

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 31, 2015

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[Press Room](#)

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS TWO BAY AREA PREMIERES
BY TWYLA THARP IN HER 50TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR
OCTOBER 16–18 IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

Residency activities are planned on the UC Berkeley campus and in the community as part of the inaugural Berkeley RADICAL season's ZellerBACH programming, including an Artist Talk, Community Response Panel, and a Community Dance Class.

BERKELEY, August 31, 2015—Cal Performances celebrates the 50th Anniversary Tour of American iconoclast choreographer [Twyla Tharp](#) with three performances, featuring two Bay Area premieres, Friday and Saturday, October 16 and 17, at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, October 18, at 3:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall. Instead of creating the expected for her milestone tour—a retrospective of her greatest hits—Tharp's restless spirit demanded she choreograph new works. This Berkeley RADICAL residency showcases Tharp's vast and enduring career of creating dance that has famously bridged popular and classical forms, with two new works performed by a company of 13 dancers, many of whom have worked with her for years. *Preludes and Fugues* (Bay Area premiere) is set to J. S. Bach's *The Well-Tempered Clavier* and presents the world as it ought to be, balanced and in sync. *Yowzie* (Bay Area premiere) presents the world as it is, and is steeped in the energetic rhythms of early jazz, with music by Jelly Roll Morton and Fats Waller, among others, arranged and performed by Henry Butler and Steven Bernstein. Both premieres are introduced by a *Fanfare*, composed by John Zorn with choreography by Tharp. The Berkeley performances are part of a tour that begins in Dallas on September 18 and concludes at New York's Lincoln Center on November 17–22.

Berkeley RADICAL residency activities are planned on the campus and in the community, including an Artist Talk by Twyla Tharp, followed by a signing of her latest book, *The Collaborative Habit: Life Lessons for Working Together* (2013), on Saturday, October 17, at 3:00 p.m. in Wheeler Auditorium; a Community Response Panel on the enduring attraction of Bach's music to creative artists on Saturday, October 17, at 5:30 p.m. in Wheeler Auditorium; and a Community Dance Class, featuring an artist with Twyla Tharp's company leading choreographic phrases from the current work on Saturday, October 17, at 11:00 a.m. in Bancroft

Studio. All events are free and open to the public. Advance registration is highly recommended. RSVPs open on September 8.

Twyla Tharp's work, often ambitious in scale and concept, has been praised for tackling the grandest themes of humanity while also retaining wit and humor, and her musical sources are famously eclectic, drawn from the likes of Billy Joel, Bob Dylan, Frank Sinatra, Fats Waller, and the Beach Boys. Since graduating from Barnard College in 1963, she has choreographed more than 160 works, including dances for the stage, television, Hollywood films, ballets, Broadway shows, and even figure-skating routines. Tharp has earned one Tony Award, two Emmy Awards, 19 honorary doctorates, the Vietnam Veterans of America President's Award, the 2004 National Medal of the Arts, the 2008 Jerome Robbins Prize, and a 2008 Kennedy Center Honor. Her many grants include the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellowship. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society, and an Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 1992, Tharp published her autobiography, *Push Comes to Shove*, and has followed that with several books about the creative process.

BERKELEY RADICAL

In February 2015, Cal Performances unveiled Berkeley RADICAL (**R**esearch **A**nd **D**evelopment **I**nitiative in **C**reativity, **A**rts, and **L**earning), its new project to cultivate the artistic literacy of future audiences and to connect the world's most innovative artists with the intellectual capital of the UC Berkeley campus. Through carefully crafted public programs and creative artistic residencies, Berkeley RADICAL serves as a framework to expand the reach of Cal Performances by providing audiences with multiple access points to a single work of art or artist. With a new work set to the music of J. S. Bach, Twyla Tharp's 50th Anniversary Tour is the first in a series of performances and public programs titled [ZellerBACH](#) that explores the lasting music of the renowned composer. Other artists in the series are Bach Collegium Japan (Oct. 24) and Gil Shaham (Apr. 14). For more information as public programs are announced, visit <http://calperformances.org/learn/berkeley-radical/programs.php>.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Twyla Tharp's 50th Anniversary Tour** on Friday and Saturday, October 16 and 17, at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, October 18, at 3:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall range from \$40.00 to \$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' 2015–2016 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday & Saturday, October 16 & 17, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 18, 3:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall
Bancroft Way at Dana Street
UC Berkeley campus

Dance

Twyla Tharp's 50th Anniversary Tour
Twyla Tharp, choreographer
Santo Loquasto, costume and set design
James Ingalls, lighting

Program:

First *Fanfare*: choreography by Twyla Tharp; music by John Zorn
Preludes and Fugues: choreography by Twyla Tharp; music by J. S. Bach (Bay Area premiere)
Second *Fanfare*: choreography by Twyla Tharp; music by John Zorn
Yowzie: choreography by Twyla Tharp; music: American jazz (Bay Area premiere)

Tickets: Prices range from \$40.00 to \$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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Berkeley RADICAL Event

Community Dance Class

Bancroft Studio Saturday, October 17,
at 11:00 a.m.

Bancroft Way at Dana Street
UC Berkeley campus

Program: An artist from Twyla Tharp's company leads a Community Dance Class, including Twyla Tharp technique and choreographic phrases from the current work. Free and open to the public. RSVPs open on September 8.

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Berkeley RADICAL Event

Artist Talk

Wheeler Auditorium

Saturday, October 17, at 3:00 p.m.

Bancroft Way at Telegraph Avenue
UC Berkeley campus

Program: Artist Talk with choreographer Twyla Tharp, followed by a signing of her latest book, *The Collaborative Habit: Life Lessons for Working Together* (2013). Free and open to the public. RSVPs open on September 8.

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Berkeley RADICAL Event

Community Response Panel

Wheeler Auditorium

Saturday, October 17, at 5:30 p.m.

Bancroft Way at Telegraph Avenue
UC Berkeley campus

Program: Community Response Panel exploring the enduring attraction of the music of J. S. Bach to creative artists. Free and open to the public. RSVPs open on September 8.

— Cal Performances —