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[Images Available Here](#)

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS TWO DISTINCT PROGRAMS OF
MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP AND MUSIC ENSEMBLE
INCLUDING ONE WEST COAST AND FIVE BAY AREA PREMIERES
THURSDAY–SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25–28 IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, August 13, 2014—[Mark Morris Dance Group and Music Ensemble](#) returns to Berkeley, its West Coast home away from home, for five performances in two separate programs. Cal Performances’ programmatically diverse and stylistically expansive 2014–2015 dance season opens by highlighting Morris’s own musical eclecticism and choreographic range, with the West Coast premiere of *Crosswalk* (2013), and the Bay Area premieres of *The Muir* (2010), *A Wooden Tree* (2012), *Festival Dance* (2011), *Jenn and Spencer* (2013), and *Excursions* (2008). Jazz trio The Bad Plus returns for Morris’s *Spring, Spring, Spring*, which premiered at Cal Performances’ 2013 Ojai North Music Festival rounds out the programming. A recipient of the Cal Performances Award of Distinction in the Performing Arts with more than 200 performances on UC Berkeley stages, Morris continues a long creative association in bringing these works to Cal Performances. The Mark Morris Dance Group and Music Ensemble performs Thursday–Saturday, September 25–27 at 8:00 p.m., Saturday, September 27 at 2:00 p.m., and Sunday, September 28 at 3:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall.

Program A on Thursday and Saturday, September 25 and 27 at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, September 28 at 3:00 p.m., begins with two Bay Area premieres: *The Muir*, set to Beethoven’s arrangements of Irish and Scottish folk songs, and *A Wooden Tree*, a whimsical work with music by Scottish songwriter Ivor Cutler (1923-2006) that was originally choreographed for Mikhail Baryshnikov, who will return to Cal Performances in Robert Wilson’s [The Old Woman](#) in November. The program continues with the Bay Area premiere of *Jenn and Spencer*, an emotionally visceral duet danced to Henry Cowell’s Suite for Violin and Piano (1925), hailed by *The New York Times* as “both formal and intimate, a ritual studded with images of startling mutual knowledge and tension.” The program concludes with the Bay Area premiere of the buoyant, folk-tinged *Festival Dance*, with music by Hummel.

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Program B on Friday, September 26 at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 27 at 2:00 p.m., features the West Coast premiere of *Crosswalk*, a high-energy ensemble work set in conversation with the Romantic composer Carl Maria von Weber's Grand Duo Concertant for clarinet and piano, Op. 48 (1816). *Excursions*, a dramatically imaginative exploration of Americana themes inspired by Samuel Barber's 1944 solo piano composition of the same name, makes its Bay Area premiere before the program concludes with a re-mounting of Morris's *Spring, Spring, Spring* with Stravinsky's score arranged and performed live by the acclaimed jazz trio The Bad Plus.

[Mark Morris](#) has been hailed as the “the most prodigiously gifted choreographer of the post-Balanchine era” (*Time*). In addition to creating more than 130 works for his dance group, he conducts orchestras, directs opera, and choreographs for ballet companies around the world. Morris is a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation and has received eleven honorary doctorates to date, the Samuel H. Scripps/American Dance Festival Award for Lifetime Achievement, the Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award for the Elevation of Music in Society, and the Benjamin Franklin Laureate Prize for Creativity.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Mark Morris Dance Group and Music Ensemble**, Thursday–Sunday, September 25–28 in Zellerbach Hall range from \$40.00–\$96.00 and are subject to change. Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at www.calperformances.org, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to <http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php>.

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Cal Performances' 2014–2015 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Thursday–Friday, September 25–26 at 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 27 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 28 at 3:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Dana Street, Berkeley

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Dance

Mark Morris Dance Group and Music Ensemble

Mark Morris, choreographer, director

The Bad Plus

Program A: Thursday and Saturday, September 25 and 27 at 8:00 p.m., Sunday, September 28 at 3:00 p.m.

The Muir; music: Scottish folk songs, arr. Beethoven; choreography by Mark Morris (Bay Area premiere)

A Wooden Tree; music by Ivor Cutler; choreography by Mark Morris (Bay Area premiere)

Jenn and Spencer; music by Henry Cowell; choreography by Mark Morris (Bay Area premiere)

Festival Dance; music by Hummel; choreography by Mark Morris (Bay Area premiere)

Program B: Friday, September 26 at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 27 at 2:00 p.m.

Excursions; music by Samuel Barber; choreography by Mark Morris (Bay Area premiere)

Crosswalk; music by Weber; choreography by Mark Morris (West Coast premiere)

Spring, Spring, Spring; music by Stravinsky, arr. The Bad Plus; choreography by Mark Morris

Tickets: Prices range from \$40.00–\$96.00 and are subject to change. They are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at calperformances.org, and at the door.

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