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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS A MONTHLONG TRIBUTE TO THE GENIUS OF
TWYLA THARP
FEATURING THE JOFFREY BALLET (OCT. 4–6)
MIAMI CITY BALLET (OCT. 26–28) AND AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE (NOV. 7–11)**

BERKELEY, August 29, 2007—Cal Performances presents a salute to one of the true geniuses of modern dance, **Twyla Tharp**. A phenomenon in American dance, she merges jazz, ballet and modern dance with a penchant for popular culture and a post-modernist flair. In recognition of her vast influence, Cal Performances presents three acclaimed American companies, all long absent from the Bay Area: **Joffrey Ballet** (Oct. 4–6), **Miami City Ballet** (Oct. 26–28) and **American Ballet Theatre** (Nov 7–11).

Fresh from its 50th anniversary, Chicago-based **Joffrey Ballet** brings to Berkeley a program that demonstrates its brilliant and pioneering tradition. The company will perform Twyla Tharp's seminal *Deuce Coupe*, originally commissioned by Robert Joffrey and set to the music of the Beach Boys; Laura Dean's *Sometimes It Snows in April*, part of Artistic Director Emeritus Gerald Arpino's full-length ballet, *Billboards*, choreographed to the music of Prince; and Robert Joffrey's sly homage to classical ballet, *Pas des Déesses*, set to 19th-century piano music by John Field and performed in Berkeley by company pianist Paul Lewis (Oct. 4–6). A *Sightlines* pre-performance talk will be given by dance critic **Elizabeth Zimmer**. This event is free to ticket holders.

Miami City Ballet, under the direction of founder **Edward Villela**, will perform Tharp's enormously popular *Nine Sinatra Songs*, set in the 1950s with costumes by Oscar de la Renta, and *In the Upper Room*, "a 40-minute unfolding of energy, of pulsating rhythm, of dance ideas" (*The Philadelphia Inquirer*), with music by Philip Glass. The "jewel of a company" (*The New York Times*), also performs *Agon*, one of George Balanchine's finest abstract ballets (Oct. 26–28).

The tribute to Tharp concludes with **American Ballet Theatre**, one of the world's most revered dance troupes. The first program includes Stanton Welch's *Clear*, set to music by Bach;

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Balanchine's *Ballo della Regina*, with music by Verdi; Jerome Robbins's *Fancy Free*, music by Leonard Bernstein; and a *pas de deux*, to be announced (Nov. 7–8). The second program features Tharp's ballroom showpiece *Sinatra Suite*, set to favorites sung by Frank Sinatra; and *Baker's Dozen*, with music by Willie "The Lion" Smith. The West Coast premieres of new works by **Jorma Elo** (untitled, set to music by Philip Glass) and **Benjamin Millepied's** *From Here On Out* set to music by Nico Muhly are also included (Nov. 9–11). A *Sightlines* pre-performance talk will be given by dance writer and Tharp biographer **Marcia Siegel**. This event is free to ticket holders.

FOCUS ON TWYLA THARP: HUMANITIES EVENTS

In addition to performances of works by Twyla Tharp by the Joffrey Ballet, Miami City Ballet and American Ballet Theatre, Cal Performances has arranged a variety of related community and campus events. The Osher Long Life Institute (OLLI), an organization on the UC Berkeley campus that provides courses for community members aged 50 and over, offers a fall course titled **Tharp's Impact on American Dance** that features a series of lectures by dance critics and authors, including **Elizabeth Zimmer**, former senior editor at the *Village Voice* (Oct. 4); **Janice Ross**, Associate Professor at Stanford (Oct. 25); and **Marcia Siegel**, Tharp biographer and dance critic for the *Boston Phoenix* (Nov. 8). The class includes discounted tickets to performances by the three companies. A film series titled **Twyla Tharp's Choreography in Film** will be held at Wheeler Auditorium and includes screenings of four films: *Hair* (Oct. 9); *Ragtime* (Oct. 16); *Amadeus* (Director's Cut) (Oct. 23); and *White Nights* (Nov. 14).

Marcia Siegel, whose book on Tharp is titled *Howling Near Heaven: Twyla Tharp and the Reinvention of Modern Dance* (2006), will make a second appearance on campus when she gives a lecture on Tharp's work; this event is co-sponsored by The Faculty Club and the Department of Theater, Dance & Performance Studies (DTPS) (Nov. 9). Lastly, DTPS is reconstructing one of Tharp's quintessential post-modern work, *Torelli* (1976) with UC Berkeley dance students directed by Lisa Wymore and Shannon Jackson; the production also includes choreography by Jess Curtis, Kim Epifano and Ariel Osterweis Scott (April 18–27). All of the events are made possible in part by Consortium for the Arts at UC Berkeley.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for the monthlong salute to Twyla Tharp are as follows: **Joffrey Ballet** on **Thursday and Friday, October 4 and 5 at 8:00 p.m.**; and **Saturday, October 6 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.** at Zellerbach Hall; and **Miami City Ballet** on **Friday and Saturday, October 26 and 27 at 8:00 p.m.**; and **Sunday, October 28 at 3:00 p.m.** at Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$34.00, \$52.00 \$76.00 and \$90.00**. Tickets for **American Ballet Theatre** on **Wednesday–Friday, November 7–9 at 8:00 p.m.**; **Saturday, November 10 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.**; and **Sunday, November 11 at 3:00 p.m.** are priced at **\$38.00, \$60.00 \$86.00 and \$100.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.net; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.net.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced two hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to 1 ticket per person and all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB Faculty and Staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20.00 for all other community members. Information is available at 510-642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

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Cal Performances 2007/08 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

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Friday, October 5 from 7-7:30 p.m.
SIGHTLINES

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave, Berkeley

A Joffrey Ballet *Sightlines* pre-performance talk will be given by dance critic **Elizabeth Zimmer**. *Sightlines* is a continuing program of pre- and post-performance discussions with Cal Performances' guest artists and scholars, designed to enrich the audience's experience. These events are free to ticket holders.

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Thursday & Friday, October 4 & 5 at 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 6 at 2:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave, Berkeley

Dance Series: Focus on Twyla Tharp

Joffrey Ballet

Twyla Tharp, choreographer
Robert Joffrey, choreographer
Laura Dean, choreographer
The Beach Boys, composer
Prince, composer
John Field, composer
Paul Lewis, pianist

Program:

Deuce Coupe (1973): music by The Beach Boys; choreography by Twyla Tharp
Sometimes It Snows in April (1993) from Gerald Arpino's *Billboards*: music by Prince,
choreography by Laura Dean
Pas des Déesses (1954): music by John Field; choreography by Robert Joffrey

Tickets: \$34.00, \$52.00, \$76.00 and \$90.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.net; and at the door.

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Friday & Saturday, October 26 & 27 at 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 28 at 3:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave, Berkeley

Dance Series: Focus on Twyla Tharp

Miami City Ballet

Twyla Tharp, choreographer
George Ballanchine, choreographer
Igor Stravinsky, composer
Philip Glass, composer

Program:

Nine Sinatra Songs (1982): various songs sung by Frank Sinatra; choreography by Twyla Tharp

In the Upper Room (1986): music by Philip Glass; choreography by Twyla Tharp

Agon (1957): music by Igor Stravinsky; choreography by George Balanchine

Tickets: \$34.00, \$52.00, \$76.00 and \$90.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.net; and at the door.

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Friday, November 9 from 7–7:30 p.m.

SIGHTLINES

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus

Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave, Berkeley

An American Ballet Theatre *Sightlines* pre-performance talk will be given by dance writer and Tharp biographer **Marcia Siegel**. *Sightlines* is a continuing program of pre- and post-performance discussions with Cal Performances' guest artists and scholars, designed to enrich the audience's experience. These events are free to ticket holders.

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Wednesday–Friday, November 7–9 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 10 at 2:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 11 at 3:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus

Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave, Berkeley

Dance Series: Focus on Twyla Tharp

American Ballet Theatre

Twyla Tharp, choreographer

Stanton Welch, choreographer

George Ballanchine, choreographer

Jerome Robbins, choreographer

Jorma Elo, choreographer

Benjamin Millipied, choreographer

Nico Muhly, composer

J. S. Bach, composer

Giuseppe Verdi, composer

Philip Glass, composer

Leonard Bernstein, composer

Programs:

Program A: Wed. & Thurs., Nov. 7 & 8 at 8:00 p.m.

Clear (2001): music by J. S. Bach; choreography by Stanton Welch

Ballo della Regina (1978): music by Giuseppe Verdi; choreography by George Balanchine

Fancy Free (1944): music by Leonard Bernstein; choreography by Jerome Robbins

Pas de deux, to be announced

Program B: Fri., Nov. 9 at 8:00 p.m.; Sat., Nov. 10 at 2:00 & 8:00 p.m.; and Sun., Nov. 11 at 3:00 p.m.

Baker's Dozen (1979): music performed by Willie "The Lion" Smith; choreography by Twyla Tharp

Sinatra Suite (1984): music performed by Frank Sinatra; choreography by Twyla Tharp

From Here On Out (2007): music by Nico Muhly; choreography by Benjamin Millipied; West Coast premiere

New work (2007): music by Philip Glass; choreography by Jorma Elo; West Coast premiere

Tickets: \$38.00, \$60.00, \$86.00 and \$100.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.net; and at the door.

**FOCUS ON THARP
HUMANITIES EVENTS**

Thursday, October 4 & 25 from 2:00–4:00 p.m. **Osher Life Long Learning Institute**
Thursday, November 8 from 1:45–3:00 p.m. Alumni House, UC Berkeley Campus
CLASS College at Bancroft Ave., Berkeley

Program:

A class titled **Tharp's Impact on American Dance** is offered by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Designed for participants aged 50 and above, it features a series of lectures by dance critics and authors and discounted tickets to performances by the Joffrey Ballet, Miami City Ballet and American Ballet Theatre. For more information go to www.oli.berkeley.edu or call 510-642-9934. Pre-registration is required.

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Tuesday, October 9, 16, 23 at 7:00 p.m. **Wheeler Auditorium, UC Berkeley Campus**
Tuesday, November 14 at 7:00 p.m. Telegraph at Bancroft Ave., Berkeley
FILM SERIES

Program:

The film series titled **Twyla Tharp's Choreography in Film** includes *Hair* (Oct. 9), *Ragtime* (Oct. 16), *Amadeus* (Director's Cut) (Oct. 23) and *White Nights* (Nov. 14).

Tickets: \$3.00, available at the door.

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Friday, November 9 from 4:00–5:30 p.m. **Faculty Club, Great Hall, UCB Campus**
LECTURE College at Bancroft Way, Berkeley

Program:

A talk by Marcia Siegel, Boston Phoenix dance journalist and author of *Howling Near Heaven:*

Twyla Tharp and the Reinvention of Modern Dance. This event is presented by Cal Performances in association with The Faculty Club and the Department of Theater, Dance & Performance Studies. For further information go to <http://theater.berkeley.edu> or call 510-642-9925.

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Friday & Saturday, April 18 & 19 at 8:00 p.m. **Zellerbach Playhouse, UCB Campus**
Friday & Saturday, April 25 & 26 at 8:00 p.m. Dana at Bancroft Way, Berkeley
Sunday, April 20 & 27 at 2:00 p.m.
Berkeley Dance Project

Program:

Produced by the Department of Theater, Dance & Performance Studies, Twyla Tharp's quintessential post-modern work, *Torelli* (1976) is reconstructed with UC Berkeley dance students in a program directed by Lisa Wymore and Shannon Jackson, which also includes choreography by Jess Curtis, Kim Epifano and Ariel Osterweis Scott. For tickets and additional program information, call 510.642.9925 or go to <http://theater.berkeley.edu>.

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