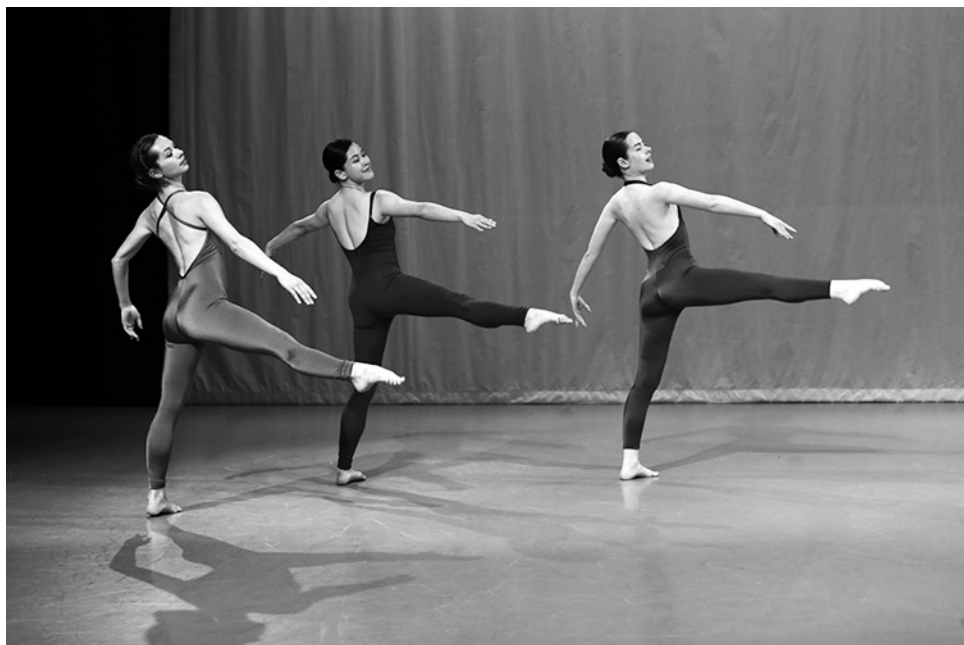


MARTHA GRAHAM SCHOOL SPRING SHOWCASE



Ellen Butler, Kirsten Danielle Delavin, and Ella Mahoney in Martha Graham's *Letter to the World*;
photo by Melissa Sherwood.

MAY 17, 2025

Martha Graham Studio Theater

PROGRAM

This performance is dedicated to our beloved School Committee Chair
Inger Witter

The Graham Repertory seen on this program are excerpts specially staged and rearranged for the Spring Showcase. The original costumes, sets, and lighting are not used for this production.

PRE-TEENS GRAHAM DEMONSTRATION *Matinee only*

Pre-Teens@Graham led by Cara McManus

Composition by Cara McManus

Music by Michael Roberts, *Original Music For the Modern Dance Class*

Claire Coakley, Vladimira-Piedad Garcia Todorova, Elle Hallier, Nastassia Kerr,
Delphine Lefleur, Grace Leung, Iris Pittman, Déa Rodriguez, Maya Tahsili, Tomasina Truman,
Nari Zechman, Melanie Zeng

NYSA

Advanced Studies Certificate Program / Composition

Choreography by Melis Yesiller

Music by Hildur Guðnadóttir and Jóhann Jóhannsson, *A Deal with Chaos*

Ezio Bosso, *Exit, Run 44*

Leya Gullstrom Matulessy (*matinee*)

Barbara Sulvic (*evening*)

Europa Carvalho, Facundo Ferreyra, Laurine Gomez, Hui-Chu Lei, Lilou Lissarrague,
Teo Medici, Myrto Panagaki

This work was inspired by the idea of 'Nysa' from Greek mythology. Nysa represents a sacred space of growth and transformation, untouched by the rules of the ordinary world. It is a space in which a transformation to true self can take place, marking a shift from conformity to individuality. As patterns break and movement shifts, the dance becomes a celebration of awakening and authentic expression.

RAREFA CTIO N

Teens@Graham New Work, led by Julianne Buenaventura

Choreography by Julianne Buenaventura

Music by Arca, A.G.Cook, and SOPHIE (mixed by Adrian Acosta)

Valentina Fazio, Naomi Fowler, Aisling Joyce, Rebecca McNeil, Kai Misra-Stone,
Salvador Peña Nissenblatt, Gabby Renosis, Brianna Ruiz, Nola Walker

Compression of a longitudinal wave; the dilation of time

PROGRAM

APPALACHIAN SPRING (excerpt)

Advanced Studies Certificate Program / Performance

Choreography by Martha Graham

Music by Aaron Copland

Premiere: October 30, 1944 at the Coolidge Auditorium, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Brandy Brown, Facundo Ferreyra

Appalachian Spring reflected an optimistic and hopeful imagining of a new life, a new home, and a peaceful, prosperous future in the Pennsylvania spring. Springtime in the wilderness is celebrated by a newly wedded bride and husband with joy and love and prayer.

LETTER TO THE WORLD (excerpt)

Beginner Performance Workshop, led by Ghislaine van den Heuvel

Choreography by Martha Graham

Music by Hunter Johnson

Premiered August 11, 1940 at Bennington College Theater, Bennington, Vermont

Victoire Boureau, Ellen Butler, Emilia Huarte Carboni, Kirsten Danielle Delavin,
Lilou Lissarrague, Ella Mahoney, Myrto Panagaki

This scene from Letter to the World captures a lively social gathering, reflecting themes of community and connection. We focused on the couple dancing section, exploring how Graham's movement brings people together in shared joy and unity.

PLAIN OF PRAYER (excerpt)

Advanced Studies Certificate Program / Performance

Choreography by Martha Graham

Music by Eugene Lester

Premiered May 29, 1968, George Abbott Theatre, New York City

Riley Henderson (*matinee*)

Leya Gullstrom Matulessy (*evening*)

There is a plain of prayer in Tibet. To this place come The Faithful, not only to pray for what they need or seek to have, but also to learn what is truly needed and worth having.

PROGRAM

MAPLE LEAF RAG (excerpts)

Intermediate Performance Workshop, led by Miriam Barbosa

Choreography by Martha Graham

Music by Scott Joplin

Premiered October 2, 1990 at City Center Theater in New York City

Brandy Brown and Daniel Rebholz

Giulia Alledi, Ariela Landsmanas Goldberg, Laurine Gomez, Pablo Gomez, Laura Jimenez,
Hui-Chu Lei, Auriane Maillard, Ximena Oliva, Kelsey Reese

Martha Graham, dubbed "Mirthless Martha" by her musical director Louis Horst, would, when frustrated by a new dance, turn and say: "Oh, Louis, play me the Maple Leaf Rag" - the only thing that would cheer her.

DARK MEADOW SUITE (excerpt)

Graham 2, Directed by Virginie Mécène

Choreography by Martha Graham

Music by Carlos Chávez

Premiered April 1, 2016, Library of Congress, Washington, DC

*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)*

Ashley Bromfield and Julian Myrland

Jackson Bradford, Yeowon Chae, Emmy Lebrun, Tiffany Marshall, Aspen Mason,
Isabella Pagano, Grace Sautter

"Dark Meadow is a re-enactment of the Mysteries which attend the eternal adventure of seeking." – Martha Graham



PLEASE! NO PHOTOGRAPHY

Please refrain from taking photos or videos during the performances. Full performance video and photo sets will be available within 48 hours at marthagraham.edu/springshowcase



Ashley Bromfield and Julian Myrland in Martha Graham's *Cave of the Heart*; photo by Melissa Sherwood.

PROGRAM

PRELUDE TO ACTION *from* CHRONICLE

UNITY - PLEDGE TO THE FUTURE

Advanced Performance Workshop, led by Elizabeth Auclair & Aoi Sato

Choreography by Martha Graham

Music by Wallingford Riegger

Premiered December 20, 1936 at The Guild Theater in New York City

Brandy Brown, Europa Carvalho, Facundo Ferreyra, Raissa de Sousa Lima, Michelle Mena,
Barbara Sulvic, Melis Yesiller, Riley Henderson, Teo Medici, Leya Gullstrom Matulesky,
Jose Manuel Hernandez

Prelude to Action was reconstructed in 1994 by Sophie Maslow, assisted by Terese Capucilli, Carol Fried, and Diane Gray, from film clips and Barbara Morgan photographs. The dance depicts the resilience of spirit that emerges after great tragedy or loss, giving rise to hope, strength and rejuvenation.

STAFF

Ashley Brown - Director of School

Virginie Mécène - Program Director / Director of Graham 2

Lone K. Larsen - Program Director

Amélie Bénard - Teens@Graham Program Director

Tami Alesson - Dean of Students and Government Affairs

Ana Sanchez Sepulveda - School Assistant

SPECIAL THANKS

Chloe Morrell - Production Supervisor

Caylin McGlynn - Production Assistant

Melissa Sherwood - Director of Marketing

Jacob Larsen - Social Media

Cara McManus

Work Study

Ellen Butler, Hui-Chu Lei, Raissa de Sousa Lima, Auriane Maillard, Barbara Sulvic, Melis Yesiller

*Thank you to the Martha Graham Center, Company, Board,
and School Committee members, our talented faculty and musicians, and all
friends and family who support our students daily in their growth as artists!*

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June 16 - July 25 Martha Graham Studios NYC
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Martha Graham School dancers; photo by Melissa Sherwood.

GRAHAM 2



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[MARTHAGRAHAM.ORG/GRAHAM2](https://marthagraham.org/GRAHAM2) FOR TICKETS

Jackson Bradford and Tiffany Marshall in Martha Graham's *Cave of the Heart*; photo by Brian Pollock.