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NOW AVAILABLE IN PAPERBACK

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From the most brilliant and audacious choreographer of our time, the exuberant tale of a young dancer's rise to the pinnacle of the performing arts world, and the triumphs and perils of creating work on his own terms—and staying true to himself

OUT LOUD

A Memoir

**Mark Morris
and Wesley Stace**

Praise for OUT LOUD

“Direct, brash, flippant, charming, impenetrably self-assured. And funny. On just about every page, there’s an anecdote or remark to make you laugh.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“Rollicking, uninhibited and refreshingly raw. . . Whizzing through these adventures with him feels a lot like being in the audience at one of his lively post-performance question-and-answer sessions, where Morris the everlasting bon vivant delights in holding the spotlight, typically with a wine glass in hand. . . *Out Loud* takes us on a swift-paced ride through a fascinating life whose joys and setbacks are viewed with a sharp eye and often dry humor. Nothing is belabored. In his writing as in his dances, Morris has a light hand. But his memoir is about more than the making of a choreographer. It’s about the layering on of self-worth, and how a solid sense of who you are can equip you to survive all kinds of hell.” —*The Washington Post*

“With the publication of his memoir, aptly titled *Out Loud*, we get to hear that spoken voice in all its guises: from brilliance to laugh-out-loud wit, tenderness to outrage, introspection to cockiness, gratitude to irony to (his word) vulgarity . . . the book takes you on a now riotous, now somber tour through Morris’s personal history and the history of his company . . . It’s a monumental task, and one done with elan and candor: He’s pulling aside a curtain to let you see both the backstage to his dances and the workings of his genius mind . . . Throughout the book, Morris’s eye for the telling detail astonishes, capturing the essence of a place or a person in a heartbeat.” —*The Boston Globe*

“*Out Loud* is a golden opportunity to get inside the mind of one of the great musicians of our time and also into the history and progress of modern dance itself.” —**Isaac Mizrahi**

“*Out Loud* is the story of a brilliant, complex artist, a keen observer and interpreter of the world around him, guided by one constant purpose: to create dance. This hard-to-put-down book illuminates the mind of an irreducible visionary and the art form that shaped him.” —**Yo-Yo Ma**

Seventeen months after Broadway went dark, the performing arts world is once again at a pivotal juncture. A new era for the performing arts world requires directors, performers, and leaders with resiliency, creativity, candor, and an ability to navigate the seismic shifts of the past year with grace.

Mark Morris, renowned choreographer and longtime director of the Mark Morris Dance Group,



embodies all these qualities. The return of his eponymous dance group to the touring world perfectly coincides with the paperback release of his memoir, **OUT LOUD**, co-written with Wesley Stace (out in paperback October 19, 2021).

OUT LOUD charts his momentous 40+-year career in the dance world, from his childhood in Seattle to his artistic debut and meteoric success in the New York arts scene of the seventies and eighties. Throughout his innovative career as a performer and director, Mark weathered the Reagan-Bush era, the worst of the AIDS epidemic, and rehearsal squabbles and backstage intrigues with a steadfast work ethic, an unwavering dedication to beauty, and a love of the body. On its surface, **OUT LOUD** chronicles the emergence of a provocative performer and yet, Mark's story is so much richer than the typical artist's memoir. Above all else, **OUT LOUD** is a testament to the powers of individuality, ingenuity, and art to propel us through hardship.

With unusual candor and disarming wit, **OUT LOUD** captures the life of a performer who broke the mold, a brilliant maverick who found his home in the liberating world of music and dance, and a man whom the *New York Times* calls "the most successful and influential choreographer alive".

About the author

Mark Morris was born on August 29, 1956, in Seattle, Washington. He formed the Mark Morris Dance Group (MMDG) in 1980 and has since created over 150 works for the company. From 1988 to 1991, he was Director of Dance at the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels. In 1990, he founded the White Oak Dance Project with Mikhail Baryshnikov. Morris is also an acclaimed ballet choreographer and opera director.

Wesley Stace has published four novels, including the international bestseller *Misfortune*. He recorded 17 records under the name John Wesley Harding before reverting to his birth name for *Self-Titled* in 2013. His show Wesley Stace's Cabinet of Wonders has been a fixture in New York City and beyond for ten years.

OUT LOUD

A Memoir

Mark Morris and Wesley Stace

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