

spoleto festival usa 2004



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Cover: © 2004 Jonathan Green, Eyelets, oil on canvas, 72" x 60"

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This page: Matthew Rushing (above) and Linda Celeste Sims (left) of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, photos by Andrew Eccles



## We celebrate two milestones

in this year's festival. Charles Wadsworth, who directs and hosts the Bank of America Chamber Music series, has just turned 75, days before the beginning of this Spoleto season. We are celebrating this milestone with a special birthday benefit on June 1. Charles has devoted over half his life to the Spoleto festivals, first in Italy starting in 1959 and then in Charleston from 1977. Charles not only founded the chamber music series here and in Spoleto, Italy, but he has played an enormously important role in developing the popularity of the chamber music field nationally through his touring, and his radio and television appearances, as well as his leadership of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, which he also founded.

The gala on the first of June will be a chance to celebrate Charles through the work of artists who have appeared regularly on the series in recent years as well as artists whose association with the festival goes back much further. Paula Robison, Joshua Bell and Carter Brey, all deeply accomplished musicians, appeared regularly on the series throughout the Eighties and early Nineties, and are now returning to Spoleto Festival USA for the first time in over a decade. This celebration will be splendid indeed, but the entire Bank of America Chamber Music Series is really the best celebration of Charles Wadsworth—which anyone who has attended any of those wonderful performances will agree.

Joseph Flummerfelt celebrates a 50th this year—although not exactly a birthday. The 2004 season marks Joe's 50th festival between Spoleto Festival USA and the Festival of Two Worlds. Now this seems almost impossible for someone as young as Joseph Flummerfelt, but think for a moment that for many years he was participating in two festivals per year, one in Italy and one in the United States. This golden anniversary of his participation in the festivals is also marked by his being hailed as Conductor of the Year by Musical America, an honor that has previously gone to such acclaimed conductors as Wolfgang Sawallisch, Michael Tilson Thomas, Sir Colin Davis and Valery Gergiev.

Joe first brought the Westminster Choir to Spoleto, Italy, during his second year with the festival in 1973. Since then, the Choir—which he hand-picks every year from the best students at Westminster Choir College—has proven to be a defining component of first the Festival of Two Worlds and, from the beginning, of Spoleto Festival USA. The Choir has enchanted audiences not only with its own concerts but also with its extraordinary musicality and theatricality in the operas every year.

These two milestones remind us how much Spoleto Festival USA relies on a small number of immensely gifted artists to make the festival the extraordinary event that it is. ■

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Above: Eric G. Friberg, photo by William Struhs

Joseph Flummerfelt, Artistic Director for Choral Activities
Emmanuel Villaume, The Christel DeHaan Music Director for Opera & Orchestra
Charles Wadsworth, The Charles E. and Andrea L. Volpe Artistic Director for Chamber Music

Nigel Redden, General Director

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# COUPLES

A Pick Up Performance Company production designed for Spoleto Festival USA which includes dancing and talking suites from:

PRIVATE LIVES OF DANCERS (2002-03) DANCING HENRY FIVE (2004) FAMILY\$DEATH@ART.COMedy (2001)

Emmett Robinson Theatre Albert Simons Center College of Charleston

Directed and choreographed by

The Company

Light Stage Manager Producer

Support provided by The Harkness Foundation for Dance.

PRIVATE LIVES

**BREAKFAST** 

Audio

COUCH

SLEEPLESS NIGHT

PERFORMANCE

Music

DANCING HENRY

Words Music

FRENCH LESSON

SEA VOYAGE

WOOING

May 28 and 30 at 6:00pm May 29 and 31 at 2:00pm June 1 at 8:00pm

David Gordon

Valda Setterfield David Gordon Karen Graham Scott Cunningham Tadej Brdnik

Jennifer Tipton Ed Fitzgerald Alyce Dissette

Valda Setterfield & David Gordon

Ruth St. Dennis & Ted Shawn, Noel Coward & Gertrude Lawrence, Merce Cunningham & Robert Rauschenberg, Toni Lander & Bruce Marks

Valda Setterfield & Karen Graham

Scott Cunningham & Tadej Brdnik & Valda Setterfield & Karen Graham & Ed Fitzgerald

Valda Setterfield & David Gordon & Scott Cunningham & Karen Graham & Tadej Brdnik

Michael Gordon

William Shakespeare and David Gordon William Walton

Valda Setterfield & Karen Graham

Valda Setterfield & Scott Cunningham Karen Graham & Tadej Brdnik

Karen Graham & Tadej Brdnik & Valda Setterfield

### FAMILY.COMedy

Music Words

CLOSE UP

SOMETHING SMELLS

TRADING PARTNERS

SEVEN THIRTY

THE LONG WALK

Michael Nyman, Conlan Nancarrow David Gordon

Valda Setterfield & David Gordon

Valda Setterfield & David Gordon

Karen Graham & Scott Cunningham & Tadej Brdnik

Karen Graham & Scott Cunningham

Valda Setterfield & David Gordon

David Gordon's work is supported through the Pick Up Performance Company, Inc., in part: with public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, the Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, The Howard Gilman Foundation, the Harkness Foundations for Dance, Betty & Sidney Lieberman Philanthropic Fund, Lucille Lortel Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, S.I. Newhouse Foundation, The James E. Robinson Foundation, Lila Acheson Wallace Theater Fund at New York Community Trust, Micki & Howard Wesson, and the NYC Danspace Project's commissioning initiative with support from the Joyce-Mertz Gilmore Foundation (1999-2002) and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (2003-2004).

Private Lives of Dancers was also made possible by the Doris Duke Fund for Dance of the National Dance Project, a program of the New England Foundation for the Arts. Additional funding provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Altria Companies Inc. and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Cultural Challenge Program. Also, thanks to the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts Dance Division for their assistance on this project.

#### The Company

DAVID GORDON (Director/Choreographer)

Coming: Fall 2004 The Chairs by Eugene Ionesco

With Valda Setterfield

Translation by Michael Feingold, Music by Michael Gordon

Light by Jennifer Tipton

Dance Umbrella/Barbican/London UK

BAM Next Wave/Harvey/B'klyn NY

Commissions for directing and/or choreographing include:

Danspace, Dance Theater Workshop, Dance Theatre of Harlem, White Oak Dance Project, American Ballet Theatre, American Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theater, Joyce Theater, Theatre For a New Audience, New York Theatre Workshop, Guthrie Theater, Mark Taper Forum, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Serious Fun at Lincoln Center, Spoleto Festival USA, Actors Studio, PBS/WNET Great Performances, PBS/KTCA Alive TV, BBC and Channel 4, UK.

Awards include: two OBIEs, three Bessies, two Dramalogues, two Guggenheims, two Pew Charitable Trust National Residency Grants (in both Theater and Dance).

Current member: Actors Studio

Previous panel/chair: NEA Dance Program. Founding artist: Grand Union. Founding artist: Judson Church Performances. Previous performer: Yvonne Rainer Co./James Waring Co. David Gordon has constructed dance and theater events for the Pick Up Performance Company for 30 years.

VALDA SETTERFIELD (Dancer), a British-born dancer and actor, has worked with JoAnne Akalaitis, Woody Allen, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Caryl Churchill, Merce Cunningham, Graciela Daniele, Richard Foreman, Maria Irene Fornes, Brian DePalma, Ain Gordon, David Gordon, Ivo van Hove, Don Mischer, Marie Rambert, Yvonne Rainer, Donald Saddler, Michael Sexton, James Waring, Robert Wilson, and Mark Wing-Davey, at Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York Theatre Workshop, Dance Theater Workshop, P.S. 122, Danspace Project, Soho Rep, The Public Theater, American Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theater, Adirondack Theatre Festival and Mark Taper Forum. She received an OBIE for *The Family Business* and a Bessie for Outstanding Achievement. She has been a member of the Pick Up Performance Company since its inception.

KAREN GRAHAM (Dancer and Rehearsal Assistant to David Gordon) has worked with the Pick Up Performance Company since 1986 as dancer, actor and assistant to David Gordon. Her choreography has been produced and presented at Movement Research at Judson Church, University Settlement, Danspace Project and Dance Theater Workshop. She is the recipient of a 2002 New York Dance and Performance Bessie Award for Sustained Achievement.

TADEJ BRDNIK (Dancer) began his dance career with Dioniz, Dance Forum Celje and Dance Theater Aldea in Slovenia. Since moving to New York in 1993, he has danced with Coyote Dancers, Battery Dance Company, Avila/Weeks Dance, Baryshnikov's White Oak Dance Project, Robert Wilson and Pick Up Performance Company, among others. He is a principal dancer with Martha Graham Dance Company. Mr. Brdnik has taught extensively in the United States, Slovenia, Scandinavia, India and the United Kingdom. He is a director of the Young Artist Program and a faculty member at Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. Mr. Brdnik is a 1993 recipient of the Benetton Dance Award and a scholarship given by Gregory Peck and the Martha Graham Center, and a 2003 recipient of the Eugene Loring Award.

SCOTT CUNNINGHAM (Dancer) is from Needham, Massachusetts. He has performed with David Gordon since 1986 in a variety of projects: dance, plays and musical theater. He has taught dance at the University of Wisconsin/Madison and Long Island University, and has shown his choreography at Judson Church, Danspace and on the Family Matters Series at Dance Theater Workshop. His choreography was recently seen in the Disney film Tuck Everlasting. He is currently enrolled at the Bank Street School in Manhattan in order to become an educator.

JENNIFER TIPTON (Light) is well known for her work in theater, dance and opera. Her recent work in opera includes Marvin David Levy's Mourning Becomes Electra at New York City Opera; Janáček's Osud at Bard's Fisher Performing Arts Center; and Don Giovanni at La Monnaie in Brussels. Her recent work in dance includes Paul Taylor's Le Grand Puppetier, and Trisha Brown's Present Tense and Winterreise. In theater her recent work includes Craig Lucas' Small Tragedy at Playwrights Horizons, Harold Pinter's The Birthday Party at American Repertory Theatre, Hamlet at Long Wharf Theatre, and Poor Theater for the Wooster Group. Ms. Tipton teaches lighting at the Yale School of Drama. She received the Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize in 2001 and the Jerome Robbins Prize in 2003.

ED FITZGERALD (Stage Manager) has been a stage manager for over 30 years, on Broadway (most recently Manhattan Theatre Club's The Violet Hour at the Biltmore Theatre), Off-Broadway, and in major regional theatres. He has been associated with David Gordon since 1992, doing The Mysteries and What's So Funny? (national tour), The Family Business, Shlemiel the First, the Jacob's Pillow retrospective, Punch and Judy Get Divorced, Illustrated Radio Shows, The First Picture Show, Autobiography of a Liar, Family\$Death@Art.Comedy, Private Lives of Dancers and Dancing Henry Five, and is working on the upcoming production of Ionesco's The Chairs. Also for the Pick Up Company, he stage-managed the recent Club Fez remount of Ain Gordon's Art, Life & Show Biz. He was last in Charleston to stage manage Simon Gray's Molly for the first season of Spoleto Festival USA in 1977, and is very happy to return.

ALYCE DISSETTE (Producer) has been working with David Gordon in various capacities for 19 years. She rejoined the Pick Up Performance Company (Ain Gordon & David Gordon) in 2001. In recent years she has worked with artists including Art Spiegelman, Nona Hendryx, James Turrell, Robert Wilson and Philip Glass, and she continues to produce the work of John Kelly. Ms. Dissette was Executive Producer of the PBS national series Alive From Off Center (a/k/a Alive TV) in the early 1990s, where her programs merging experimental film and the performing arts won numerous awards and citations including a Cable Ace Award in 1994 for her co-production with MTV: Music Television. Following Alive TV she administered a digital art competition sponsored by Paul Allen's Interval Research Corp. and WIRED magazine; and she produced a number of artist web sites throughout the 1990s. She currently serves on the boards of ODC/San Francisco and the Alliance of Resident Theaters (ART)/New York.

The Pick Up Performance Company, Inc. is a not-for-profit production company founded in 1978 that develops and produces the contemporary theater and dance work of David Gordon and Ain Gordon nationally and internationally.

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Pick Up Performance Company 520 Eighth Ave. 3rd Floor, Room 303, New York, NY 10012 Tel: 212.244.7622; Fax: 212.244.2371 E-mail: pickupperformance@earthlink.net www.gordonfamilybiz.org