



Graham 2 in Martha Graham's Diversion of Angels; photo by Hisae Aihara

DECEMBER 11-12, 2025

Martha Graham Studio Theater

PROGRAM

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

CELEBRATION excerpt

Intermediate Performance Workshop, led by Miriam Barbosa

Choreography by Martha Graham Music by Louis Horst

Premiered February 25, 1934, Guild Theatre, New York City

Giulia Alledi, Maria Belen, Nérée Blieck (Auriane Maillard), Victoire Boureau, Emilia Huarte Carboni, Elena Cerasa, Ariela Landsmanas Goldberg, Pablo Gomez, Amara Kranz, Hui-Chu Lei, Lilou Lissarrague, Ana Lopes, Ximena Oliva, Myrto Panagaki, Sarah Maria Stubbia, Kelsey Reese, Joshua Torres, Jesse Zhang

Celebration was revived in 1987 through the collective memory of early Graham Company members. The dance is a minimalist study of joy; it is pure, austere, succinct expression. It has no storyline but is exuberance itself. It was originally performed with 12 dancers.

MILKSPILLED - PART I

Contemporary Performance Workshop, led by Jonathan Royse Windham

Choreography by Jonathan Royse Windham

Music: "Reverse Culture Music" by Steve Hauschildt, "Morning Prayer" by Snowfx

Riley Henderson, Amara Kranz, Leya Gullström Matulessy, Emelyn Urdahl, Melis Yesiller, Jesse Zhang

Understudy: Barbara Sulvic

This new work is a research in experiencing a traumatic event or loss, and the aftermath as an individual and as part of a group. Not wanting to assign too much meaning or responsibility to any movements or individual dancer, this is a non narrative collage of motion, shape and texture. An excerpt of grieving. The title comes from the expression "don't cry over spilled milk".

WE WON'T BE ERASED

Advanced Studies Certificate Program / Composition

Choreography by Nérée Blieck (Auriane Maillard)

Music: "Black Glass" by Essyndra

Hui-Chu Lei

This piece explores the Matilda Effect—the systematic erasure of women whose work has been ignored, forgotten, or claimed by men. Across history, women's inventions, discoveries, and art have vanished from the record or been attributed to men. This choreography restores their visibility and has been created from pictures of ignored women.



THREADS OF THE WILD: 40/42 excerpt

Advanced Studies Certificate Program / Composition

Choreography by Melis Yesiller Music: "Forndagr" by Danheim

Leya Gullström Matulessy, Barbara Sulvic

This excerpt, inspired by the alpha female wolves of the Druid Peak Pack in Yellowstone National Park, reveals the dynamics of a wolf pack bound by instinct, rivalry, and survival.

SATYRIC FESTIVAL SONG study

Beginner Performance Workshop, led by Ghislaine van den Heuvel

Choreography by Martha Graham
Reconstructed 1994 by Diane Gray and Janet Eilber
Original music by Imre Weisshaus
Music for reconstruction by Fernando Palacios. Arranged by Aaron Sherber

Premiered 1932, The Gould Theater, New York City

Zhicheng Bu, Imani David, Kirsten Danielle Delavin, Naomi Hess, Amrita Jones, Natalie Logue, Kianna Marrs, Camille Rivkah Nemoz, Lucrezia Nocita, Maria Novac, Genesis Rodriguez, Kyra Schwartz

Satyric Festival Song is an early, witty solo, in which Graham mocks her own serious reputation. The dance was inspired by American Indian Pueblo culture and the clowns who satirize and mock the sacred rituals. It premiered as part of a suite of solo dances entitled Dance Songs. In this showing, the solo is performed by twelve dancers as an ensemble piece, keeping the original solo qualities while sharing its lively, humorous energy of the work together.

NIGHT JOURNEY CHORUS excerpt

Advanced Performance Workshop, led by Elizabeth Auclair

Choreography by Martha Graham Music by William Schuman

Jose Manuel Hernandez Esteban, Laurine Gomez, Danielle Gutt, Kendyll Hazzard, Riley Henderson, Isaac Jung, Raissa de Sousa Lima, Leya Gullström Matulessy, Teo Medici, Barbara Sulvic, Emelyn Urdahl, Melis Yesiller

This excerpt is a combination of the first and last chorus dances of Martha Graham's masterwork Night Journey, which depicts the Greek tragedy of Jocasta and Oedipus, mother and son, who unknowingly wed, leading to catastrophic consequences. The chorus express warnings against the unfolding calamities, and embody the sense of horror at this dreadful fate and the inevitable outcome that will unfold.

PROGRAM

DIVERSION OF ANGELS

Graham 2, Directed by Virginie Mécène

Choreography and Costumes by Martha Graham

Music by Norman Dello Joio

Premiered August 13, 1948, Palmer Auditorium, New London, CT

The couple in White: Aspen Mason and Lucas Sverdlen
The couple in Red: Emmy Lebrun and Julian Myrland
The couple in Yellow: Johana Gracia Morales and Eddy Adad Perez Trimiño

The Chorus: Jose Manuel Hernandez Esteban, Maylissa Jean, Madison Kotch, Jacqueline Lee, Zoe Ridgell, Emelyn Urdahl

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

STAFF

Ashley Brown - Director of School Virginie Mécène - Program Director / Director of Graham 2 Lone K. Larsen - Program Director Amélie Bénard - Young Artists Program Director Tami Alesson - Dean of Students and Government Affairs Ana Sanchez Sepulveda - School Assistant

SPECIAL THANKS

Chloe Morrell - Production Supervisor Melissa Sherwood - Director of Marketing Jacob Larsen - Partnerships Coordinator Brian Pollock - Photography

WORK STUDY

Imani David, Laurine Gomez, Hui-Chu Lei, Raissa de Sousa Lima, Barbara Sulvic, Melis Yesiller, Bu Zhicheng

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!



