

# THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

*Presents*

MARTHA GRAHAM

AND

DANCE COMPANY

IN MUSEUM THEATRE

FRIDAY-SATURDAY—DECEMBER 19-20 - - - 8:30 P. M.

SATURDAY MATINEE—DECEMBER 20 - - - 2:30 P. M.

# MARTHA GRAHAM AND DANCE COMPANY

LOUIS HORST, *Musical Director*

I. EL PENITENTE ..... *Music by Louis Horst*  
*Costumes by Edythe Gilfond*  
*Mask by Isamu Noguchi*

Penitent ..... Erick Hawkins  
Christ Figure ..... Welland Lathrop  
Mary Figure  
    Virgin } ..... Martha Graham  
    Magdalen }  
    Mother }

1. Entrance of Performers
2. Flagellation of Penitent
3. Vision of Penitent  
    The Virgin Pleads  
    The Christ Blesses
4. Death Cart  
    The death cart is the  
    symbol for sin
5. Seduction — The Magdalen seduces  
    the Penitent
6. The Fall of Man
7. The Christ condemns
8. The Penitent bears the cross on his  
    back
9. The Crucifixion — The Penitent  
    atones and wins salvation
10. The Festival Dance

The Penitentes are a sect that believes in purification from sin through severe penance. Even today, in both Old and New Mexico, they practice their ancient rites including the Crucifixion. The dance bears no factual relationship to these practices, but is done rather as a story told after the manner of the old minstrels.

## INTERMISSION

II. "LETTER TO THE WORLD" ..... *Music by Hunter Johnson*  
*Costumes by Edythe Gilfond*  
*The Fairy Queen Costume by Charlotte Trowbridge*

One Who Dances ..... Martha Graham  
One Who Speaks ..... Jean Erdman  
Lover ..... Erick Hawkins  
Ancestress ..... Jane Dudley  
March ..... David Campbell  
Fairy Queen ..... Sophie Maslow  
Young Girl ..... Ethel Butler  
Two Children —  
    Nina Fonaroff, Marjorie Mazia

Elizabeth Halpern, Pearl Lack, Sasha Liebich, David Zellmer, Welland Lathrop

1. "BECAUSE I SEE NEW ENGLANDLY"
  - a. "Life Is A Spell" . . . . . Martha Graham, Jean Erdman, Erick Hawkins
  - b. "Party" . . . . . Ethel Butler, David Campbell and Company
  
2. "THE POSTPONELESS CREATURE"
  - a. Ancestress
  - b. "Gay Ghastly Holiday" . . . . . Martha Graham, Jean Erdman, Jane Dudley, Erick Hawkins and Company
  
3. "THE LITTLE TIPPLER"
  - a. The Little Tippler . . . . . Martha Graham
  - b. "Dear March, Come In" . . . . . David Campbell
  - c. The Fairy Queen . . . . . Sophie Maslow, Nina Fonaroff, Marjorie Mazia, Jean Erdman
  - d. Young Love . . . . . Ethel Butler, David Campbell
  
4. "LEAF AT LOVE TURNED BACK"
 

Martha Graham, Jean Erdman, Jane Dudley, Erick Hawkins
  
5. LETTER
 

Martha Graham and Company

The title of "Letter to the World" is from a poem by Emily Dickinson, as are all the spoken words of the piece. The action is built on the legend rather than the facts of her life; the scene is laid in the shadow world of her imagination as set forth in her poems, rather than in the real world of Amherst where she lived. No one character in "Letter to the World" is meant to portray Emily Dickinson. The Children, the Fairy Queen, and the Young Girl, as well as the One Who Dances and the One Who Speaks, are all extensions of her own self in childhood, adolescence and maturity. The Ancestress is the embodiment of her puritan background, awesome, but beautiful, and is the symbol of the death-fear constantly in her mind. March and the other men are extensions of the lover, who, in turn, represents her gesture toward happiness. The loss of her lover forces her to face her destiny as a poet with the realization that her happiness must be found in the intensity of her work. That out of the tragedy of loss will be born the poet, is her "Letter to the World."

## INTERMISSION

III. "EVERY SOUL IS A CIRCUS" ..... *Music by Paul Nordoff*  
*Costumes by Edythe Gilfond*

(FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, PERFORMANCE ONLY)

"Every soul is a circus  
 Every mind is a tent  
 Every heart is a sawdust ring  
 Where the circling race is spent"

— VACHEL LINDSEY

Empress of the Arena ..... Martha Graham  
 Ring Master ..... Erick Hawkins  
 Acrobat ..... Sasha Liebich  
 Ideal Spectator ..... Jean Erdman  
 First Arenic Performer ..... Marjorie Mazia  
 Other Arenic Performers . Ethel Butler, Nina Fonaroff,  
 Elizabeth Halpern, Sophie Maslow

1. Prologue: Empress of the Arena ..... Martha Graham
2. The Ring Master ..... Erick Hawkins
3. Parade ..... Ethel Butler, Nina Fonaroff, Elizabeth Halpern,  
 Sophie Maslow, Marjorie Mazia
4. Training Ring ..... Martha Graham, Erick Hawkins
5. Entrance of the Spectator ..... Jean Erdman
6. The Show Begins: Star Turn ..... Martha Graham
7. Garland Entry ..... Ethel Butler, Nina Fonaroff, Elizabeth Halpern,  
 Sophie Maslow, Sasha Liebich
8. Arenic World (1): Triangle ..... Martha Graham, Erick Hawkins,  
 Sasha Liebich
9. "Poses and Plastiques" ... Marjorie Mazia, Ethel Butler, Elizabeth Halpern,  
 Sophie Maslow, Sasha Liebich
10. Arenic World (2): Duet ..... Martha Graham, Erick Hawkins
11. Aerial Interlude ..... Marjorie Mazia, Ethel Butler, Elizabeth Halpern,  
 Nina Fonaroff, Sophie Maslow, Sasha Liebich
12. Finale ..... Entire Company

In every woman there is the desire to be featured in a "Star Turn," as the apex of a triangle and as the beloved of a duet. This is not the literal circus of canvas and sawdust ring but a circus of ridiculous situations and silly behaviors, in which the sum total of episodes and interludes does not add up to mature dignity but to a tragic, addled confusion.

IV. PUNCH AND THE JUDY..... *Music by Robert McBride*  
*Costumes by Charlotte Trowbridge*

(SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, PERFORMANCES ONLY)

Punch ..... Erick Hawkins  
The Judy..... Martha Graham  
Three Fates..... { Jean Erdman  
                          { Jane Dudley  
                          { Ethel Butler  
Pegasus ..... Welland Lathrop  
Child..... Nina Fonaroff  
Pretty Polly ..... Pearl Lack  
Three Heroes —  
    The Soldier..... Sasha Liebich  
    The Scout..... David Zellmer  
    The Highwayman..... David Campbell

OVERTURE

PROLOGUE

The Fates set the stage

FIRST DILEMMA

The Judy soliloquizes — Punch shows off — The Child enters — Trouble starts

INTERLUDE

Pegasus enters — The Flight to Dream

SECOND DILEMMA

The family gathers — Pretty Polly enters — Punch seduces — The Judy rages — The Heroes exalt — The Judy despairs

INTERLUDE

Pegasus enters — The Flight to Dream

THIRD DILEMMA

The Justice is blindfolded — Punch triumphs — The Heroes march — The Fates intervene — Punch falls — The Judy intervenes — Punch brags again — The Judy chooses — The Fates direct, *da capo*.

“Punch and the Judy” concerns man and woman. The text is squabble and scuffle. The Three Fates are any three women who direct the lives of others. The Three Heroes are the Idealists. Pegasus is that force which enables us to imagine or to escape.

Settings for “Letter to the World,” Punch and the Judy, and  
“Every Soul is a Circus” by Arch Lauterer  
Miss Graham’s shoes by Capezio  
Shoes for “Letter to the World” by Herbert

## PATRONS AND PATRONESSES

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