



From opera to pop musicians, painters to politicians, New Yorkers from all ends of the city joined **The Martha Graham Center of Contemporary Dance** at Central Park's Boathouse for an October luncheon to raise scholarship funds for the Martha Graham School. Guests celebrated eight honorees—women who continue Martha Graham's legacy of excellence across eight disciplines: art, opera, pop music, theatre, art, performance, politics, law, and social services. Honorees were legendary soprano **Martina Arroyo**; four-time Tony Award winner **Zoe Caldwell**; SVP–YMCA of Greater New York and New York Planning Commission member, **Maria Del Toro**; chashama founder and artistic director, **Anita Durst**; City Council member for the Bronx, **Helen Diane Foster**; foremost American painter **April Gornik**; managing associate of Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP **Amy Pasacreta**, Esq.; and Grammy Award winner **Suzanne Vega**. Students from the Martha Graham School performed three pieces choreographed by Martha Graham (*El Penitente*—excerpt; Satyric Festival Song; "The Bride" from *Appalachian Spring*). Guests included **Jean Baruch**, **Natan Bibliowicz**, **Katherine Borowitz**, **Sandra Crawshaw-Sparks**, **Diane Fisher**, **Eric Fischl**, **Laura Gordon**, **Grace Haggerty**, **Stephanie Kikis**, **Sahra Lese**, **Michel Maurel**, **Joyce Menschel**, **Hilda Frost Neis**, **Lorraine Oler**, **Irina Pabst**, **Joyce Purnik**, **Neila Radtke**, **Herbert and Judy Schlosser** (Trustee chair), **Elena Stephanopoulos**, **Victor Syrmis**, **Lee Traub**, and **Melinda vanden Heuvel**. Trustee President **Inger Witter** chaired the luncheon committee. Photos: Costas Cacaroukas & Rose Billings



4-time Tony winner Zoe Caldwell sports her honoree star donated by Tiffany staff.



Masterpiece artists—honoree April Gornik with Eric Fischl.



Legendary soprano and honoree Martina Arroyo with husband Michel Maurel



Anita Durst, honoree and founder of the cutting-edge chashama artist space.



Inger Witter, Trustee President & Luncheon Chair, with guest Irina Pabst.



Suzanne Vega, honoree & Grammy award winner.



Honoree Maria Del Toro, SVP,  
YMCA of Greater NY and member,  
NYC Planning Commission



Martha Graham Center's Board Chair,  
Judy Schlosser with Artistic Director,  
Janet Eilber



Elena Stephanopoulos



Howard Schlosser



Martha Graham Center's Executive Director LaRue Allen with  
architects Natan Bibliowicz and Carolyn Iu.



Jean Baruch



Honoree Amy Pasacreta, Esq.,  
Managing Associate of Orrick Herrington  
& Sutcliffe LLP



Amélie Bénard (l) receives graduation certificate from  
Martha Graham School Director, Virginie Mécène



Cheree L. Gulley, Esq. (l) with Honorable  
Helen Diane Foster, NYC Council Member  
representing the 16th District in the Bronx.

Photos:  
Costas Cacarouksa  
& Rose Billings



Martha Graham Center's Board Chair,  
Judy Schlosser with Joyce Purnick



Trustee Neila Radtke with Beth Thill



**Top left and clockwise:**

Stephanie van Dooren, member of  
Graham II Company, performs the "Bride"  
except from Martha Graham's  
*Appalachian Spring*

Martha Graham School's  
talented students!

Recent school graduate, Amélie Bénard,  
performs Martha Graham's  
*Satyric Festival Song*

Martha Graham Dance Company  
member, Oliver Tobin and  
School graduate, Jessica Delia  
perform an excerpt from  
Martha Graham's *El Penitente*.

*Photos: Costas Cacaroukas  
& Rose Billings*

