



**MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY**  
***THE EVE PROJECT***  
**SPRING 2020 NEW YORK SEASON**  
**AT NEW YORK CITY CENTER, APRIL 22–26, 2020**

**Featuring Martha Graham Classics, World Premiere by Andrea Miller, and  
Works by Pam Tanowitz, and Maxine Doyle & Bobbi Jene Smith**

New York, NY, January 23, 2020 – The world-renowned **Martha Graham Dance Company** presents the second season of ***The EVE Project***—a program celebrating female empowerment and the centennial of the 19th Amendment this year. The New York City Center season features acclaimed classics from Graham’s repertory alongside works by some of today’s top choreographers, including a world premiere by **Andrea Miller** and recent commissions from **Pam Tanowitz** and **Maxine Doyle** and **Bobbi Jene Smith**. Prima ballerina **Diana Vishneva** will be a guest star at the gala evening dancing Graham’s *Deep Song*. Music for all of the Graham classics will be played live by **The Mannes Orchestra**. Performances are Wednesday, April 22 at 7pm (Opening Night Gala), Thursday–Friday, April 23–24 at 8pm, Saturday, April 25 at 2pm and 8pm, and Sunday, April 26 at 2pm.

“We created *The EVE Project* to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of women’s right to vote,” said Artistic Director Janet Eilber. “We wanted to highlight the radical female characters Martha Graham created for the stage and put them in conversation with new works by some of today’s top choreographers—who happen to be women. The combination is a multifaceted, multigenerational conversation that evokes and celebrates the complexity of female power.”

The Company’s Opening Night Gala benefit performance at New York City Center and party at The Metropolitan Club, hosted by esteemed journalist **Alina Cho**, honors five fearless women for their dedication and leadership around women’s issues and beyond. Honorees include **Letty Cottin Pogrebin** (author and activist, and founding editor of *Ms. Magazine*), **Jane Edison Stevenson** (Vice Chair, Korn Ferry), **Jackie Michele-Martinez** (activist and member of the FDNY), **Tracy Richelle High** (Partner, S&C Litigation Group), and **Laurie Mahon** (Vice Chair, CBC Investment Banking).

The special gala program will feature a world premiere for eight dancers by in-demand choreographer **Andrea Miller**, known for her boldly inventive and visceral work. *Martha’s Women*, a montage of signature Graham solos, will be performed by the women in the company with special appearances by **PeiJu Chien-Pott** as Medea and international ballet star **Diana Vishneva** in *Deep Song*. An excerpt from choreographer **Troy Schumacher** and composer **Augusta Read Thomas’s** *The Auditions*, which premiered at PEAK Performances this past fall, rounds out the program.

The multi-program season features a revival of **Martha Graham's** 1963 work *Circe*, a bewitching riff on the Odysseus myth set to music by Alan Hovhaness that has not been seen in more than 15 years. The season also includes Graham's wry *Every Soul Is a Circus* (1939), with music by Paul Nordoff, and her stark anti-war masterwork *Chronicle* from 1936, set to music by Wallingford Riegger. Graham's celebrated masterpiece *Appalachian Spring* (1944), with a score by Aaron Copland and a spare set by Isamu Noguchi, will be presented along with her stirring *Night Journey* (1947), a retelling of the Oedipus myth from his mother Jocasta's point of view, featuring music by William Schuman and Noguchi's iconic glyph-like set pieces.

Last season's critically acclaimed premieres: *Untitled (Souvenir)* by **Pam Tanowitz** and *Deo* by **Maxine Doyle** and **Bobbi Jene Smith** will also be presented. Set to two string quartets by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Caroline Shaw, *Untitled (Souvenir)* merges Tanowitz's inventive movement with steps and phases from Graham's *Dark Meadow* and *The Legend of Judith*, transforming the iconic material into something new. *Deo*, inspired by the myth of Demeter and Persephone, explores the natural human preoccupation with death and the underworld and the role that women play in our understanding of mortality. It features an original score by experimental electronic musician Lesley Flanigan.

Graham's 1935 work *Panorama*, created as a rallying cry for social activism, will be performed by teens from across the New York metropolitan area as part of the Company's annual University Partners Showcase.

The dancers of the Martha Graham Dance Company are **So Young An, Alyssa Cebulski, Alessio Crognale, Laurel Dalley Smith, Natasha M. Diamond-Walker, Lloyd Knight, Charlotte Landreau, Jacob Larsen, Lloyd Mayor, Marzia Memoli, Anne O'Donnell, Lorenzo Pagano, Aoi Sato, Ben Schultz, Anne Souder, Androniki Vasili, Leslie Andrea Williams, and Xin Ying.**

### New York City Center Programs

#### Wednesday, April 22 at 7pm (Gala Program)

**World Premiere by Andrea Miller**

***Deep Song* featuring Diana Vishneva** (music: Henry Cowell)

***Secular Games, Men's Section* by Martha Graham** (music by Robert Starer, costumes: Martha Graham)

***Theme and Variations* from *Appalachian Spring* by Martha Graham**

**Martha's Women: signature Graham solos from *Appalachian Spring*, *Night Journey*, and *Cave of the Heart***

**Duet from *The Auditions* by Troy Schumacher** (music: Augusta Read Thomas, costumes: Karen Young)

#### Thursday, April 23 and Saturday, April 25 at 8pm (Program A)

**World Premiere by Andrea Miller**

***Circe* by Martha Graham** (music: Alan Hovhaness, set: Isamu Noguchi, costumes: Martha Graham)

***Deo* by Maxine Doyle and Bobbi Jene Smith** (music: Lesley Flanigan, costumes: Karen Young)

***Night Journey* by Martha Graham** (music: William Schuman, set: Isamu Noguchi, costumes: Martha Graham)

#### Friday, April 24 at 8pm (Program B)

**World Premiere by Andrea Miller**

***Every Soul Is a Circus* by Martha Graham** (music: Paul Nordoff, set: Philip Stapp, costumes: Edythe Gilfond)

**Untitled (Souvenir) by Pam Tanowitz** (music: Caroline Shaw, costumes: Ryan Lobo and Ramon Martin of TOME)

**Chronicle by Martha Graham** (music: Wallingford Riegger, set: Isamu Noguchi, costumes: Martha Graham)

**Saturday, April 25 at 2pm**

**University Partners Showcase**

An afternoon of classic modern dance by Martha Graham and other choreographers, performed by students from the Company's educational partners.

**Sunday, April 26 at 2pm (Program C)**

**Every Soul Is a Circus by Martha Graham** (music: Paul Nordoff, set: Philip Stapp, costumes: Edythe Gilfond)

**Deo by Maxine Doyle and Bobbi Jene Smith** (music: Lesley Flanigan, costumes: Karen Young)

**Appalachian Spring by Martha Graham** (music: Aaron Copland, set: Isamu Noguchi, costumes: Martha Graham)

**Panorama by Martha Graham** (music: Norman Lloyd, costumes: Martha Graham)

Tickets start at \$35 and are available at CityTix: 212-581-1212 / nycitycenter.org. New York City Center is located at 131 West 55th Street (between 6th and 7th Avenues), in Manhattan.

For information about the Company's Opening Night Gala, please contact Fran Kirmser at 212-229-9200 x25 or [fkirmser@marthagraham.org](mailto:fkirmser@marthagraham.org).

**Guest Choreographer Biographies**

**Maxine Doyle** is an independent choreographer and director. Since 2002 she has been associate director and choreographer for Punchdrunk, for which she has codirected many works including the multi-award-winning *Sleep No More* (London, Boston, New York, Shanghai) and *The Drowned Man*. Her work for theater and opera includes *Evening at the Talk House* (National Theatre) and *The Cunning Little Vixen* (Glyndebourne). Dance-theater works include *After Lethe* for Staatstheater Kassel, *4:18* for Verve Dance Company (UK), and a large-scale site-specific work, *Sunset*, for Strut Dance and the Perth Festival 2019. Doyle's first feature film collaboration, *Mari*, premiered at the London Film Festival in 2018. Doyle is also a regular principal choreographer for Springboard Dance (Montreal) and B12 Festival Berlin. 2020 will bring further collaborations with Punchdrunk, Australian Dance Collective, the Brisbane Festival, and a new work for the UK-based company BalletBoyz.

**Andrea Miller** is the founder, artistic director, and choreographer of Brooklyn-based company GALLIM. She has been recognized with fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, Sadler's Wells, New York City Center, and the Princess Grace Foundation. Named the 2017–2018 Artist-in-Residence at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, Miller became the first choreographer to hold that distinction. In October 2018 she was featured in *Forbes* as a female entrepreneur and leader in the dance world. Miller creates movement-based works for dance, theater, museums, gallery spaces, film, fashion, and brands. Her highly acclaimed works and commissions are performed by GALLIM as well as other leading dance companies around the world. Recent commissions include *Abraham.in.Motion*, *Ailey II*, *Rambert 2*, *Netherlands Dance Theater 2*, *Bern Ballet*, *Atlanta Ballet*, the *Juilliard School*, *Pennsylvania Ballet*, and *Noord Nederlands Dans*. Her work in fashion includes *Hermès*, *Vogue*, *Lacoste*, and *Calvin Klein*. Film credits include *The Death and Life of John F. Donovan* (2018), directed by Xavier Dolan, and *In This Life* (2018) starring Robbie Fairchild. Miller has served as an adjunct professor at Barnard College and has been invited to teach across the US, recently at Harvard University, the Juilliard School, New York University, Marymount College, Wesleyan University, and the University of California, Santa Barbara among others.

**Troy Schumacher** is an American choreographer, dancer, and director living in New York City. His aesthetic draws upon the artists he collaborates with to produce fresh, unexpected results. He is a soloist with New York City Ballet and the founder and artistic director of BalletCollective, an arts collective driven toward creating new ballet-based works that has been moving ballet forward since its inception in 2010. His work has been presented by New York City Ballet, Performa, Danspace Project, Guggenheim Works & Process, Guggenheim Bilbao, and the Joyce Theater. He has collaborated with many artists including Jeff Koons, Thom Browne, Karen Russell, Ken Liu, Ellis Ludwig-Leone, Maddie Ziegler, and David Salle. In addition to live performances, Schumacher has choreographed numerous art, fashion, and commercial shoots, including works for Google, Sony PlayStation, Capezio, HP, Aritzia, *CR Fashion Book*, Tom Ford, and *The New York Times*.

**Bobbi Jene Smith** was born in Centerville, Iowa. From 2005 to 2014 she was a member of the Batsheva Dance Company under the artistic direction of Ohad Naharin. She is an alumna of the Juilliard School, North Carolina School of the Arts, and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School. Her choreography has been presented by the Batsheva Dance Company, PS122 Coil Festival, La MaMa Moves Festival, A.R.T., the Israel Museum, Luminato Festival, Sacramento Ballet, ODC, and the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance. She has performed in Punchdrunk's production of *Sleep No More* as well as in Zack Winokur's *Dido and Aeneas* and *Orphic Moment*. Smith's film and video work includes *Annihilation*, directed by Alex Garland, *MA*, directed by Celia Rowson-Hall, and *Aviva*, by Boaz Yakin. The documentary *Bobbi Jene*, which follows Smith's trajectory of leaving a dance company to create her own work, swept the Tribeca Film Festival, winning best documentary, best cinematography, and best editing in 2017. Smith has been a certified Gaga teacher for the past 13 years and has taught Naharin's repertory in schools and universities around the world. She is part-time faculty at the Juilliard School, and a guest teacher at New York University and the University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

**Pam Tanowitz** is a New York-based choreographer and founder of Pam Tanowitz Dance. Her 2017 dance "*New Work for Goldberg Variations*", created for her company in collaboration with pianist Simone Dinnerstein, was called a "rare achievement" (*The New York Times*). Her 2018 creation *Four Quartets*, inspired by T.S. Eliot's literary masterpiece, was called "the greatest creation of dance theater so far this century" (*The New York Times*). In January 2019, Tanowitz was named the first-ever choreographer in residence at the Fisher Center at Bard in Annandale-on-Hudson, NY. Other honors include a 2019 Herb Alpert Award, 2017 BAC Cage Cunningham Fellowship, 2016 and 2009 Bessie Awards, 2010 Foundation for Contemporary Arts award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, Hodder Fellowship, CBA Fellowship at NYU, and a NY City Center Choreography Fellowship. She has created or set work for New York City Ballet, Martha Graham Dance Company, Paul Taylor American Modern Dance, The Royal Ballet, The Kennedy Center's Ballet Across America, Juilliard Dance, Ballet Austin, and New York Theatre Ballet. Other commissions include The Barbican Centre, the Joyce Theater, Bard Summerscape, Vail International Dance Festival, New York Live Arts, Guggenheim Works & Process, PEAK Performances, and the ICA/Boston. Originally from New Rochelle, NY, Tanowitz holds degrees from Ohio State University and Sarah Lawrence College, and is currently a visiting guest artist at Rutgers University.

### **About The Mannes Orchestra**

Led by maestro David Hayes, Artistic Director, The Mannes Orchestra is the premiere large ensemble at The New School's Mannes School of Music. The orchestra strives to foster the highest level of music-making by engaging with a wide range of repertoire in a focused, dynamic, and supportive environment that mirrors the culture and practices of professional orchestras. The Mannes Orchestra performs a multitude of concerts each season in venues including Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, City Center, and the Tishman Auditorium at The New School.

Now in its second century as a dynamic musical center, the Mannes School of Music is a standard bearer for innovative artistry, dedicated to developing citizen artists who engage their communities and the world through music. Through its undergraduate, graduate, professional studies, and preparatory programs, Mannes offers a curriculum as imaginative as it is rigorous, taught by world-class faculty and visiting artists. As part of The New School's College of Performing Arts, together with the School of Jazz and Contemporary Music and the School of Drama, Mannes makes its home on The New School's Greenwich Village campus in a state-of-the-art facility at the newly renovated Arnhold Hall.

### **About Martha Graham Dance Company**

The Martha Graham Dance Company has been a world leader in the evolving art form of modern dance since its founding in 1926. Today, the Company is embracing a new programming vision that showcases masterpieces by Graham alongside newly commissioned works by contemporary artists. With programs that offer a rich thematic narrative, the Company creates new platforms for contemporary dance and multiple points of access for audiences.

Since its inception, the Martha Graham Dance Company has received international acclaim from audiences in more than 50 countries throughout North and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. The Company has performed at the Metropolitan Opera House, Carnegie Hall, the Paris Opera House, Covent Garden, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, as well as at the base of the Great Pyramids in Egypt and in the ancient Odeon of Herodes Atticus theater on the Acropolis in Athens. In addition, the Company has also produced several award-winning films broadcast on PBS and around the world. For more information about the Company, visit [www.marthagraham.org](http://www.marthagraham.org).

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Digital photos are available on request.