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**Folder Title:** Martha Graham/Royce Hall Request  
(1 of 2)

**Box:** 7

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June 21, 1984

Dear Miss Graham:

Thank you for your recent invitation to the President and Mrs. Reagan to become honorary chairmen of the opening of the Martha Graham Institute, September 15, 1984.

You were very thoughtful to extend this opportunity to the President and the First Lady. Although they are both honored by your request, unfortunately, they have asked me to send their regrets to you. Long ago, they established a policy of limiting their chairmanships to those events in which they could personally participate. And, due to the heavy demands of their schedules at this time, they will be unable to be honorary chairmen and attend the dedication in September.

However, on behalf of both the President and the First Lady, please accept our very warmest wishes for a most exciting day in September. Your contributions to dancing are immeasurable, and I know that the establishment of the Martha Graham Institute will inspire others to follow in your footsteps.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.  
Director, Presidential  
Appointments and Scheduling

Miss Martha Graham  
Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance, Inc.  
316 East 63rd Street  
New York, New York 10021

FJR:JAJ  
bcc: Michael K. Deaver



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR  
THE ARTS

WASHINGTON  
D.C. 20506



A Federal agency advised by the  
National Council on the Arts

June 27, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THERESA ELMORE

FROM: FRANK HODSOLL *Frank*

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY TO BE HONORARY  
CHAIRMAN OF REOPENING OF ROYCE HALL (UCLA) AND OF  
HOMAGE YEAR

Attached is a letter from Martha Graham to the President and Mrs. Reagan requesting the President and Mrs. Reagan to be Honorary Chairman of her Homage Year and of the opening on September 15th at Royce Hall. I strongly endorse this request. It would provide the President and Mrs. Reagan with an association with one of our great modern dance companies. Martha Graham has, of course, attended a number of White House functions, and her dancers were featured at one of the Young Performers Series.

The President and First Lady are often Honorary Chairmen of Washington and New York events. It would be particularly good for them to provide this kind of patronage for the UCLA opening of the Martha Graham Institute -- another East Coast-West Coast connection (similar to the Joffrey Ballet).

Martha would also like the President and First Lady to attend the September 15th event, but understands that their schedules may not permit this.

This is an important one, Theresa. The Martha Graham Institute at UCLA is an important milestone in the preservation of the work of one of America's very greatest modern dancers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Attachment

84 JUN 28 PM 5:22

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

# MARTHA GRAHAM CENTER OF CONTEMPORARY DANCE INC

President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President and Mrs. Reagan,

My childhood in Santa Barbara has made me feel a deep tie to California no matter how many years since that time my life has taken me from my first home. That is why the news that I am writing to you to share has a poignant significance for me.

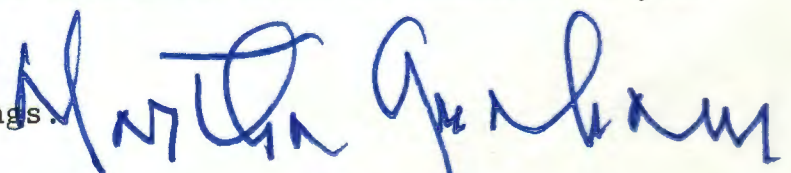
A Martha Graham Institute is to be established at the University of California, Los Angeles. The Institute will consist of not only a permanent school of dance throughout the year, but a residence for my company to perform and to film and thus in part preserve my ballets and technique. Dean Robert Gray, of UCLA's College of Fine Arts, feels that this will make a far reaching and important contribution to the level of dance training throughout the West Coast.

On September 15th my company will reopen officially the newly renovated Royce Hall; at that time the first announcement of the Institute will be made; the evening will in part be a fundraiser for my Company and the Institute.

It would mean so much to me personally and to the success of the evening if you would agree to become Honorary Chairmen of that evening and the Committee planning for the Institute. It had been suggested to me that there might be a possibility that you would also agree to be Honorary Chairman of the Homage Year which has been dedicated to me. Your lovely letter to me on the evening of my Company's New York State Season gives me the courage to ask all of this. But please know that if it is not in your area of possibility to participate I would more than understand. I would not dream of expecting you to attend the evening (your schedules I know are so demanding) but of course we would be honoured if you could attend.

I send you my fondest greetings.

Sincerely,



June 8, 1984



THE WHITE HOUSE


WASHINGTON

July 10, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FRED RYAN

FROM:

THERESA A. ELMORE   
WHITE HOUSE LIAISON FOR  
THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

SUBJECT:

Request for President and First Lady  
to be Honorary Chairmen of the  
Reopening of Royce Hall (UCLA) and  
of Homage Year

The attached memorandum requests the President and First Lady to be Honorary Chairmen of the reopening of Royce Hall at UCLA and of Homage Year. Frank Hodsoll feels this is important, and strongly endorses this request. Note the request originates from Martha Graham.

Please review and advise.

Thank you.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE


WASHINGTON

July 10, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JAMES ROSEBUSH

FROM:

THERESA A. ELMORE   
WHITE HOUSE LIAISON FOR  
THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

SUBJECT:

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Please review and advise.

Thank you.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 18, 1984

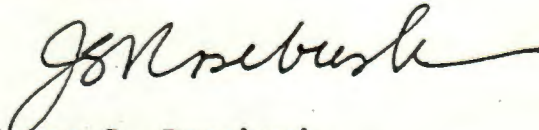
Dear Miss Graham:

Mrs. Reagan has asked me to respond to your recent letter regarding the Martha Graham Institute which is to be established at the University of California, Los Angeles. She was thrilled with your invitation for her to become the Honorary Chairman of the special evening planned for the opening of the Institute as well as the entire Homage Year. She accepts your invitation with deep gratitude.

Mrs. Reagan is keenly aware of the enormous contribution you have made to American dance and was so pleased to learn of the important decision made by the University to recognize you and your work. If the program planners need any materials from us, please have them contact me.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



James S. Rosebush  
Deputy Assistant to the  
President

Miss Martha Graham  
316 East 63rd Street  
New York, New York 10021



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 19, 1984

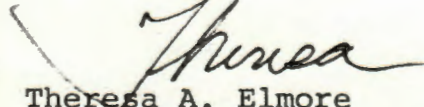
Dear Frank:

Thank you for including me in yesterday's historic event. I don't know who was more thrilled - Martha Graham with her NEA grant or myself having the opportunity to talk with just the two of you.

It is unfortunate that the President and First Lady will be unable to be Honorary Chairmen for the reopening of Royce Hall, but it was brilliant of you to quote from the President's message for her 60th Anniversary.

Kringsman used it in his Post article which was good press for the Administration. Again, you are to be commended.

Sincerely,



Theresa A. Elmore  
White House Liaison for  
the Arts and Humanities

Mr. Frank Hodson  
Chairman  
National Endowment for  
the Arts  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20506



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Date: 7/12/14

TO: *Theresa Elmore*

FROM: **FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.**  
*Director*  
*Presidential Appointments and*  
*Scheduling*

- Information
- Action
- Let's Discuss

*J. Elmore  
called Fred  
Ryan*

*As we discussed  
this was previously  
turned down.*

*7/18 NO  
on  
Honorary Chairman.  
Bob Gray  
also  
tried.*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON


July 10, 1984

RECEIVED  
JUL 11 1984  
SCHEDULING  
OFFICE

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FRED RYAN

FROM:

THERESA A. ELMORE   
WHITE HOUSE LIAISON FOR  
THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

SUBJECT:

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Reopening of Royce Hall (UCLA) and  
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Please review and advise.

Thank you.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE  
ADMIN.  
'84 JUL 13 10:48



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR  
THE ARTS

WASHINGTON  
D.C. 20506



A Federal agency advised by the  
National Council on the Arts

June 27, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THERESA ELMORE

FROM: FRANK HODSOLL *Frank*

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY TO BE HONORARY  
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Martha would also like the President and First Lady to attend the September 15th event, but understands that their schedules may not permit this.

This is an important one, Theresa. The Martha Graham Institute at UCLA is an important milestone in the preservation of the work of one of America's very greatest modern dancers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Attachment

2006 JUN 27 10:00  
AD

# MARTHA GRAHAM CENTER OF CONTEMPORARY DANCE INC

President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President and Mrs. Reagan,

My childhood in Santa Barbara has made me feel a deep tie to California no matter how many years since that time my life has taken me from my first home. That is why the news that I am writing to you to share has a poignant significance for me.

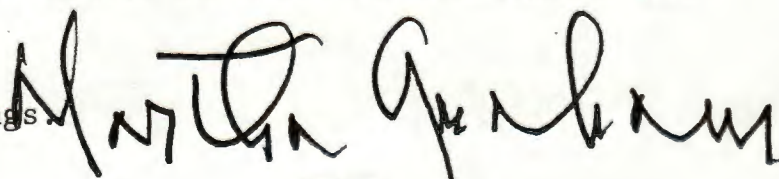
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On September 15th my company will reopen officially the newly renovated Royce Hall; at that time the first announcement of the Institute will be made; the evening will in part be a fundraiser for my Company and the Institute.

It would mean so much to me personally and to the success of the evening if you would agree to become Honorary Chairmen of that evening and the Committee planning for the Institute. It had been suggested to me that there might be a possibility that you would also agree to be Honorary Chairman of the Homage Year which has been dedicated to me. Your lovely letter to me on the evening of my Company's New York State Season gives me the courage to ask all of this. But please know that if it is not in your area of possibility to participate I would more than understand. I would not dream of expecting you to attend the evening (your schedules I know are so demanding) but of course we would be honoured if you could attend.

I send you my fondest greetings.

Sincerely,



June 8, 1984



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 2, 1984

Dear Frank:

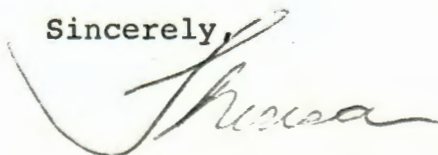
As you will note from the dates on the enclosed correspondence regarding the Martha Graham Institute, a request prior to yours was turned down.

Your request went to both the Scheduling Office and the First Lady's office. The Scheduling Office conveyed their original decline for the President and First Lady's participation as Honorary Chairmen. At the same time, Mr. Rosebush was processing the request with Mrs. Reagan's office which resulted in a positive response, thus, the July 18 letter to Ms. Graham concerning Mrs. Reagan as Honorary Chairmanship.

The final decision is in keeping with this Administration's support of Ms. Graham through the NEA grant, the National Council position and now the recognition of her Homage year.

Thank you again, Frank, for your guidance and congratulations on your new Council members.

Sincerely,



Theresa A. Elmore  
White House Liaison for  
the Arts and Humanities

Mr. Frank Hodson  
Chairman  
National Endowment for  
the Arts  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20506

Enclosures

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 18, 1984

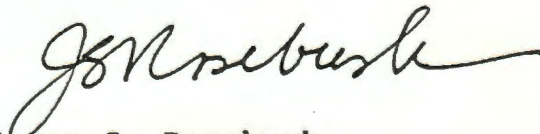
Dear Miss Graham:

Mrs. Reagan has asked me to respond to your recent letter regarding the Martha Graham Institute which is to be established at the University of California, Los Angeles. She was thrilled with your invitation for her to become the Honorary Chairman of the special evening planned for the opening of the Institute as well as the entire Homage Year. She accepts your invitation with deep gratitude.

Mrs. Reagan is keenly aware of the enormous contribution you have made to American dance and was so pleased to learn of the important decision made by the University to recognize you and your work. If the program planners need any materials from us, please have them contact me.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



James S. Rosebush  
Deputy Assistant to the  
President

Miss Martha Graham  
316 East 63rd Street  
New York, New York 10021



June 21, 1984

Dear Miss Graham:

Thank you for your recent invitation to the President and Mrs. Reagan to become honorary chairmen of the opening of the Martha Graham Institute, September 15, 1984.

You were very thoughtful to extend this opportunity to the President and the First Lady. Although they are both honored by your request, unfortunately, they have asked me to send their regrets to you. Long ago, they established a policy of limiting their chairmanships to those events in which they could personally participate. And, due to the heavy demands of their schedules at this time, they will be unable to be honorary chairmen and attend the dedication in September.

However, on behalf of both the President and the First Lady, please accept our very warmest wishes for a most exciting day in September. Your contributions to dancing are immeasurable, and I know that the establishment of the Martha Graham Institute will inspire others to follow in your footsteps.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.  
Director, Presidential  
Appointments and Scheduling

Miss Martha Graham  
Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance, Inc.  
316 East 63rd Street  
New York, New York 10021

FJR:JAJ  
bcc: Michael K. Deaver



September 11, 1984

Dear Martha:

Nancy and I are delighted to send our warmest greetings to you and all those gathered to celebrate the opening of Royce Hall.

It is a great honor for Nancy to serve as Honorary Chairman of this special evening for the Martha Graham Institute, and we were very pleased to learn of the recent grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to help record and document some of your major contributions in Dance for the benefit of future generations.

Over the years, you have helped bring the beauty of Dance to millions and have revealed to us the great range of emotions capable of being expressed by this fine art. Your name has become synonymous with masterpieces of American Dance, and we look forward to more brilliant works in the years ahead.

We wish we could be with you at this Gala Dinner, and we join with your friends and colleagues to toast an exceptional career and an extraordinary woman.

Sincerely,  
**RONALD REAGAN**

Miss Martha Graham  
UCLA-Royce Hall  
405 Hilgard Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90024

cc: Donna Blume

CALL JEANNE RHINELANDER AT NEA FOR DISPATCH

cc: K.Osborne/R.Larkins/C.Korte/CF/M.Deaver  
Event: Sept. 15  
Due: Sept. 12  
RR:RJL:RDC:AVH:emu  
9PMSGGA

Request  
to appear  
Rhinecland

Donna Blake

Po. request this  
invitation for  
Mrs. Reagen.

Jim R



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

10 Mar

TO: *Jane*

FROM: DONNA L. BLUME  
Executive Assistant to  
Michael K. Deaver

Information

Action

*Jane -  
Please see below the  
attached to find  
attention to let  
me know of outcome.*

NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR  
THE ARTS

WASHINGTON  
D.C. 20506

A Federal agency advised by the  
National Council on the Arts



MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 14, 1985

TO: James G. Rosebush

THRU: Donna Blume  
White House Liaison for  
the Arts and Humanities

FR: Jeanne Rhineland *JJR*  
Special Assistant to the Chairman

RE: Request for Mrs. Reagan to attend Opening Night Gala  
for Martha Graham Company on April 2, 1985 in New York

As you are aware, Mrs. Reagan accepted the role of Honorary Chairman of Martha's Tribute Year which runs through April of 1985. Ms. Graham would be thrilled to have Mrs. Reagan be part of the April 2 occasion; her world premiere of the ballet "Song" will be performed. This takes place at the New York State Theater at Lincoln Center.

Frank Hodsohl will attend this event with his wife Mimi. The Endowment will help process a Presidential Message to be read for the occasion. Perhaps you could give us some guidance on whether Mrs. Reagan would be interested in attending. Martha Graham, of course, is most anxious to have her there.

Attachments:

Letter from Martha Graham (March 10, 1985)  
Brochure on Martha Graham Dance Company  
Formal Invitation  
Book on Martha Graham

MARTHA GRAHAM



WORLD PREMIERE  
GALA

APRIL 2, 1985



MRS. RONALD REAGAN  
*Honorary Chairman*

BARON and BARONESS GUY de ROTHSCHILD  
*Honorary International Chairmen*

PALOMA PICASSO-LOPEZ  
*Gala Chairman*

C. EDWARD ACKER  
*Endowment Campaign Chairman*

WOODY ALLEN DORIS DUKE MIA FARROW MRS. GERALD R. FORD

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EDWARD H. MICHAELSEN GREGORY PECK EVELYN SHARP

ELIZABETH TAYLOR ALICE TULLY

*Vice-Chairmen*

MARY SHARP CRONSON JUDITH G. SCHLOSSER  
*Gala Dinner Chairmen*

*Gala Committee*

Josephine B. Abney  
Mr. & Mrs. C. Edward Acker  
Woody Allen  
Edward T. Anderson  
Mr. & Mrs. Roger E. Anderson  
Wallis Annenberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Bradley Bayoud  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald M. Blinken  
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Blumenthal  
Mrs. Henry Brandon  
Michael Buller  
Miss Fern Caplan  
Joan K. Davidson  
Jeffrey K. & Polly Bergen Endervelt  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Fields  
Dod A. Fraser  
Susan Pettibone Fraser  
Robert L. Gill  
Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Gladstein  
Neel & Michael Halpern  
Hiro  
Anne Jackson  
Bianca Jagger  
Sy Kabach  
Ray Kassar  
Charles Kikuchi  
Edith Korn  
Emily Fisher Landau  
Mr. & Mrs. James Marshall

Mr. & Mrs. Francis S. Mason Jr.  
Mrs. Stewart Masterson  
Mr. & Mrs. Darren McGavin  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward H. Michaelson  
Dr. & Mrs. Jost Michelsen  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter H. Morrison  
Senator & Mrs. Daniel Patrick Moynihan  
Commissioner Bess Myerson  
Isamu Noguchi  
Rudolf Nureyev  
Cynthia Parker  
Veronique & Gregory Peck  
Ron Protas  
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander E. Racolin  
Joel H. Reader  
Mrs. Bethsabee de Rothschild  
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert S. Schlosser  
Martin E. Segal  
Peter Sharp  
Marvin Sloves  
Roger L. Stevens  
Lee & Roger Strong  
Ralph Taylor  
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Robert Tracy  
Eli Wallach  
Livia Sylvia Weintraub  
Mrs. Peter Wray  
Yuriko

*Corporate Sponsors*

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Scall McCabe Sloves, Inc.  
Tahari, Ltd.

*(Committee in formation)*

MARTHA GRAHAM  
*and the*  
GALA COMMITTEE

*invite you to attend the*  
OPENING NIGHT

*of the*

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

*and the*

WORLD PREMIERE

*of*

MARTHA GRAHAM'S  
'SONG'

*at the*

NEW YORK STATE THEATER  
LINCOLN CENTER

---

*Program*

DIVERSION OF ANGELS  
ERRAND INTO THE MAZE  
SONG  
THE RITE OF SPRING

---

Supper Dance  
*on the*  
Promenade following the Performance

April 2, 1985  
Curtain at 7:00 PM

Black Tie  
RSVP (card enclosed)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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MRS. BETHSABEE DE ROTHSCHILD  
MARVIN SLOVES  
GREGORY FECK  
ELIZABETH TAYLOR



**PAN AM.**  
*You Can't Beat The Experience*

The Martha Graham Center wishes to express its appreciation to Pan American World Airways whose generous contributions make possible the 1985 performances of the Martha Graham Dance Company.



IN CELEBRATION OF THE  
MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY  
GALA OPENING NIGHT

TUESDAY APRIL 2, 1985

**“A SUPPER ON THE COTE D’AZUR”**

WITH

ROGER VERGE of LE MOULIN DE MOUGINS, CANNES  
AND  
THE FRENCH CULINARY INSTITUTE

ON THE PROMENADE OF THE NEW YORK STATE THEATER  
FOLLOWING THE PERFORMANCE



IN ASSOCIATION WITH PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS



# A MEMORABLE FINALE TO A GREAT NIGHT OF DANCE TUESDAY APRIL 2, 1985

Once upon a time the Cote d'Azur—the Riviera—was a haven for dance.

To honor **MARTHA GRAHAM**, our greatest most cherished legend in dance today, to celebrate the triumphant return of her Dance Company to New York, **ROGER VERGE**, the great 3-star chef of the Riviera, will fly in specially for this historic Gala Opening Night to personally create and direct, with the French Culinary Institute

## “A SUPPER ON THE COTE D’AZUR”

On The Promenade of the New York State Theater at Lincoln Center, following the performance.

**A Cuisine of Sunshine.**

**A Memorable Finale to A Great Night of Dance.**

For Reservations call Allan Wallace at the Martha Graham Dance Center: 212.832.9166.

On April 28, 1985 PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS inaugurates new Non-Stops to Europe including NEW YORK—NICE. For the MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY OPENING GALA NIGHT PAN AM offers a Grand Door Prize:

- 2 FIRST CLASS ROUND TRIP TICKETS ON PAN AM NEW YORK TO NICE

The Great Chefs offer the winners:

- DINNER OR LUNCH FOR 2 AT LE MOULIN DE MOUGINS
- DINNER OR LUNCH FOR 2 AT L'AMANDIER DE MOUGINS
- COOKING LESSONS AT THE ROGER VERGE SCHOOL, L'ECOLE DU MOULIN

On the winners' return to New York, the French Culinary Institute offers:

- DINNER OR LUNCH FOR 2 AT LE FERRANDI  
the Institute's new restaurant at 462 Broadway, New York

# MARTHA GRAHAM CENTER OF CONTEMPORARY DANCE INC

Nancy Reagan  
Honorary Chairman  
Tribute

C. Edward Acker  
Campaign Chairman  
Endowment

Mrs. Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Reagan,

I am taking the liberty of sending to you a copy of the invitation for the Opening Night of my Company at the New York State Theatre, on April 2, 1985.

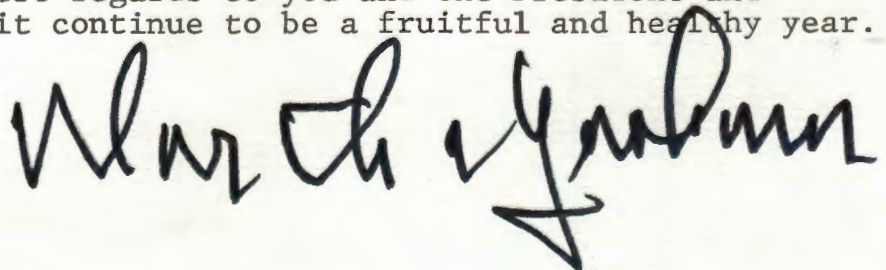
I realize the many demands made upon you and more than understand if you cannot attend. But please know that should you be able to join us it would be a great honour for me and for my Company.

The evening will have the world premiere of my ballet Song which will use narration from the Song of Solomons. I have yet to complete the ending and am terribly nervous. And so it rests in the lap of the Gods. Halston is contributing the costumes and is every bit as nervous as I.

Following the performance there will be a supper flown in from the Cote D'Azur by our corporate sponsor Pan American World Airways, and just a few speeches speaking to the Endowment Campaign that had as its beginning the act of faith of the Reagan Administration and the National Endowment for the Arts under Frank Hodsoll.

I send my fondest regards to you and the President and my hopes that it continue to be a fruitful and healthy year.

Sincerely,



Martha Graham  
March 10, 1985

316 EAST 63 STREET • NEW YORK NY 10021 • TE 2-9166

**TRIBUTE TO MARTHA GRAHAM**

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Halston  
Neel R. Halpern  
Ray Kassir  
James Marshall  
Dr. Jost Michelsen  
Gregory Peck  
Ron Protas  
Bethsabee de Rothschild  
Marvin Sloves  
Elizabeth Taylor



# MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

**"great dancing..."**

—Anna Kisselgoff,  
*The New York Times*



Janet Eilber in the  
solo 'Frontier'.

Photo by Max Waldman

**"...dancers like no  
other on earth..."**

—*Los Angeles Herald Examiner*

**"A SUPERB INSTRUMENT"**

—Clive Barnes, *New York Post*



# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Collections

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Martha Graham Center  
316 East 63 Street  
New York,  
New York 10021



*New York  
State Theater*

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GALA  
WORLD PREMIERE  
OF 'SONG'  
10 MAJOR REVIVALS  
3 GRAHAM CLASSICS  
'THE RITE OF SPRING'

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LINCOLN  
CENTER

*April 2-21, 1985*

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