



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Emily Everett at 413-545-4482 or emilyeverett@admin.umass.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 20, 2014

WHAT: Martha Graham Dance Company

WHEN: Tuesday, November 18, 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Fine Arts Center Concert Hall
University of Massachusetts Amherst

TICKETS: Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go online to
<http://www.fineartscenter.com/>

IMAGES: To download images relating to this press release please go online to <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/PressImages>

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY TO PERFORM ICONIC CONTEMPORARY DANCE AT THE UMASS FINE ARTS CENTER

“Powerful, dynamic, jagged and filled with tension, this vocabulary combines with Miss Graham's distinctive system of training to set her above other dance innovators.”

–*The New York Times*

[Martha Graham Dance Company](#) is one of the oldest and most celebrated contemporary dance companies on the planet. The venerated choreographer and dancer drew her groundbreaking style from the elemental movements of contraction and release, leading to a sharp, raw and dramatic style of contemporary dance. Nearly nine decades later, the company she founded continues to perform pioneering new works, as well as classic Graham favorites. The Martha Graham Dance Company visits Amherst on Tuesday, November 18th at 7:30 p.m., performing at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall at UMass. Audience members are also invited

to a 6:30 p.m. pre-performance talk at the University Club, with Billbob Brown, Associate Professor of Dance at UMass.

When the Martha Graham Dance Company comes to the FAC, the repertoire will include renowned Graham classics and one new work that premiered in March 2014. The newly commissioned work *Echo* by choreographer Adonis Foniadakis is based on the themes of love, vanity and reflection in the myth of Narcissus and Echo. The Company will also perform *Diversion of Angels*, Graham's exploration of love danced by three couples, followed by *Lamentation Variations*, a 2007 work created by several choreographers reacting to an early 1940s film of Graham's iconic solo, *Lamentation*. Also in the repertoire will be *Errand into the Maze*, Graham's reimagining (a heroine instead of a hero) of the mythic battle between Theseus and the Minotaur in the labyrinth.

Described by *The Washington Post* as "one of the seven wonders of the artistic universe," and by The New York Times as "one of the great companies of the world," the Martha Graham Dance Company has created a style and energy that is uniquely its own. Iconic masterpieces such as *Appalachian Spring*, *The Rite of Spring*, and *Clytemnestra* are rooted in social, political, psychological and sensual contexts, expanding the vocabulary of contemporary dance. The Company's distinctive style has earned acclaim from audiences in more than 50 countries throughout North and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

During her long and illustrious career, Graham created 181 dance compositions, influencing generations of choreographers from Paul Taylor to Twyla Tharp. During the Bicentennial she was granted the United States' highest civilian honor, The Medal of Freedom, and in 1998 was named "Dancer of the Century" by *TIME Magazine*.

Tickets for Martha Graham Dance Company at the FAC are \$50, \$45, \$15; Five College, GCC and 17 and under \$15, \$12, \$10. For tickets call the Box Office at 545-2511, toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase online at fineartscenter.com. The Fine Arts Center's season is sponsored by Baystate Health and Health New England, with additional event support coming from Applewood and Preview Magazine. The presentation of the Martha Graham Dance Company was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with additional support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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CALENDAR LISTING

UMass Fine Arts Center presents
MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY
Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.
Fine Arts Center Concert Hall, UMass Amherst
Tickets: \$30, \$15; Five College GCC and 17 and under \$10

Described by *The Washington Post* as “one of the seven wonders of the artistic universe,” and by The New York Times as “one of the great companies of the world,” Martha Graham Dance Company is one of the oldest and most celebrated contemporary dance companies on the planet. The repertoire for the evening will include the newly commissioned work *Echo* by choreographer Andonis Foniadakis, based on the myth of Narcissus. Additional works to include Graham classics.

Visit www.fineartscenter.com for 2014-15 Season details, directions, and more.

High-resolution photos are available at <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/PressImages>