

# MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

PRESENTS



## University Partners Showcase

APRIL 22, 2023 / THE JOYCE THEATER, NYC

WITH

Valencia College

Slippery Rock University

University of the Arts

The Conservatory of Dance at Purchase College, SUNY

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Graham 2

University of Hartford – The Hartt School

Major support for the Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance, Inc. is provided by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Howard Gilman Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York City Council, New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.

Kennedy Davidson (center), Anissa Sroka, Michelle Di Muccio, Jadelyn Cappela, and Grace Smith in Martha Graham's *Diversion of Angels*; photo by John Long.

# PROGRAM

*Valencia College*

## **POND (1982)**

Choreography, Costume Design, Lighting Design, and Sound Score by Alwin Nikolais  
Staged by Alberto del Saz, assisted by Lesley Brasseur

Premiere: March 18, 1982, Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal

Tiara Cappello, Fayth Carter, Sara Maldonado Castillo, Tatyana Cavazos,  
Ivanna Jimenez, Natalie Naranjo, Kennedy Onley, Willow Palmer,  
Jessica Rodriguez and Izabella Valdez

Commissioned by the National Endowment for the Arts. The licensing and performance of this work has been possible through the exclusive rights of The Nikolais/Louis Foundation for Dance, Inc. Additional funding for this production is provided by Valencia College Student Development.

*Slippery Rock University*

## **STEPS IN THE STREET** from *Chronicle*

### **Devastation-Homelessness-Exile**

Choreography and Costumes by Martha Graham

Music by Wallingford Riegger†

Restaged by Elizabeth Auclair, assisted by Jesse Factor

Rehearsal Director: Erika Morton

Premiere: December 20, 1936, Guild Theater, New York City

Olivia Blankenship, Jaidin Broody-Walega, Autumn B-C, Kathryn Eberhart, Olivia Farmerie,  
Kailey Fraer, Sarah Leslie, Ericka Morton, Gabrielle Pfeifer, Zsuzsanna Smith, Tori Steel,  
Grace Venatta. Understudy: Skylar Ankrom

†Finale from New Dance, Opus 18b, orchestrated by Justin Dello Joio. Additional orchestrations by Stanley Sussman.

**CHRONICLE** does not attempt to show the actualities of war; rather by evoking war's images, it sets forth the fateful prelude to war, portrays the devastation of spirit which it leaves in its wake, and suggests and answer.

*University of the Arts*

## **DARK MEADOW SUITE (1946)**

Choreography by Martha Graham

Music by Carlos Chávez†

Re-staged by Blakeley White-McGuire

with assistance from Associate Professor Kim Bears-Bailey

Premiere: April 1, 2016, Library of Congress, Washington, DC

# PROGRAM

*Through the act of dancing forgotten memories emerge. We sense that we have been all things.  
"I have been ere now a boy and a girl, a brush, a bird, and a dumb fish in the sea."  
- Empedocles*

Amanda Boyer, Kolin Everette, Aaron Michael Foreman, Imani Jenkins, Alessandra Martinez,  
Kahly McCurdy, Janiya Pearson, Donyae Reaves, Dae Shivers, José Torres, Harlie Yahn

Commissioned by the Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation in the Library of Congress, Washington, DC.

†La Hija de Colquide used by arrangement with G. Schirmer, Inc., agent for Carlanita Music Company, publisher and copyright owner. Adapted and conducted by Aaron Sherber.

The **DARK MEADOW SUITE** is made up of highlights from a much longer work by Martha Graham, *Dark Meadow*, which premiered in 1946 and is recognized as one of Graham's most architectural, ritualistic and profound creations. In her original program note, Graham wrote, "*Dark Meadow* is a re-enactment of the mysteries which attend the eternal adventure of seeking." It is an abstract work about life's journey and the search for connection with one's self and one's community. *Dark Meadow* is a prime example of Martha Graham as a leader in mid-20th Century modernism.

*The Conservatory of Dance at Purchase College, SUNY*

## DIVERSION OF ANGELS

Choreography and Costume Design by Martha Graham

Music by Norman Dello Joio†

Restaged by Martin Løfsnes

Assistant Stage Manager: Georgia Henderson

Premiere: August 13, 1948, Palmer Auditorium, New London, CT

"It is the place of the Rock and the Ladder, the raven, the blessing, the tempter, the rose. It is the wish of the single-hearted, the undivided: play after spirit's labor: games, flights, fancies, configurations of the lover's intention: the beloved Possibility, at once strenuous and tender: humors of innocence, garlands, evangels, Joy on the Wilderness Stair; diversion of angels."  
- Ben Belitt

The dance follows no story. Its action takes place in the imaginary garden love creates for itself. The ballet was originally called Wilderness Stair. Martha Graham once described *Diversion of Angels* as three aspects of love: the white couple represents mature love in perfect balance; red, erotic love; and yellow, adolescent love.

The Couple in White: Jordann Stoute, Jai Perez

The Couple in Red: Olivia Wang, Babou Sanneh

The Couple in Yellow: Kanon Sugino, Micah Sell

Chorus:

Charrie Burke, Victoria Chassé Dominguez, Anéva Dubeaux, Codelia King

Understudies: Libiya Gray, Maya Podejma, Dahir Hausif

†Used by arrangement with Carl Fischer, Inc., publisher and copyright owner.

# PROGRAM

*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

## **CANTILEVER**

Choreography by Erick Hawkins

Music by Lucia Dlugoszewski

Reconstruction and Restaging by Katherine Duke and Louis Kavouras

Lighting by Michael Jarett

Assistant Stage Manager: Sam Ryan

Assistant Production Manager: Cassie Gilbert

Premiere: June 30, 1963, Theatre des Nations Festival, Paris, France

"Tightness is the opposite of sensuousness." - Erick Hawkins

"In the music for *Cantilever* each dance gesture creates a tiny length of time that becomes a separate little piece of music resting on a constant ground that unifies the work. At one point these little pieces take the form of isolated melodies, ending with only the thick radiant ground of solid sound." - Lucia Dlugoszewski

Keanni Certeza, Keely Drace, Emilee France, J. R. Gooseberry, Savanna Gregg, Jason Hortin, Lexee Howes, Niyah Pratt, Geri Wachtel

*University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

## **"ADORATIONS" REIMAGINED**

Choreography by Martha Graham, Reimagined by Kim Jones

Music by Albeniz (1860 - 1909), Cimarosa, Dowland, Fescobaldi,

loosely transcribed by Anthony Strilko

Costumes by Karen Young, supported by UNC Faculty Research Grant

Lighting by David Fillmore

Stage Manager: Taylor Eagle

Maria Borrowman, Brandy Brown, Aaryanna Henry, Neha Kissler, Amara Kranz, Anna Mayorga, Kari Sescourka, Taylor Wachowicz, Briahna Waters, Sarah Webb

This performance was made possible with permission by the Erick Hawkins Dance Foundation, Inc. Travel funding for the production is provided by the UNLV College of Fine Arts.

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# PROGRAM

## *Graham 2*

### **TEMPTATIONS OF THE MOON\*** *excerpt*

Choreography by Martha Graham

Staged by Virginie Mecene

Costumes by Halston

Music by Béla Bartók†

Premiere: New York City Center in May 27, 1986

Crescent Moon: Kathryn Taylor

Velvet Night: Antonio Leone

Ane Arrieta, Lorenzo Guerrini, Diego Gomez, Madeleine Lee, Amanda Moreia,  
Maxell O'Connell, Natasha Schmid, Gion Treichler, Yuchin Tseng, Justin Valentine,  
Ghislaine ven den Heuvel

Commissioned by Eleanor Naylor Dana Charitable Trust

\*From Daniel J. Boorstin's *The Discoverers: A History of Man's Search to Know His World and Himself*

†Suite for Dance used by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

## *University of Hartford – The Hartt School*

### **PRIMITIVE MYSTERIES**

#### **III. Hosanna**

Choreography and Costume Design by Martha Graham

Reconstructed by Miki Orihara

Music by Louis Horst

Assistant to Miki Orihara: Grace Fields

Premiere: February 2, 1931, Craig Theater, New York City

*Primitive Mysteries* has its beginnings in the adoration of the Virgin as experienced in the Southwestern Spanish-American culture. *Hosanna*, the third and last section of the piece celebrates Mary's assumption into heaven and her triumph over death.

Kennedy Davidson

Caterina Baker, Jadelyn Cappella, Kaitlyn Combs, Shannon Courtney, Michelle DiMuccio,  
Mary Kate Flaherty, Tessa Flynn, Meghan Keller, Sabrina Kreiss, Ashton Rivera, Anissa Sroka  
Understudy: Caitlyn Richter, Isabella Silvercase, Grace Smith

*This performance of "Hosanna" is dedicated to the memory of our dear friend  
and fellow dancer, Susan Kikuchi.*

# CHOREOGRAPHER BIOGRAPHIES

**MARTHA GRAHAM** (1895 - 1991) is recognized as a primal artistic force of the 20th century, alongside Picasso, James Joyce, Stravinsky, and Frank Lloyd Wright.

*TIME* magazine named Martha Graham "Dancer of the Century," and *People* magazine named her among the female "Icons of the Century." As a choreographer, she was as prolific as she was complex. Graham created 181 ballets and a dance technique that has been compared to ballet in its scope and magnitude. Her approach to dance and theater revolutionized the art form and her innovative physical vocabulary has irrevocably influenced dance worldwide.

Martha Graham's extraordinary artistic legacy has often been compared to Stanislavsky's Art Theatre in Moscow and the Grand Kabuki Theatre of Japan, for its diversity and breadth. Her legacy is perpetuated in performance by the Martha Graham Dance Company and Graham 2, and by the students of the Martha Graham School.

**ERICK HAWKINS** was a leading American modern-dance choreographer and dancer. In 1937, he choreographed his first dance, *Showpiece*, which was performed by George Balanchine's Ballet *Caravan*. In 1939, Hawkins became the first man to dance with the Martha Graham Dance Company as Martha's dancing partner, collaborator, and the principal male lead in a number of her works. The two were married in 1948. He left her troupe in 1951 to found his own dance company, and they divorced in 1954. Not long afterwards, he met and began collaborating with the experimental composer Lucia Dlugoszewski. They remained together for the rest of his life.

After leaving the Graham Company, Hawkins moved towards an aesthetic vision detached from realistic psychology, plot, or agenda. In addition to Lucia Dlugoszewski, his collaborators include Virgil Thompson, Alan Hohvanness, Lou Harrison, Henry Cowell, Dorrance Stalvey, Toru Takemitsu, Isamu Noguchi, Ralph Dorazio, Ralph Lee, Louise Bourgeois, Helen Frankenthaler, and Robert Motherwell. On October 14, 1994, one month before he died, Hawkins was presented with the National Medal of Arts by President Bill Clinton.

**ALWIN NIKOLAIS** (1910 – 1993) was a choreographer, dancer, composer, musician, teacher and innovator. He composed the music for his choreographic works, and designed the sets, costumes and lighting for his performances. In 1987 he was awarded the United States National Medal of Arts. Alwin Nikolais gave the world a new vision of dance and was named the "father of multi-media theater."

Alwin Nikolais began his performing career as an organist accompanying silent films and received his early dance training at Bennington College in Vermont from the great figures of the modern dance world: Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey, Charles Weidman, and others.

Alwin Nikolais was the sole creator of each media source he used. His company performed for audiences in each of the 50 states and in over 20 countries. His career as a dancer, teacher and choreographer spanned over 50 years.

# THANK YOU

**Nelly van Bommel Zelniker**

*Director of Dance*  
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Purchase College, SUNY

**Louis A. Kavouras**

*Chairperson, Department of Dance*  
University of Nevada Las Vegas

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**Jennifer Keller**

*Chairperson, Department of Dance*  
Slippery Rock University

**Gretchen Alterowitz**

*Professor and Chair, Department of Dance*  
UNC Charlotte

**Alberto del Saz**

*Artistic Director*  
Nikolais/Louis Foundation

**...and to all the volunteers** from the Martha Graham Center and our participating schools.

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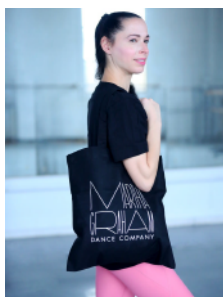
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