yorker*). He began conducting performances for MMDG in 2006 and has since conducted at Tanglewood Music Center, Lincoln Center, and BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music). He served as Music Director for the 2013 Ojai Music Festival. He also works extensively in opera, directing and choreographing productions for the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Opera, English National Opera, and The Royal Opera, Covent Garden, among others. He was named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation in 1991 and has received 11 honorary doctorates to date. Morris has taught at the University of Washington, Princeton University, and Tanglewood Music Center. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society, and has served as an Advisory Board Member for the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative. Morris has received 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 International Society for the Performing Arts' Distinguished Artist Award, 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 Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney Hall of Fame at the National Museum of Dance in Saratoga Springs, New York. Morris opened the Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn, New York, in 2001 to provide a home for his company, subsidized rental space for local artists, community education programs for children and seniors, and a school offering dance classes to students of all ages and levels of experience with and without disabilities. Morris' memoir, *Out Loud*, co-written with Wesley Stace, was published in paperback by Penguin Press in October 2021.

The **MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP** was formed in 1980 and gave its first performance that year in New York City. The company's touring schedule steadily expanded to include cities in the United States and around the world, and in 1986, the Dance Group 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 Dance Group returned to the United States in 1991 as one of the world's leading dance companies. Based in Brooklyn, New York, MMDG maintains strong ties to presenters in several cities around the world, most notably to its West Coast home, Cal Performances in Berkeley, California, and its Midwest home, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. MMDG also appears regularly in New York, Boston, Seattle, and Fairfax. In New York, the company has performed at New York City Center's Fall for Dance Festival, regularly performs at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts' Mostly Mozart and White Light Festivals, and collaborates yearly with BAM on performances and master

Memphis Jookin': The Show featuring Lil Buck

West Coast Premiere

In the West Coast premiere of this dazzling show, Lil Buck—along with a DJ and an expert eight-dancer crew—transports us to the streets, the hallways, and the clubs where Memphis Jookin' was born.

"His agile physical instrument is astounding... [and] fueling it all is the emotion that drives his magnetic dancing. There is struggle and pain, joy and healing, and ultimately, a transformation."

—The New York Times

Feb 25 & 26
ZELLERBACH HALL



classes. From the company's many London seasons, it has received two Laurence Olivier Awards and a Critics' Circle Dance Award for Best Foreign Dance Company. Reflecting Morris' commitment to live music, the Dance Group has featured live musicians in every performance since the formation of the MMDG Music Ensemble in 1996. MMDG regularly collaborates with renowned musicians, including cellist Yo-Yo Ma, pianist Emanuel Ax, mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe, and jazz trio The Bad Plus, as well as leading orchestras and opera companies including the Metropolitan Opera, English National Opera, and the London Symphony Orchestra. MMDG frequently works with distinguished artists and designers, including painters Robert Bordo and the late Howard Hodgkin, set designers Adrienne Lobel and Allen Moyer, costume designers Martin Pakledinaz and Isaac Mizrahi, and many others. MMDG's film and television projects include *Dido and Aeneas*, *The Hard Nut*, *Falling Down Stairs*, two documentaries for the UK's *South Bank Show*, and PBS' *Live from Lincoln Center*. In 2015, Morris' signature work *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* had its national television premiere on PBS' *Great Performances*. While on tour the Dance Group partners with local cultural institutions and community organizations to present arts and humanities-based activities for people of all ages and abilities.

The MMDG MUSIC ENSEMBLE, formed in 1996, is integral to the Dance Group. "With the dancers come the musicians... and what a difference it makes" (*Classical Voice of North Carolina*). The Ensemble's repertory ranges from 17th- and 18th-century works by John Wilson and Henry Purcell to more recent scores by Ethan Iverson, Lou Harrison, and Henry Cowell. The musicians also participate in the Dance Group's educational and community programming at home and on tour. The Music Ensemble is led by Colin Fowler, who began to collaborate with MMDG in 2005 during the creation of *Mozart Dances*.



COLIN FOWLER
(music director, piano)
began his musical study at the age of five in Kansas City and went on to study at the prestigious Interlochen Arts Academy. He continued his education at the

Juilliard School, where he received his bachelor's degree in music in 2003 and his master's degree in music in 2005. While at Juilliard, he studied piano with Abbey Simon, organ with Gerre Hancock and Paul Jacobs, harpsichord with Lionel Party, and conducting with James dePriest and Judith Clurman. A versatile musician and conductor, Fowler works in many areas of the music scene in New York City. He is a veteran of numerous Broadway shows, most recently performing in the Tony Award-winning musical *Jersey Boys*. A seasoned church musician, Fowler has led services at numerous houses of worship, including Trinity Wall Street, St. Thomas Church, Marble Collegiate Church, and Park Avenue Synagogue. As a classical soloist and collaborative artist, he has performed and recorded with many world-renowned musicians and ensembles, including Deborah Voigt and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. He began to collaborate with the Mark Morris Dance Group in 2005 and has since performed over 40 pieces with the company on almost every keyboard instrument possible, including the harmonium and toy piano, and has conducted performances of *Mozart Dances*, *Acis and Galatea*, and *The Hard Nut*. Praised by the *New York Times* as "invaluable" and "central to Morris' music," he was appointed the ensemble's Music Director in 2013.



SAM BLACK (*company director*) is originally from Berkeley and received his BFA in dance from SUNY Purchase. He first appeared with MMDG in 2005 and danced with the company until 2019, when he became the Dance Group's rehearsal director. He was promoted to Company Director in 2021.



MICA BERNAS, originally from Manila, Philippines, received her training at the Cultural Center of the Philippines Dance School. She later joined Ballet Philippines as a member of the corps de ballet, performing as a soloist from 2001–06. Since moving to New York in 2006, Bernas has worked with Marta Renzi Dance, Armitage Gone Dance, Gallim Dance, Barkin/Selissen Project, and Carolyn Dorfman Dance (2007–13). She was a guest artist with the Limón Dance Company, performing at the 2013 Biental Internacional de Danza de Cali in Bogotá, Colombia; Lincoln Center's David H. Koch Theater; and at the Joyce Theater for the company's 70th anniversary in 2015. Bernas also teaches at the Limón Institute and has been on the faculty for BIMA at Brandeis University since 2011. She joined MMDG as a company member in 2017.



KARLIE BUDGE grew up in Knoxville, Tennessee, training and performing with the Tennessee Children's Dance Ensemble. She attended Case Western Reserve University on a full scholarship from the department of dance, graduating *magna cum laude* with a BA in dance and a BS in statistics in 2016. Budge has performed with Graham 2, Merce Cunningham Trust, and in her own solo

and duet choreography. She joined MMDG as an apprentice in September 2018 and became a company member in November 2019.



BRANDON COURNAY is originally from Walled Lake, Michigan, and received his BFA from the Juilliard School. As a freelance artist, he has performed with the *Radio City Christmas Spectacular*, the Mark

Morris Dance Group, Morphoses, the Metropolitan Opera, New York Theatre Ballet, The Chase Brock Experience, Schoen Movement Company, Dance Heginbotham, and KEIGWIN + COMPANY. TV/film/industrial credits include PBS' *Great Performances*, *Musical Chairs* (HBO), *Puma*, *Sesame Street*, and Target. As an educator and répétiteur, he has worked with the Pennsylvania Ballet, Whim W'Him, the Juilliard School/Nord Anglia Education, and universities nationwide. Off-stage, he has worked with companies in multiple capacities that range from artistic direction to administrative management. For many years, he was Rehearsal Director and Associate Artistic Director of KEIGWIN + COMPANY. In addition, he has assisted numerous choreographers on creative projects in theater, film, and dance. He joined MMDG as a company member in 2018.



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 11 years. Estrada earned his BFA 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.



LESLEY GARRISON grew up in Swansea, Illinois, and received her early dance training at the Center of Creative Arts in St. Louis, Missouri, and the Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen, Michigan.

She studied at the Rotterdamse Dansacademie in The Netherlands and holds a BFA from Purchase College. Garrison first performed with MMDG in 2007 and became a company member in 2011. She is fully certified in mat and equipment Pilates through the Kane School of Core Integration. She teaches Pilates and modern dance at The School at the Mark Morris Dance Center and in master classes worldwide. Garrison has had the honor of being a teaching artist for the renowned Dance for PD® program since 2011.



SARAH HAARMANN grew up in Macungie, Pennsylvania, and received training at the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Performing Arts under the direction of Kimberly Maniscalco. She graduated

magna cum laude with a BFA in dance from Marymount Manhattan College in 2012. Haarmann has had the pleasure of performing with Pam Tanowitz Dance, Jessica Lang Dance, Dylan Crossman Dans(ce), Pat Catterson, Denisa Musilova, and Bill Young. She joined MMDG as a company member in 2017.



COLIN JACOBSEN (*violin*) is “one of the most interesting figures on the classical music scene” (*The Washington Post*). An eclectic composer who draws on a range of influences, he was named one of the top

100 composers under 40 by NPR listeners. He is also active as an Avery Fisher Career Grant-winning soloist and has toured with the Silk Road Ensemble since its inception in 2000. For his work as a founding member of two game-changing, audience-expanding ensembles—the string quartet Brooklyn Rider and orchestra The Knights—Jacobsen was selected from among the nation’s top visual, performing, media, and literary artists to receive a prestigious and substantial United States Artists Fellowship. As a featured soloist and composer with the YouTube Symphony Orchestra, he performed at the Sydney Opera House in a memorable concert streamed by millions of viewers worldwide. His compositions and arrangements for dance and theater include *The Principles of Uncertainty*, a collaboration between writer/illustrator Maira Kalman and Dance Heginbotham; and *More Or Less I Am*, a theatrical production of Walt Whitman’s *Song of Myself* by Compagnia de’ Colombari.



WOLFRAM KOESSEL (*cello*) has established himself as a much sought-after chamber musician, soloist, recording artist, and contractor on the New York music scene. He has performed with MMDG since 1999

and was music director from 2004–08. In 2006, Koessel joined the world-renowned American String Quartet, with whom he performs in the foremost concert halls throughout the world, collaborating frequently with today’s leading artists. Koessel appears with a wide range of ensembles and groups, most notably and frequently with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra

The Joffrey Ballet

Among the crown jewels of America's homegrown dance companies, the esteemed Joffrey Ballet returns to Berkeley to conclude its six-year campus residency with two programs showcasing fresh new choreographic voices and works by an international group of renowned creators, many in their West Coast premieres.



Mar 4–6
ZELLERBACH HALL

and the New York Philharmonic. He is also a founding member of Trio+ together with violinist Yosuke Kawasaki and pianist Vadim Serebryani. He has supervised and performed music for Warner Brothers, American Express, and many independent film companies and organized hundreds of classical orchestra and chamber music concerts during the last decade in New York City. Koessel is on the faculty of the Manhattan School of Music and the Aspen Music Festival.



DEEPA LIEGEL was born in Calcutta, India, and raised in Seattle, Washington. She grew up dancing with Cornish Preparatory Dance, Leela Kathak Dance, and Seattle Theatre Group. Liegel received her BFA in dance performance with honors and a minor in arts management from Southern Methodist University. Professionally, she has danced with the Mark Morris Dance Group, Limón Dance Company, the Metropolitan Opera, BCEFA's Broadway Bares, Dance Lab NY, and Delta Rae. During the pandemic, she taught at Western Washington University, Cornish College of the Arts, and the Ballet Spot. Liegel is currently a member of the Limón Dance Company and a certified Pilates instructor through Power Pilates, NYC. Instagram: @deepaleaps. Rep: Jim Keith – Movement Talent Agency, NYC Division.



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 BFA from the Juilliard School in 2009. Loux danced at the Metropolitan Opera and with Arc Dance Company before joining MMDG in 2010.



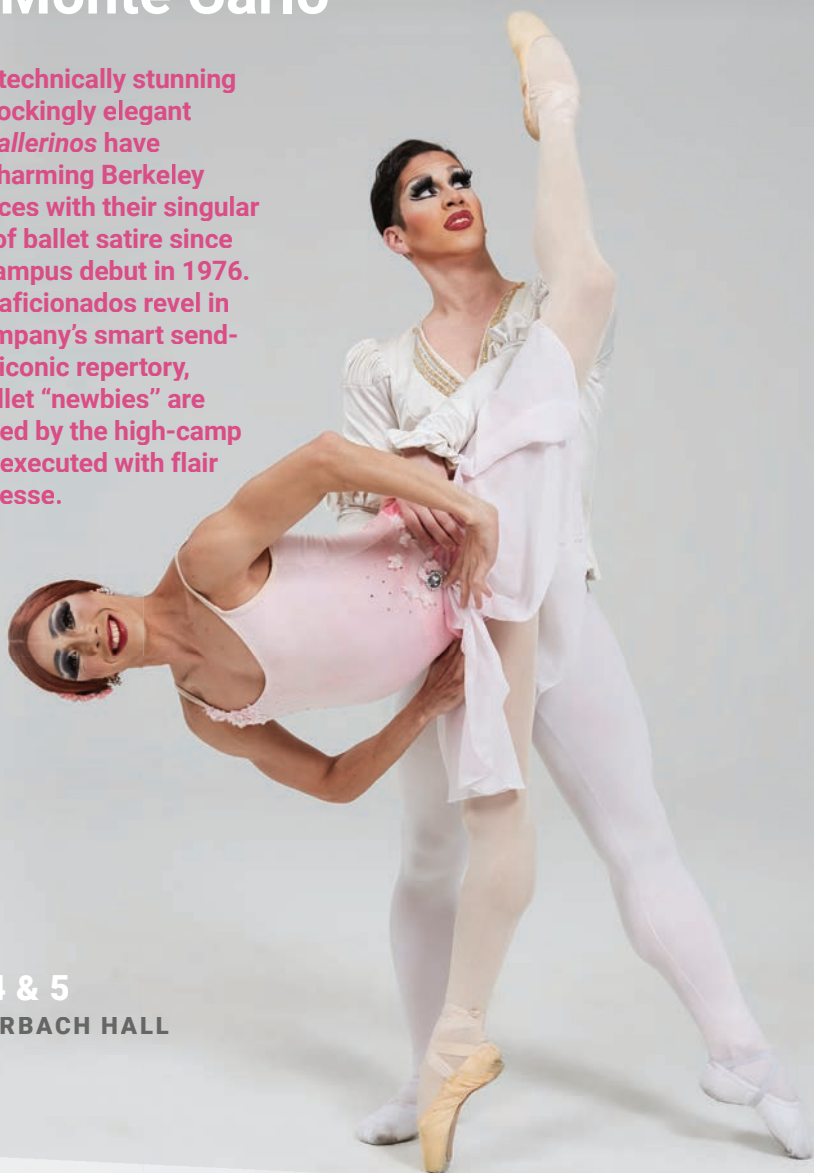
GREG LUCE (*viola*), praised by the *Washington Post* as an “appealing, natural player,” has performed around the world in Europe, the United States, and Asia. He has also premiered dozens of pieces in varied ensembles, performing in notable concert venues such as the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, and the Meyerhoff Concert Hall. He has been invited to coach, teach privately, and perform at numerous schools and festivals including the Juilliard School, Stanford University, and the Interlochen Summer Arts Academy. A graduate of the Juilliard School, Luce enjoys many interdisciplinary collaborations, most notably with the Mark Morris Dance Group, with which he gave a two-week tour of Taiwan in 2014 and performed in the Lincoln Center's 2013 White Light Festival. He has also enjoyed an ongoing working relationship with the Conspirare Symphonic Choir of Austin, Texas, since 2011. Since 2008, Luce has been violist of the Aeolus Quartet, top prize winners at numerous competitions. Following their performance in the 2009 Trondheim International Chamber Music Competition, the Aeolus Quartet was praised by *Strad* magazine for their “high-octane performance,” with Luce noted as being “especially enjoyable.” Luce plays on a viola made by Samuel Zygmuntowicz for celebrated violist Walter Trampler in 1991, generously on loan from Ruth Sumners Trampler.



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 ap-

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

These technically stunning and shockingly elegant male *ballerinos* have been charming Berkeley audiences with their singular brand of ballet satire since their campus debut in 1976. Dance aficionados revel in the company's smart send-ups of iconic repertory, and ballet "newbies" are delighted by the high-camp drama executed with flair and finesse.



Feb 4 & 5
ZELLERBACH HALL

prentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007. Many thanks to Gene and Becky.



MATTHEW McLAUGHLIN discovered movement at age one and danced hula in Hawaii until age four. As a child with parents in the military, he moved and traveled frequently and explored many different sports and art forms. He graduated from SUNY Purchase with a BFA in dance. During this time, he performed works by Aszure Barton, Kevin Wynn, Kyle Abraham, George Balanchine, and Doug Varone. In 2018, he had the opportunity to perform in the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company's 50th anniversary celebration. He joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2019 and became a company member in 2021. McLaughlin would like to thank his family for their love and inspiration.



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 BFA in dance from the California Institute of the Arts. McMurray performed with the Limón Dance Company in addition to works by Jiří Kylián, Alonzo King, Robert Moses, and Colin Connor. He performed with MMDG as an apprentice in 2006 and became a company member in 2007.



MAILE OKAMURA studied primarily with Lynda Yourth at the American Ballet School in San Diego, California. She was a member of Boston Ballet II and Ballet Arizona before moving to New York to study modern dance. In addition to the Mark Morris Dance Group, she has also had the pleasure of working with choreographers Neta Pulvermacher, Zvi Gotheiner, Gerald Casel, and John Heginbotham, with whom she frequently collaborates as a dancer and costume designer. She was an MMDG company member from 1998 to 2015.



BRANDON RANDOLPH began his training with the School of Carolina Ballet Theater in Greenville, South Carolina, under the direction of Hernan Justo. At age 14, he was accepted into the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities, where he studied with Stanislav Issaev and Bobby Barnett. Randolph received his BFA in dance from Purchase College in 2012. There he had the opportunity to perform with Dance Heginbotham as well as repertory by Stephen Petronio, Lar Lubovitch, Paul Taylor, and George Balanchine. Randolph began working with MMDG in 2013 and became a company member in 2014.



NICOLE SABELLA is originally from Clearwater, Florida, where she studied at the Academy of Ballet Arts and the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High School under Suzanne B. Pomerantzeff. In 2009, she graduated from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, earning

her BFA in modern dance performance and the “Outstanding Performance in Modern Dance” Award. She was a performer with Zane Booker’s Smoke, Lilies, and Jade Arts Initiative. Sabella first performed with MMDG in 2013 and became a company member in 2015.



CHRISTINA SAHAIDA grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and began her early dance training at the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School. In 2012, she graduated with honors from Butler University, receiving a BFA in dance performance. She has worked with Ballet Quad Cities, Texture Contemporary Ballet, and, most recently, the Big Muddy Dance Company in St. Louis, Missouri. Sahaida joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2017 and became a company member in 2019.



STEFAN SCHATZ (*percussion*) was born in New York City. After training early on as a classical percussionist, he went on to study jazz at the New School in New York. Schatz has worked with jazz greats Dakota Staton, Jon Hendricks, Arnie Lawrence, Herman Foster, Teddy Charles, and Freddie Redd, and has toured internationally with the Chris Byars/Ari Roland Quartet, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Manhattan Tap, and the Mark Morris Dance Group. He has played on television and film soundtracks, commercials, numerous albums, and several Broadway shows. Schatz performed on Loudon Wainwright III’s *High Wide & Handsome: The Charlie Poole Project*, the 2010 Grammy Award winner for Best Traditional Folk Album.



MARY SHERHART (*vocals*) is an old friend of Mark Morris. As teenagers, they were both members of the Koleda Balkan Dance Ensemble, having both fallen madly in love with Balkan music and dance.

Morris went on to have a stratospheric career while Sherhart became a big, happy, fulfilled fish in a small pond. Her rich career included studying with folk artists and doing village research in Bulgaria under communism in the 1980s, performing in Sarajevo with the backdrop of the nearly destroyed library, and opening hearts and bringing people together with song whether as a choir director, teacher, or nightclub singer. In the process, she made friends the world over and has more memories than she knows what to do with. About five years ago, Sherhart retired from singing in favor of a more contemplative life. The only thing that could lure her from retirement is the joy of singing with her beloved friend Mark Morris.



BILLY SMITH 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. 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. An actor as well, Smith's regional theater credits include Tulsa in *Gypsy*, Mistoffelees in *CATS*, and Dream Curly in *Oklahoma!* Smith danced with Parsons Dance from 2007–10. He joined MMDG as a company member in 2010.



GEORGY VALTCHEV (violin) has performed on some of the world's most prestigious stages as a soloist, with orchestras, in recitals, and as a chamber musician. In the United States, he has appeared at Lincoln

Center's Alice Tully Hall, New York's Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center in Washington DC, the 92nd Street Y, and Chicago's Cultural Institute. In Europe, he has appeared at venues such as Wigmore Hall and the Barbican Centre in London, La Cité de la Musique in Paris, Amsterdam's Royal Carré Theatre, and Bulgaria Hall in Sofia. He has toured Asia, Australia, and Israel with performances in the Beijing Cultural Arts Center, Guangzhou Opera House, Sydney Opera House, Tel Aviv Opera House, Taipei Cultural Center Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Suntory Hall in Tokyo. A dedicated collaborative musician, Valtchev enjoys frequent performances with distinguished international artists and ensembles in the United States and Europe. As a principal member of the MMDG Music Ensemble, he frequently travels around the world. Valtchev has been honored to lead several major symphony orchestras as guest concertmaster, most notably the London Philharmonic and the Royal Symphony Orchestra of Madrid. He is a founder and artistic director of the Unbeaten Path chamber music festival in Kovachevitsa, Bulgaria, and a founding member of the chamber music series Bulgarian Concert Evenings in New York.



NOAH VINSON is originally from Springfield, Illinois, and received his BA in dance from Columbia College Chicago. He was named a *Dance Magazine* "Dancer on the Rise" in 2009 and assisted Mark Morris in the creation of *The Letter V* for Houston Ballet. He began dancing with MMDG in 2002 and became a company member in 2004.



MALIK Q. WILLIAMS is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and was awarded the Lynn Swann Scholarship to attend the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre during the 2006–07 season. He graduated from the Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts in West Palm Beach, Florida, as a dance major in 2013, where he worked with Troy Powell, Christopher L. Huggins, Billy Bell, and Margo Sappington. Williams then went on to the Juilliard School, where he graduated with a BFA in 2017 under the direction of Lawrence Rhodes. At Juilliard, he worked with the choreographers Takehiro Ueyama, Loni Landon, Zvi Gotheiner, Matthew Neenan, and Gentian Doda. Williams has performed works by Martha Graham, Paul Taylor, and Nacho Duato. Since graduating, he has danced with the Limón Dance Company, the National Dance Company of Wales, and Lydia Johnson Dance. During this time, Williams has performed works by José Limón, Caroline Finn, Yin Yue, Caitlin Javech, and Lydia Johnson, among many others. He joined MMDG as an apprentice in 2020 and became a company member in 2021.

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...(Iphigenia)

West Coast Premiere

A Cal Performances Co-commission

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—Sandy Hill

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illuminations
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In a series of “gripping portraits of a vast social upheaval” (*Chicago Tribune*), Alicia Hall Moran and Jason Moran’s deeply personal *Two Wings* explores the Great Migration of six million Black Americans from the rural South to northern cities and beyond.

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and Nancy Zellerbach Boschwitz
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and Christopher R. Bowen
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 Ming Zhao
 John Zimmermann and Diana Graham
 Donlyn Lyndon and Alice Wingwall
 Michael Condie

Honorary Gifts

Erik Hora in honor of
 Judge Peggy Fulton Hora
 Germaine LaBerge in honor of
 David McCauley
 Susan Pollack in honor of
 Susan Graham Harrison

Memorial Gifts

Anonymous in memory of Leon Bell
 Linh Do and Erno Pungor
 in memory of Julie Do
 Rossannah Reeves
 in memory of Alan Leslie Reeves
 Orville Schell in memory of Baifang Schell
 Max Vale in memory of Griffin Madden
 Helen Marcus
 in memory of David Williamson

* *Gift was entirely or partially in support of Cal Performances' Educational and Community Programs*

Throughout history, the performing arts have survived incredible challenges: periods of war, economic collapse, and, yes, terrible disease. And if it will take time for us—collectively and individually—to process the events of the past 21 months, I'm certain that the arts have the power to play a critical role as we come to terms with what we have experienced and move together toward recovery.

I know you join us in looking forward to what lies ahead, to coming together once again to encounter the life-changing experiences that only the live performing arts deliver. We can't wait to share it all with you during the coming year.

Cal Performances is back. Welcome home!

Jeremy Geffen

Executive and Artistic Director, Cal Performances

COVID-19 Information

Proof of vaccination status is required for entrance and masking is mandatory throughout the event.

COVID-19 information is updated as necessary; please see Cal Performances' website for the most up-to-date policies and information.

UC Berkeley does not promise or guarantee that all patrons or employees on site are vaccinated.

Unvaccinated individuals may be present as a result of exemptions, exceptions, fraudulent verification, or checker error. None of these precautions eliminate the risk of exposure to COVID-19.