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# Martha Graham Dance Company Performs Graham Masterpieces and New Contemporary Works in Week 8 of the Festival

# Danza Orgánica, American College Dance Association, and Berkshire-Based Artists to appear on the Henry J. Leir Stage

July 19, 2023 (BECKET, Mass.)—In the eighth week of the 2023 Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, the world-renowned Martha Graham Dance Company will perform Graham's *Cave of the Heart* and *Errand Into the Maze*, and Hofesh Shechter's *CAVE*, in the Ted Shawn Theatre from Aug. 16-20. Alongside the Martha Graham Dance Company in Week 8 of the Festival are several one-night-only performances on the outdoor Henry J. Leir Stage, featuring Danza Orgánica on Aug. 16, the American College Dance Association on Aug. 17, and Artists of the Berkshires, including Sayer Mansfield, Ian Spencer Bell, Fiona Scruggs's Qualia Dance Collective, and 860 MVMNT AND STUDIO 860 on Aug. 18. Tickets for performances on the Henry J. Leir Stage are available on a Choose What You Pay model. Tickets for all performances are on sale now.

In addition to these onsite and online performances is Community Day on Friday, a family-friendly, all-ages afternoon of on-campus programming. On Saturday morning, there will be a Dance Education Laboratory (DEL) Workshop, where participants will explore the life and legacy of modern dance icon Martha Graham in an interactive movement workshop. Later that afternoon, Neil Baldwin, author of the biography *Martha Graham: When Dance Became Modern,* will participate in a free PillowTalk on the illustrious choreographer in Blake's Barn. On Saturday evening, Aug. 19, the School at Jacob's Pillow will present their Tap Program in a performance on the outdoor Leir Stage, led by Dormeshia, Michelle Dorrance, and Derick K. Grant. Tickets for the School presentation are available now on a Choose What You Pay model.

Following the August 19th, Saturday evening performance in the Ted Shawn Theatre, there is a Dance Party with Martha Graham artists. Tickets for this special themed, rave-like dance party are available now. Rounding out Week 8 of the Festival is a workshop on Sunday in Martha Graham's technique with Graham artist Denise Vale, open to intermediate/advanced dancers ages 16+. Also on Sunday is Lighting the Fire at the Eastern Woodlands Homesite, a free event where Nipmuc citizen Andre Strongbearheart Gaines Jr., a builder of the site alongside Nazario TallHairRedDeer Garate, will lead an interactive talk. All are welcome to witness the making of the fire, as well as play traditional hand games and eat traditional food. In the afternoon that day, another free PillowTalk honors Deborah Jowitt, author of *Errand Into the Maze: The Life and Works of Martha Graham,* in Blake's Barn.

"When I look at the array of programming for this week, it truly represents the breadth and depth of all that the Pillow offers," said Pamela Tatge, Executive and Artistic Director of Jacob's Pillow. "Martha

Graham was a student of our founder, Ted Shawn, and the Pillow has been an artistic home for the Graham company for decades. Audiences will have the chance to see two iconic Greek-themed works with sets by Noguchi alongside a thrilling showstopper by Hofesh Shechter. We are also welcoming everyone to celebrate Berkshire-based artists and celebrate Community Day with us with performances, workshops and family-friendly fun across the campus; it will be a joy-filled week here, for sure!"

The Martha Graham Dance Company is a world leader in the ever-evolving art form of modern dance. Today, under the direction of former principal dancer Janet Eilber, the company is embracing a fresh vision that showcases Graham masterworks alongside newly commissioned works by contemporary artists. At Jacob's Pillow, the company will perform *Cave of the Heart*, a one-act ballet choreographed by Martha Graham in 1946 to music by Samuel Barber, featuring sets by Isamu Noguchi. *Cave of the Heart* retells the ancient Greek myth of Medea, a woman consumed by love and jealousy, and has remained a central piece in the company's repertory. Additionally, the company will perform London-based choreographer Hofesh Shechter's *CAVE*, the hit of its 2022 New York season, inspired by communal nightlife dancing and the Rave scene. Rounding out the program is *Errand into the Maze*, a historic Graham masterpiece that was first performed at the Pillow in 1960.

Danza Orgánica is a Boston-based dance theater company whose work centers around equity, social justice, and decolonization. On the Leir Stage on Aug. 16, Danza Orgánica will perform Aŝ Nupumukomun (We Still Dance), a theatrical composition created in close collaboration between Danza Orgánica and members of the Aquinnah Wampanoag tribe. Adhering to Indigenous storytelling, dance, song, and installation, Aŝ Nupumukomun explores what it means to be native today by highlighting traditional and contemporary stories of the Aquinnah Wampanoag People. This collaboration, which started in Winter 2018, was made possible through a partnership between the Aquinnah Cultural Center, The Yard, and Danza Orgánica.

On Aug. 17, the outdoor Henry J. Leir Stage will host a range of college performance ensembles, as a part of the American College Dance Association (ACDA). The performance will include works choreographed by undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and guest artists, selected from a panel of expert adjudicators at ACDA regional conferences around the country. Ensembles included in this performance are from the University of New Mexico, University of South Florida, University of the Arts (Philadelphia), University of Oklahoma, and Modesto Junior College (California).

Community Day, on Aug. 18, will culminate with a performance by local artists on the Leir Stage, including Sayer Mansfield, a Berkshire native based in New York's Columbia County, 860 MVMNT AND STUDIO 860, from Hartford County, CT, and Ian Spencer Bell and Fiona Scruggs's Qualia Dance Collective, both based in the Berkshires. Before the performance, free movement classes and dance-themed childrens' activities and tours will be open to all, as well as an additional free performance featuring local dance groups on the Leir Stage at 3pm.

#### **ABOUT MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY**

Martha Graham (1894-1991) is recognized as one of the most influential artistic forces of the 20th century, who revolutionized dance and theater with her innovative physical vocabulary, diversity, and breath of complex storytelling. Named "Dancer of the Century" by *TIME* magazine and among the female "Icons of the Century" by *People* magazine, Martha Graham created 181 ballets with inspirations ranging from modern paintings, the American frontier, and female figures in history and

mythology. She is also credited with founding the oldest surviving dance company in American history: in 1926, Martha Graham created her dance company and school in New York City, irrevocably influencing the dance world and changing the trajectory of modern dance.

Graham's dancing and choreography "exposed the depths of human emotion" with her composition and unique technique, a movement vocabulary akin to ballet in its influence. Her uniquely American creative sensibility gained numerous honors and awards throughout her life. In 1976, Graham was awarded the United States' highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, by President Gerald R. Ford. She was given another Presidential honor by President Ronald Regan in 1985, when she was named among the first recipients of the United States National Medal of Arts.

The Martha Graham Company, a few years shy of its 100th birthday, cultivated some of the greatest minds of dance in the 20th and 21st centuries, such as Merce Cunningham, Anna Sokolow, and Paul Taylor. "A fertile ground for experimentation," Martha Graham Dance Company roots its works in contemporary social, political, psychological, and sexual contents, incorporating masterpieces by Graham alongside newly developed works by contemporary artists to deepen their impact and resonance.

#### **ABOUT DANZA ORGÁNICA**

Boston-based Danza Orgánica has focused on sharing untold stories since its inception in 2007, founded by Afrotaìno artist Mar Parrilla. With dancers who bring a multiplicity of experiences, hailing from Borikén (so-called Puerto Rico), Mexico, the Dominican Republic, and Spain, Danza Orgánica uses dance theater to communicate themes of migration, decolonization, and the embodiment of a liberated future. Leading a legacy of opening doors for others, creating spaces for artistic expression, and shedding light upon the human experience, Danza Orgánica centers the BIPOC experience to reimagine themselves as a joyfully liberated BIPOC community, building towards a world where all living beings are valued.

Danza Orgánica carries out this mission through the company's performance, education in their Dance for Social Justice™ program, and presenting BIPOC artists, primarily self-identifying women and gender-nonconforming, in their annual *We Create!* Festival. Danza Orgánica's work has earned them the Powering Cultural Futures Multi Year Partnership with the BARR Foundation in 2021, the Outstanding Community Arts Collaboration Award in Dance from Arts/Learning in 2019, and a creative residency as a Boston Schönberg Fellow at The Yard.

#### **ABOUT AMERICAN COLLEGE DANCE ASSOCIATION**

Celebrating its 50th anniversary (1973-2023), the American College Dance Association's (ACDA) primary focus is to support and promote excellence in performance choreography within higher education. Through their regional dance conferences, national festivals, and virtual programs, ACDA nurtures creative potential, advocates for dance education, and creates platforms that value diversity in dance, ultimately empowering dance students, faculty, and professionals.

With a network of approximately 350 national and international higher education institutions participating in regional conferences and the National College Dance Festival, ACDA has been the "primary venue" for college programs to showcase the artistry and training available at universities. At Jacob's Pillow, ACDA will present performances from the ensembles of University of New Mexico, University of South Florida, University of the Arts, University of Oklahoma, and Modesto Junior College.

#### **ABOUT SAYER MANSFIELD**

Sayer Mansfield is a movement artist, choreographer, teacher, and actor from the Berkshires. After spending the past decade touring with companies such as Compagnie Marie Chouinard and Pilobolus Dance Theater, Mansfield is committing to the exploration of independently creating work for stage and film. Mansfield co-produced and choreographed *Blue Hour* at The Foundry in West Stockbridge in August 2022, and was an artist in residence at ART CAKE, Brooklyn, NY, where she premiered a solo work *New Skin* in the fall of 2022. Alongside performance and choreography, Mansfield is a devoted teacher, and has been an adjunct faculty member and guest artist at Jacob's Pillow.

Joining Mansfield in her performance is Sydney McManus as both a collaborator and dancer. McManus is a freelance multidisciplinary artist based in Montreal, Quebec, involving dance, performance, and design in her practice. After spending five seasons with RUBBERBAND Contemporary Dance Company as a performer and educator, McManus now works as a freelance artist in both individual and collaborative projects.

#### **ABOUT IAN SPENCER BELL**

Ian Spencer Bell is a dancer, a choreographer, a poet, and a teacher. He has performed his solos at the 92nd Street Y, Boston Center for the Arts, Jacob's Pillow, Poetry Foundation, and Queens Museum, as well as solos by Merce Cunningham and Isadora Duncan. In the Berkshires, he has created site-specific works for Chesterwood and The Mount. His choreography has been praised by *The New York Times* as "not dance and not poetry but some third medium." In addition to teaching community ballet for the Pillow, he is a visiting artist at Bard College at Simon's Rock. Bell lives with his partner in Sandisfield, Massachusetts. For the 2023 Artists of the Berkshires program, Bell will dance *Rosing*, a poetry and dance work about living in Sheffield, Mass., with ex-husband, Pillow artist Ben Munisteri.

#### ABOUT QUALIA DANCE COLLECTIVE

Qualia Dance Collective explores the qualities of space, time, and energy as catalysts for movement and art, performing the choreography of Fiona Scruggs. Born in Tübingen, Germany, Scruggs, whose movement is grounded in principles of line and technical precision, explores creative narratives of visual art and invites audiences to envision new, surrealist worlds. Her work has been presented at the 5x5 Dance Festival, The Foundry, Berkshire Busk, and the Salzburg International Ballet Academy Gala in Austria. As an educator, Scruggs is a Teaching Artist Fellow through the Massachusetts Cultural Council Creative Youth Development program, an American Ballet Theatre Certified Teacher, a teaching artist at Berkshire Pulse, and the former School Programs Coordinator for Jacob's Pillow.

#### **ABOUT 860 MVMNT AND STUDIO 860**

Connecticut-based 860 MVMNT AND STUDIO 860 blazes a trail in the world of dance, captivating audiences with a genre-bending blend of hip hop, contemporary, jazz, and urban choreography. Led by Artistic Director Jolet Creary, the company pushes boundaries to explore new frontiers in movement. Devoted to the next generation of dancers and the community, 860 MVMNT AND STUDIO 860 offers mentorship and training programs led by industry professionals, as well as workshops and masterclasses that empower young talent, nurture growth, and create opportunities.

#### **Jacob's Pillow Connections**

Although Ted Shawn made many attempts to bring the Graham Company to the Pillow, the only formal appearance during his lifetime was a 1960 lecture-demonstration, including a performance of *Errand into the Maze*. The Company's official Pillow debut in 1984 was an emotional homecoming for Graham.

The company has made several return visits to the Pillow since Graham's death in 1991, and its most recent performance at the Pillow in 2019 featured *Lamentation Variations*, choreographed by School faculty and tap dancer Michelle Dorrance. This summer, the Company will be reprising two of the three works presented in its 1984 Pillow debut: *Errand into the Maze* and *Cave of the Heart*.

Danza Orgánica made its Pillow debut in 2017, as a part of the Inside/Out performance series on the Henry J. Leir Stage.

The American College Dance Association presented college and university ensembles on the Henry J. Leir Stage in Festivals 2016-2019, returning this year for the first time in four years.

Sayer Mansfield has been an adjunct faculty member and guest artist at Jacob's Pillow. Ian Spencer Bell has performed his own work at Jacob's Pillow, and is a current faculty member of the Pillow's morning class series. Fiona Scruggs, founder of Qualia Dance Collective, is the former School Programs Coordinator at The School at Jacob's Pillow.

Since 2010, Ian Spencer Bell has been teaching community ballet at the Pillow. In 2012, he was a Research Fellow. That same year with his group, he made his Pillow debut on the Inside/Out Stage. In 2013 during a Creative Development Residency, Bell created *Wallkill*, one of his first experiments with mixing his own poetry with dancing. In 2018 for Weekend Out, Bell performed in Sommers Studio *Marrow*, his solo about growing up queer in Virginia.

The artist faculty members of The School at Jacob's Pillow 2023 Tap Program include Dormeshia, Michelle Dorrance, and Derick K. Grant; all have long relationships with the Pillow. Dorrance Dance, led by Artistic Director Michelle Dorrance, made its Pillow debut in 2011. Since its debut, Dorrance Dance has performed at the Pillow many times, and Michelle Dorrance has curated performances, participated in PillowTalks with co-faculty member Dormeshia, and had Pillow Lab residencies. In 2013, Michelle Dorrance was the recipient of the Jacob's Pillow Dance Award.

Derick K. Grant and Dormeshia first came to the Pillow in 1993 as dancers with the Jazz Tap Ensemble. In the thirty years since, they have both performed and taught here multiple times as well as participated in numerous Pillow Talks. In 2021, Dormeshia was the recipient of the Jacob's Pillow Dance Award, and performed in the Gala.

#### Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive:

Martha Graham Dance Company in "Prelude to Action" from Chronicle, 2019:

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/martha-graham-dance-company/chronicle/

Martha Graham Dance Company in AXE, 2015:

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/martha-graham-dance-company/axe/

Martha Graham Dance Company in Rust, 2013:

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/martha-graham-dance-company/rust/

Dorrance Dance performing The Blues Project, 2015:

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/dorrance-dance/blues-project/

An essay on Michelle Dorrance, by Pillow Scholar Brian Seibert, published in 2017:

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/themes-essays/tap/michelle-dorrance/

Dormeshia, Jason Samuels Smith, and Derick K. Grant in And Still You Must Swing, 2016:

https://danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org/dormeshia-sumbry-edwards-jason-samuels-smith-derick-k-gr ant/still-must-swing/

#### **PERFORMANCE & TICKET DETAILS**

Martha Graham Dance Company Aug. 16-20, Wed., Thurs. and Sat. at 8 pm; Fri.-Sun. at 2 pm Ted Shawn Theatre Tickets from \$60

Tickets are on sale now; online at jacobspillow.org and via phone at 413.243.0745

Danza Orgánica Wed., Aug. 16, 6pm Henry J. Leir Stage Choose What You Pay

Tickets are on sale now; online at jacobspillow.org and via phone at 413.243.0745

American College Dance Association Thurs., Aug. 17, 6pm Henry J. Leir Stage Choose What You Pay

Tickets are on sale now; online at jacobspillow.org and via phone at 413.243.0745

Artists of the Berkshires Fri., Aug. 18, 6pm Henry J. Leir Stage Choose What You Pay

Tickets are on sale now; online at jacobspillow.org and via phone at 413.243.0745

#### **ALSO THIS WEEK**

Community Day Fri., Aug. 18, 3-6pm FREE

Everyone is invited to this kid-friendly, all-ages Friday afternoon, featuring movement classes as well as dance-themed children's activities and tours. At 3pm, there will be a performance on the Leir Stage, featuring Hatchery Dance Company, Studio 860, and Sarah Zehnder Dance. At 6pm, the outdoor Henry

J. Leir Stage will present Berkshire-region dance artists. Tickets are available now for this performance on a Choose What You Pay model.

**DELving Mini-Workshop: Martha Graham** 

Sat., Aug. 19, 10am-1pm.

Open to all levels

\$49

DELving Mini-Workshops focus on exploring a choreographer's voice through the Dance Education Laboratory (DEL) model. DEL Facilitators Ann Biddle (Director, DEL at Jacob's Pillow) and Felice Santorelli (DEL Facilitator) will guide participants through an exploration and investigation of a choreographer's work to design accessible lessons and activities for all dance learners. This interactive movement workshop explores the work and legacy of modern dance icon and pioneer Martha Graham. Registration is now open.

PillowTalk: Martha Graham: When Dance Became Modern

Sat., Aug. 19, 4pm

Blake's Barn

**FREE** 

Neil Baldwin discusses his new Graham biography, which *Dance Magazine* calls "challenging and satisfying," and *Oprah Daily* considers a "stellar cultural history," followed by a book signing.

The School at Jacob's Pillow: Tap Program

Sat., Aug. 19, 6pm Henry J. Leir Stage Choose What You Pay

Performances by The School at Jacob's Pillow Performance Ensembles provide an inside look at The School experience and feature repertoire created on the dancers by leading choreographers who serve as program faculty. This performance culminates the Tap Dance Program led by Dormeshia, Michelle Dorrance, and Derick K. Grant.

Dancers of The School at Jacob's Pillow are apprentices, trainees, pre-professionals, and early-career professionals from around the world. The School's professional advancement programs are held onsite during the Festival to nurture the artistic voices and growth of the next generation of dance artists.

**Dance Party with Martha Graham Artists** 

Sat., Aug. 19, 10pm

\$35

Our celebration of Martha Graham Dance Company's return to the Pillow extends to a special themed, rave-like dance party with company dancers, following the Saturday evening performance.

**Workshop with Festival Artists: Martha Graham Dance Company** 

## Sun., Aug. 20, 10-11:30am

#### \$25

Intermediate/advanced dancers, ages 16+

Led by Graham artist Denise Vale, this class is designed to give students insight into Martha Graham's innovations and her concept of "contraction and release," the foundations of this unique form of physical expression. Phrases and movements from the repertory that the Martha Graham Dance Company will present in its performances at Jacob's Pillow will be included. Previous study of the Graham Technique is not required. Form-fitting clothing suggested.

# Lighting the Fire at the Eastern Woodlands Homesite Sun., Aug. 20, 12-1:30pm

#### **FREE**

Built by Nipmuc citizens Andre Strongbearheart Gaines Jr. and Nazario TallHairRedDeer Garate, this homesite brings Eastern Woodlands peoples and the public together to highlight urgent issues of access, health, and the sustainability of cedar swamps in the Eastern Woodlands. On Sunday, August 20, 12-1:30pm Gaines will lead an interactive talk about the site. All are welcome to witness the making of a fire, the cooking of food, and continued work on the fishnet. Traditional hand games will be played, traditional meals will be prepared, and old social songs will be sung. For up-to-date details, please visit jacobspillow.org/homesite.

#### In Studio Observation in The School

#### **Perles Family Studio**

Quiet observation of classes and rehearsals inside the Perles Family Studio will be open from 10:45am-12:15 p.m. and 2:30-4pm, Tuesday through Friday, June 20–Aug. 18, on a first come, first served basis. In the case of inclement weather, School observation hours will not be held.

Morning Classes Sommers Studio

Tues. and Wed. 8-9 am, Thurs. and Fri. 9-10 am, Jun. 27-Aug.25

\$12 per class

A variety of in-person dance and movement classes open to participants of all experience levels, including beginners, ages 16+ (sorry, no exceptions). Tuesday classes are body conditioning/Pilates, Wednesday classes are modern/contemporary, Thursday classes are ballet, and Friday classes are hip hop. Pay via online pre-registration at <u>jacobspillow.org/morningclasses</u> or cash/card at the door.

### FESTIVAL 2023 EXHIBITS & ARCHIVES—ONGOING

Welcoming the World Blake's Barn Tuesday-Sunday, noon through final curtain FREE From the first international artists who performed here in the 1940s to today, Jacob's Pillow has long worked to connect audiences with all kinds of dance. As people now emerge from extended isolation, the need for cultural exchange is keener than ever. Using historic photos and moving images that span the globe and transcend time, this exhibition demonstrates the wide-ranging definition of dance that has always epitomized the Pillow's worldview. Co-curated by Tanisha Jones, Hari Krishnan, and Norton Owen.

**Envisioning a New Theater Ted Shawn Theatre Lobby** Open daily, noon through final curtain **FREE** 

An international team of architects and designers/consultants led by Netherlands-based Mecanoo are now busily planning a new Doris Duke Theatre, reimagining the beloved structure consumed by fire in 2020. On display here are color renderings, a scale model, video simulations, and other resources to help audiences visualize this exciting new building project and its design process. With a projected opening in 2025, the Doris Duke Theatre is envisioned as a versatile home for dance-making and performance in the 21st century. Co-curated by Katy Dammers and Norton Owen.

**Fantasy Meets Reality: The Far East Tour Blake's Barn Special Collections Room** Tuesday-Sunday, noon through final curtain

**FREE** 

Denishawn's Asian tour in 1925-26 proved pivotal in the artistic evolution of Ted Shawn and Ruth St. Denis, as their famous oriental dance fantasies encountered authentic Asian dances and audiences. Shawn and St. Denis spent months studying with local artists, buying up hordes of set and costume pieces. Their return set off a renaissance of Western interest in authentic Asian dance, opening doors for Asian and Asian American artists. Today, costumes from the Far East Tour challenge us to grapple with how to share culture with integrity. Co-curated by Phil Chan and Caroline Hamilton.

### Online Exhibit: Jacob's Pillow Dance Interactive

This evolving online resource features breathtaking video highlights of Pillow performances from the early 1930s through today, with an expanded section of multimedia essays featuring talks, photos, and other exclusive content organized into various themes. danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org

Jacob's Pillow Archives/Norton Owen Reading Room Blake's Barn Tuesday-Sunday, noon through final curtain **FREE** 

This spacious, informal library and reading room allows visitors to view videos, browse through books, access the Pillow's computer catalog, or peruse permanent collections of Pillow programs and

photographs from the Archives. The Reading Room and new Special Collections Room also feature recent donations and more archival treasures from the Stephan Driscoll Collection.

#### **ABOUT JACOB'S PILLOW:**

Jacob's Pillow acknowledges that it rests on the ancestral homelands of the Muh-he-con-ne-ok or Mohican people. We pay honor and respect to their ancestors and elders past and present as we commit to building a more inclusive and equitable space for all. In addition, we acknowledge the Nipmuc, the Wampanoag and other tribal nations who also made their homes in what is now known as Massachusetts. Jacob's Pillow is a National Historic Landmark, recipient of the National Medal of Arts, and home to America's longest-running international dance festival, currently in its 91st season. Each Festival includes national and international dance companies and free and ticketed performances, talks, tours, classes, exhibits, events, and community programs. The School at Jacob's Pillow, a prestigious professional dance training center, advances the careers of the upcoming generation of performers and choreographers; during the Festival, 100 international dancers evolve as artists in ballet, choreography, contemporary, musical theatre, tap, and other genres, and year round, artist faculty and accomplished alumni nurture younger dancers in a series of Jacob's Pillow 360 workshops and intensives offered in partnership with leading dance institutions worldwide. The Pillow also provides professional advancement opportunities across disciplines of arts administration, design, video, and production through seasonal internships and a year-round Administrative Fellows program. Through its community engagement programs, the Pillow serves as a partner and active citizen in its local community. The Pillow's extensive Archives, open year-round to the public and online at danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org, chronicle more than a century of dance in photographs, programs, books, costumes, audiotapes, and videos. Notable artists who have created or premiered dances at the Pillow include choreographers Antony Tudor, Agnes de Mille, Alvin Ailey, Donald McKayle, Kevin McKenzie, Twyla Tharp, Ralph Lemon, Susan Marshall, Trisha Brown, Ronald K. Brown, Wally Cardona, Andrea Miller, and Trey McIntyre; performed by artists such as Mikhail Baryshnikov, Carmen de Lavallade, Mark Morris, Dame Margot Fonteyn, Edward Villella, Rasta Thomas, and hundreds of others. On March 2, 2011, President Barack Obama honored Jacob's Pillow with a National Medal of Arts, the highest arts award given by the United States Government, making the Pillow the first dance presenting organization to receive this prestigious award. The Pillow's Executive and Artistic Director since 2016 is Pamela Tatge. For more information, visit www.jacobspillow.org.

Jacob's Pillow is grateful to its global community of supporters and Members for their ongoing support for our mission. Major institutional support for Jacob's Pillow is provided by the Alphadyne Foundation, Arbella Insurance Foundation, Arison Arts Foundation, Arnhold Foundation, Barr Foundation, Doris Duke Foundation, Ford Foundation, William Randolph Hearst Foundation, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, Mellon Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, Mill Town Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, Craig H. Neilsen Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, and Jacob's Pillow Business Partners (as of May 23, 2023).

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