

Presented by THE UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

# Marcel Marceau

with

JEAN-LUC VERNA and JONATHAN LAMBERT

Two different programs:

Saturday and Sunday, July 7 and 8, 1984, at 8:00 (Program I) Wednesday and Thursday, July 11 and 12, 1984, at 8:00 (Program II)

> Power Center for the Performing Arts Ann Arbor, Michigan

Mr. Marceau will make his selections from the following:

### Style Pantomimes

Walking Walking Against the Wind The Staircase The Tight Rope Walker The Public Garden The Bill Poster The Kite The Sculptor The Painter The Cage The Bureaucrats The Hands Rememberances The Side Show The Pickpocket's Nightmare Contrasts The Maskmaker The Seven Deadly Sins Youth, Maturity, Old Age and Death The Tango Dancer The Small Cafe The Dice Players The Four Seasons The Dream The Creation of the World The Trial The Angel The Dress The Tree The Amusement Park

#### INTERMISSION

#### **Bip** Pantomimes

Bip in the Subway Bip Travels by Train Bip as a Skater Bip Hunts Butterflies Bip Plays David and Goliath Bip Commits Suicide Bip as a Soldier Bip at a Society Party Bip as a Street Musician Bip as a China Salesman Bip as a Fireman

Bip as a Baby Sitter Bip as a Professor of Botany Bip as a Lion Tamer Bip Looks for a Job Bip in the Modern and Future Life Bip as a Tailor in Love Bip Dreams He Is Don Juan Bip, Great Star of a Traveling Circus Bip and the Dating Service Bip as a Great Artist Bip Remembers

Presentation of Cards by Jean-Luc Verna

## About the Artist

Marcel Marceau, master of the ancient dramatic art of mime, brings his creative genius and his esteemed teaching abilities to the first Ann Arbor Summer Festival. In addition to his four concert performances, Mr. Marceau is holding two weeks of master classes in mime at The University of Michigan. These classes are the first seminars Marceau has presented in the United States; until now, he has given instruction only in his Paris International School of Mime. "Ann Arbor is the ideal choice, not only because it is a great city with a great university, but it is making a tremendous contribution to the arts by bringing in the best people," says the mime artist.

Born in Strasbourg, France, Marceau's interest in the Art of Mime began at an early age, when he would imitate by gestures anything that fired his imagination. He was devoted to such silent screen artists as Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, Harry Langdon, and Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy, and his admiration for these great actors inspired him to pursue the art of silence as his profession. Marceau's first important step was taken in 1946 when, at the age of 20, he enrolled in Charles Dullin's School of Dramatic Art in the Sarah Bernhardt Theatre in Paris. Here he studied with the great master, Etienne Decroux, who also taught Jean-Louis Barrault. The latter noticed Marceau's exceptional talent and made him a member of his Company. Marceau presented his first "mimodrama" at the Bernhardt Theatre that same year, with a unanimous success that firmly established his career.

As a style pantomimist, Marcel Marceau has been acknowledged without peer. His silent exercises and satires on everything from sculptors to matadors, have been described as works of genius. Of his summation of the ages of Man in the famous *Youth, Maturity, Old Age and Death*, one critic said that "he accomplished in less than two minutes what most novelists cannot do in volumes." In 1947 Marceau created "Bip" the clown, who, in his striped pullover and battered, beflowered opera hat, has become his alter-ego. Bip's misadventures with everything from butterflies to lions, on ships and trains, in dance halls or restaurants, are limitless.

Marceau made his first tour of the United States in the 1955-56 season, close on the heels of his North American debut at the Stratford (Ontario) Festival. Throughout this continental tour, he played to standing-room-only crowds in San Francisco, Chicago, Washington, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, and other major cities. His second American tour was in 1958, and since than he has been a regular visitor to the United States and Canada.

Mr. Marceau's multiple talents shine as a star of television and motion pictures, an author and an artist. His art has become familiar to millions of Americans as a performer on the "Show of Shows," which won for him the coveted "Emmy" award, and he has been a favorite guest of Johnny Carson, Merv Griffin, Mike Douglas, John Davidson, and Dinah Shore. He also had his own one-man show entitled "Meet Marcel Marceau." Cable TV viewers are currently enjoying his recent special with Red Skelton. In motion pictures, he protrayed the 17 different roles of "shanks" in *First Class*, where he combined his silent art, playing a deaf mute puppeteer, and his speaking talent, as a mad scientist. He created the mimodrama *Candide* for the Ballet Company of the Hamburg Opera, which he not only directed, but also performed the title role. Children have been delighted by his highly acclaimed *Marcel Marceau Alphabet Book* and the *Marcel Marceau Counting Book*. He wrote and illustrated *The Story of Bip*, and in 1982 *The Third Eye*, a collection of ten lithographs of Marcel Marceau the artist, was published in Paris with his own accompanying text. These lithographs are on display this evening in the Power Center lobby.

Earlier this year, after a successful one-night-stand tour, Marceau has had extended engagements in Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, and Chicago. During his stay in Chicago, the University of Chicago, with a substantial subsidy from the City of Paris, invited the entire faculty and student body of the Paris International School of Mime for three weeks of intensive classes.

Mr. Marceau's four appearances in this Festival bring his total number of Ann Arbor performances to 24, under University Musical Society auspices.

We invite you to view the ten limited edition lithoprints of Marcel Marceau, the artist, on display in the lobby this evening.

Immediately following this performance, weather permitting, selected short films of such silent screen artists as Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton will be shown at the Top of the Park (on top of the adjoining parking structure). We invite you to join us.