

# **MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY** **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**



The following technical information must be discussed and agreed upon by both the Martha Graham Dance Center (MGDC) and the Presenter prior to the signing of this rider or the engagement contract. This technical information covers performance conditions only. The Presenter agrees to provide at its sole expense all of the following elements for the engagement.

Amendments to this rider must be approved by both the MGDC and the Presenter prior to the signing of this or the engagement contract. This is a technical rider and does not constitute the full understanding of the engagement between the MGDC and the Presenter. In the event that the performance venue is different from the Presenter's facility, the Presenter assumes responsibility to forward this information to the appropriate theater manager for approval, understanding that the Presenter remains fully liable for the assurance that all the following listed conditions are met by the theater manager.

**Theater's technical specifications, along with an inventory of theater's lighting and sound equipment must be received within 120 days of anticipated performance.**

**NOTE:** Any changes to the following Technical requirements should be negotiated directly with Melissa Caolo, Production Stage Manager, at [mcaolo@marthagrahamdance.org](mailto:mcaolo@marthagrahamdance.org) or Steve Mauer, Technical Director, at [smauer@marthagrahamdance.org](mailto:smauer@marthagrahamdance.org). Melissa or Steve must first review your theatre's technical specifications and equipment inventory.

## **PERFORMANCE & REHEARSAL SPACE**

### **A. STAGE REQUIREMENTS**

Min proscenium opening:	<b>40' wide X 20' high (12.1m wide x 6m high)</b>
Min stage depth:	<b>35' from plaster line to last line set or rear curtain (10.6m)</b>
Crossover space:	<b>at stage level, upstage (not included in "min stage depth") or behind stage</b>
Min height clearance offstage and in wings:	<b>17' unobstructed (5.1m)</b>
Min number of useable line-sets:	<b>25 (includes electrics &amp; all soft goods)</b>
Min grid height:	<b>pipes clear 60' (18.2m)</b>

- **Should no fly system exist, some means of hanging the show's soft goods, scenery and the changing of color in lighting equipment must be approved by the MGDC's Production Stage Manager and provided by the Presenter. The installation of this hanging system must be completed prior to the start of the Company's load-in.**
- **Secure storage space for all Company boxes/cases.**

### **B. STAGE FLOOR AND DANCE FLOOR**

The stage floor must be constructed of wood and sprung to provide flexibility or "give" to meet requirements defined by the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA), the dancers' labor union. The MGDC provides its own dance floor; constructed of black, heavy-duty linoleum, size 39.5 feet x 49 feet (12.0 m x 15.2 m). The linoleum dance floor is taped down to the stage floor using floor tape carried by the MGDC. The linoleum Dance floor must be mopped before classes, rehearsals and performances; the Presenter agrees to provide this service. The Presenter provides carpeting for placement in the walkways and off-stage areas adjacent to the dance floor. Additional carpeting may be requested depending on the area backstage. Under no circumstances will the MGDC dance on a concrete floor or on a wood floor laid directly over concrete.

### **C. TEMPERATURE**

The stage area and dressing rooms must be heated to a minimum of 68° Fahrenheit or 20.0° Celsius and to a maximum of 90° Fahrenheit or 32.2° Celsius. Union regulations of the dancers prohibit performance when the temperature is in variance of the above temperature range.

### **D. REHEARSAL STUDIO**

The Presenter is requested to provide a rehearsal studio approximating the size of the stage located in close proximity to the theater. The rehearsal studio should be equipped with appropriate floor, mirrors, barres, piano, and sound system with cassette, CD and MiniDisk player.

### **E. PREPARING THEATER PRIOR TO LOAD-IN**

The MGDC travels with an up to a 48' trailer and cab fully loaded with scenery and equipment. Stage pipes, stage floor and loading area must be free and clear of any house equipment except for black legs and borders or permanent border lighting in order to receive MGDC's equipment with the most efficient use of time and labor.

## **F. RIGGING REQUIREMENTS**

MGDC requires that the rigging system and battens needed for the presentations be clear of equipment and goods at the time of load-in. Each batten must be able to move freely from grid to stage, counterweighted, and have a 750 LB workload (340 kilos). Each batten must be straight (no bent pipes), level to the stage floor, and be accurately marked for Stage Center. The counterweight system must have 4,000 LBS (1814 kilos) of additional counter weight available. **Again, should no fly system exist, some means of hanging the show's soft goods, scenery and lighting equipment must be approved by the MGDC Production Stage Manager and provided by the Presenter. The installation of this hanging system must be completed prior to the start of the MGDC's load-in.**

## **G. SOFTGOODS**

MGDC requires the Presenter to provide the following soft goods:

- 5 sets of matching black FLAT legs measuring 25'high x 10'wide min. (7.6m x 3m)
- 5 matching black FLAT borders measuring 10'high x 50' wide min. (3m x 15.2m)
- 1 full stage black sharks-tooth scrim
- 1 full stage white cyclorama
- 1 full stage white seamless plastic
- 1 full stage black FLAT curtain
- Enough pipe to stretch all soft goods.

If the above soft goods cannot be provided, Presenter must notify the MGDC no less than two (2) months prior to the engagement to make necessary arrangements. The MGDC can rent these goods to the presenter with prior notification (three months is requested).

The MGDC travels with the following soft goods:

- 1 full stage Rosenthal Blue scrim
- 1 full stage black sharks-tooth scrim

## **H. EXCLUSIVE USE**

Facilities provided for MGDC use must be secure and kept for exclusive use of the MGDC during engagement including set up time(s), rehearsal(s) and performance(s). Presenter agrees facilities must be clear of extraneous equipment, staffed appropriately, in good order at time of load-in and maintained in good order throughout the engagement. Also, presenter agrees that an agent/officer of the presenter will be physically present (or immediately reachable by telephone) during the entire period of the engagement.

## **I. WARDROBE**

MGDC requires a fully secured room centrally located to the dressing rooms, with adequate power for 2 steamers, irons, sewing machine, space heaters, etc... Wardrobe room will be supplied with:

- At least 1 steam iron
- 1 ironing board
- 2 steamers
- 4 sturdy rolling wardrobe racks – each at least 4’ in length (1.3m).

## **Laundry**

Presenter agrees to provide convenient facilities and personnel to launder MGDC costumes as needed. If a washer and dryer are not available in the wardrobe room, transportation, personnel and expenses will be provided to and from the laundry facility by the presenter

## **Quick Change Booths**

A quick-change booth at least 4’x 6’ (1.2m x 1.8m) is required for dancers to change in private in the SL and SR wing space. The quick-change booth must have a full-length mirror, small table, chair, clip light and a rod for hanging costumes.

## **Dressing Rooms**

MGDC requires dressing room accommodations for 24 women and 12 men. Each dressing room must provide:

- 3’ of counter space per performer (1 meter)
- 1 chair per performer
- lighted makeup mirrors for each performer
- costume racks
- excellent lighting
- adequate power for multiple hair dryers, curlers, heaters, etc...
- heating/cooling according to item “C” above
- immediate access to restrooms with hot/cold running water and showers
- a monitor/paging system

## **J. LOADING AREA**

The loading area must be cleared of all vehicles, snow, ice and any other obstructions prior to MGDC’s arrival. Presenter will supply any special means needed to efficiently move road boxes and equipment into the theater. MGDC does not travel with a ramp.

## **K. PARKING**

If the MGDC truck (48’ trailer and cab) cannot be left in the loading dock during the engagement a parking area will be required for the truck that is close to theatre and easily accessible throughout MGDC engagement. In addition, MGDC may need a minimum of three (3) parking spaces for MGDC vehicles. Parking spaces provided must be convenient to the Theatre, safe and secure, available for entire engagement and without cost to MGDC.

**L. PRODUCTION OFFICE**

A SPACE WILL BE PROVIDED TO SERVE AS A PRODUCTION OFFICE. This space will have one (1) telephone available for credit card calls and one (1) line available for facsimile/data communications. The production office will be furnished with a 6' table (1.8m) and 3 folding chairs.

**M. GREEN ROOM**

MGDC will need use of a green room space located centrally to the backstage area and dressing rooms. It must be large enough to accommodate catering for the company and be furnished with two 6' tables (1.8m) and 15 folding chairs.

## **PERSONEL & SCHEDULING**

### **A. LOAD-IN, SET-UP, PERFORMANCE AND LOAD-OUT**

The theater and stage must be made available to the MGDC prior to the first performance for the purpose of unloading and setting up technical equipment; hanging scenery; hanging, circuiting, and focusing lighting; inspecting sets and costumes; and rehearsing. Typically, twelve (12) hours of work are required on the day prior to the first performance. In addition, eight (8) hours of technical work, including a technical rehearsal, are required for each different program. This technical work usually takes place on the day of the performance prior to the start of the performance. The performance usually requires less than four (4) hours of work and the load-out usually requires four (4) hours of work. In outdoor venues, two nights before the first performance are required for technical work: the first night is required to focus the lighting; the second night is used for a technical rehearsal.

### **B. TECHNICAL CREW**

The Presenter agrees to provide and pay for competent and experienced stage labor and wardrobe personnel. Crew may not change during a load-in call, load-out call, or note/work call. Crew members for all performances and rehearsals must be the same throughout the full engagement. This is not a “yellow card” engagement, but IATSE members are favored. The following technical personnel are required for the entire engagement:

#### **LOAD-IN/LOAD-OUT CREW:**

4 Electricians  
1 Sound Technician  
6 Carpenters (includes 1 fly man)  
4 Property Handlers  
2 Wardrobe Personnel  
4 Truck Loaders

#### **RUNNING CREW:**

3 Electricians (Board op/ 2 stage elects)  
1 Sound Technician  
5 Carpenters (includes 1 fly man)  
2 Property Handlers  
2 Wardrobe Personnel

These personnel requirements are subject to change due to local work rules, the condition of the venue and MGDC repertory and must be confirmed by the MGDC Production Stage Manager.

## **LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. LIGHTING**

The MGDC does not carry any lighting equipment. Presenter agrees to pre-hang MGDC light plot prior to MGDC load-in. Pre-hang will include hanging and/or installing all lighting equipment, cabling, patching and verifying that all equipment is in good working order. **Inventory of theater's lighting equipment and the theater's technical specifications must be received, by the MGDC Production Stage Manager, within 120 days of anticipated performance.**

### **B. LIGHT PLOT**

MGDC will provide light plot to presenter in advance of engagement. The light plot is standard and can normally be adapted to fit the circumstances of each theater. Light plot will take into account but not necessarily be limited by equipment inventory.

- a . Plot has as many as 7 over stage electrics (this includes "Cyc Pipe")
- b . Plot FOH positions consist of 1 Box Boom House Right and Left holding up to 6 instruments and using 2 circuits and Balcony Rail or Higher position consisting of up to 21 units and 15 circuits.
- c . Plot also has as many as 4 booms stage right and stage left
- d . Plot uses as many as 205 focusing units over stage and in booms. Plot also includes 6 Par 64 500w 4 color strip lights to be used as Back Light, Cyc Top in 3 colors and Cyc Bottom in 3 colors.
- e . There will be at least 240 dimmers @ 1.2 KW. Ganging of instruments may be done to accommodate each theaters circumstance.
- f . If the Venue's Lighting Director deems the presenters available equipment to be inadequate then the Presenter must rent the required equipment specified by the Center's Lighting Director.

### **C. COMPUTER LIGHTING BOARD**

Presenter agrees to provide and pay for a computer memory lighting board and a trained and skilled operator for that lighting board. The ETC Obsession is preferred but any of the following ETC lighting boards will accept the Company's lighting cue computer disks:

Expression Series      Express Series

### **D. STAGE LADDER or ELECTRIC LIFT**

It is mandatory that there be a ladder on stage when the MGDC's Production Crew arrives. The ladder must be 30 feet (9.2m) high in order to reach all stage lights so the lights may be gelled and focused.

## **AUDIO REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. SOUND SYSTEM**

The Presenter is expected to provide an adequate sound system. **Inventory of theater's sound equipment and the theater's technical specifications must be received, by the MGDC Production Stage Manager, within 120 days of anticipated performance. To ensure proper audio presentation, the MGDC's Sound Engineer, along with the necessary operating equipment, must be situated in the audience area for all activities, including performances. Any windows or obstructions between the house mix position and the performing area must be removed, so that an open air space may exist between the mix position and the performing area. There must be a clear and unobstructed view from the house mix position at all times. Under no circumstances is a closed or restricted booth, or a position located on the performing area acceptable.**

a . The sound system supplied should be of sufficient size and power to fill the auditorium or audience area with clarity and without overload. The system should be capable of reproducing symphonic music at an audible level to the outermost seats without distortion or noise.

b . MIXING CONSOLE: The MGDC does not carry a mixing console; therefore, a mixing console with a minimum of six (6) working balanced inputs (line and microphone levels) must be available. Each channel must have sweep-able equalization and a fold back or auxiliary send that can be assigned to send signal to a stage area monitor system. Soundcraft 800B, Yamaha PM1800, or Crest Century GT are all acceptable models.

c . AMPLIFIERS AND SPEAKERS: The audience system should be a full-range, three-way (minimum) loudspeaker system capable of producing 100 decibel Sound Pressure Level (SPL) at the outermost point of the audience area with a dynamic range of 20 HZ to 20,000 HZ. The stage area monitor speaker system should consist of a minimum of four (4) two-way (minimum) speaker cabinets with a dedicated amplifier system capable of producing 100 decibels SPL over the entire stage area with a dynamic range of 20 HZ to 20,000 HZ. The size and placement of the speaker cabinets must be appropriate for use by a dance company.

d . EQUALIZATION: A minimum of two (2) outboard one-third (1/3) octave graphic equalizers should be located at the house mixer position within easy reach of the console. An equalizer is to be patched directly between the mixer and each individual house system. A separate equalizer is to be patched between the house mixer and the stage area monitor system. IRP, ASHLY, UREI, or KLARK-TEKNIK are all acceptable models. Bass and treble controls on the mixer are not sufficient equalization for the system.

e . LIVE ORCHESTRA: Please see Appendix A at the end of this tech rider for further information on the use of a live orchestra.

### **B. HEADSET COMMUNICATION & PAGING SYSTEM**

The MGDC requires an eight (8) station Clear Com headset communication system. The house headset system should be free of all noise or hum and set prior to MGDC's arrival. In addition, the MGDC requires announcement and program capabilities from the MGDC's Stage Manager location to all dressing room areas.



### **C. MICROPHONES**

The MGDC requires a microphone in the center of the audience area for rehearsals and a microphone backstage for possible use in performances.

## **SCENERY, PROPS & COSTUMES**

### **A. SCENERY, PROPERTIES AND COSTUMES**

The MGDC carries all the scenery, properties and costumes necessary for proper presentation of the ballets.

### **B. PIANO**

When the MGDC performs Maple Leaf Rag **without an orchestra**, the theater must provide a grand piano. The piano must have an ebony satin finish. Additionally, an artist's bench (seat) must be provided. The piano must be in excellent condition and must be tuned before each performance and dress rehearsal of Maple Leaf Rag. The piano is amplified through the auditorium sound system and in the stage monitor speakers by placing one or more microphones under the lid of the piano. The piano is placed on the stage during the intermission prior to the performance of Maple Leaf Rag; the piano is also placed on the stage for rehearsals of the ballet. There must be sufficient storage for piano in the backstage area. Once the piano is placed in position on the stage, it is not moved until the ballet is completed. The MGDC provides its own pianist.

**OTHERS**

**A. PERISHABLES**

Presenter will provide a supply of 5 Lbs (2.3 kilos) of ice per rehearsal/ performance in the green room or other common backstage area. The ice will be in an easily accessible cooler for the performers in case of injuries.

**B. WATER AND TISSUES**

Presenter will provide up to 4 gallons (15.2 liters) of non-chilled water in non-glass containers and an appropriate supply of disposable cups per performance/rehearsal.

**C. HOSPITALITY**

The Presenter will provide beverages for MGDC members, which may include fruit juices, spring water, hot water for coffee, tea, and hot chocolate as well as disposable cups, for the entire length of the engagement, class to end of the performance. Bottled water should be available in the dressing rooms and backstage on both stage right and left during performance. Also appreciated would be snacks such as a large fruit tray (grapes, bananas, apples, oranges, etc...), raw vegetables, sandwiches and cheese and crackers.

**D. TRANSLATORS**

Two translators are required, one for artistic and one for production. Translator for production staff should be versed in technical theatre.

**E. INCLEMENT WEATHER AT OUTDOOR PERFORMANCES**

If the MGDC decides that inclement weather such as rain, sleet, hail, snow, electrical storm, high winds, or temperature below 68° (Fahrenheit) or 20° (Celsius) threatens the safety of the MGDC, then the MGDC may cancel the performance(s) and shall be under no obligation to reschedule the performance(s) or to compensate the Presenter for its services and expenses incurred in connection with such performance(s). It shall be the obligation of the Presenter, however, to compensate the Center and MGDC in full.

THANK YOU.

Agreed,

BY \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
John P. Kivlen, General Manager  
Martha Graham Dance Company

BY \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Local Theater/Production Manager)

## APPENDIX – A

### MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

#### Live Music Information, 2004-2005

##### Introduction

All of the ballets in the MGDC's current repertoire may be performed with live music, greatly enhancing the impact of the performances. MGDC Music Director Aaron Sherber will conduct all musical rehearsals and performances.

##### General requirements

With a minimum ensemble size of 17 musicians, the following ballets can be performed: *Appalachian Spring*, *Dark Meadow*, *Deep Song*, *Diversion of Angels*, *El Penitente*, *Errand Into the Maze*, *Frontier*, *Heretic*, *Lamentation*, *Maple Leaf Rag*, *Night Journey*, *Satyric Festival Song*.

With a minimum ensemble size of 25 musicians, the following additional ballets can be performed: *Embattled Garden*, *Phaedra*.

*Sketches from Chronicle* requires a minimum ensemble size of 29 musicians.

For specific instrumentation requirements, please see following page.

##### Rehearsal requirements

Each program of 1\_ to 2 hours in length will require one or two orchestra rehearsals of 3 hours each, depending on the complexity of the program. Each program will also require a dress rehearsal equal to twice the length of the program.

##### Additional costs

Presenter will bear all costs related to local contracting of the orchestra.

##### Specific instrumentation requirements

Dance	Instrumentation
Appalachian Spring	1101-0000, pno, strings*
Sketches from Chronicle	Spectre: 1(pic)121-1211, timp, perc, pno, hp, strings**  Steps in the Street: 1(afl)1(eh)2(asx:bcl)1-1211, timp, perc, pno, hp, strings**

	Prelude to Action: 1(pic)121-1211, timp, perc, pno, hp, strings**
Dark Meadow	1111-0000, strings (min 1.1.1.1.0)
Deep Song	solo piano
Diversion of Angels	1111-1000, pno, strings*
El Penitente	1(pic)111-0000, tenor drum, pno, vln, vc
Embattled Garden	1(pic)1(eh)11-1110, timp(perc), hp, strings**
Errand into the Maze	1(pic)111-1000, perc, pno, strings*
Frontier	1(pic)111-1100, snare drum, pno, vc
Heretic	solo piano
Lamentation	solo piano
Maple Leaf Rag	solo piano or 1(pic)011-1100, pno, perc, strings (1.1.1.1.1)
Night Journey	1111-1000, pno, strings*
Phaedra	1(pic)1(eh)11-1110, hp, timp, perc, strings**
Satyric Festival Song	solo flute or 3 flutes

\* minimum string count 2.2.2.2.1

\*\* minimum string count 5.4.3.2.1

All pieces with minimum string counts benefit from an expanded string section where possible. *Appalachian Spring* was written specifically for a string section of 2.2.2.2.1, but a larger section can be used where available.

Thank you.

Agreed,

BY \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

John P. Kivlen, General Manager  
Martha Graham Dance Company  
Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance, Inc.

BY \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Local Theater/Production Manager)