**Twyla Tharp Dance: 50th Anniversary in Dance**

**Live at Wharton Center for Performing Arts**

Twyla Tharp Dance, founded in 1965, has been expanding the boundaries of ballet and modern dance for 50 years. Twyla Tharp’s ability to combine jazz, ballet, boxing, and other movements of her own creation has made her a pioneer in contemporary dance. With having choreographed more than 160 works: 129 dances, 12 television specials, six Hollywood movies, four full-length ballets, four Broadway shows, and two figure skating routines, Twyla Tharp has sent not only an immense amount of movement into the world, but has also received numerous accolades. She is the winner of one Tony Award (Best Choreography: *Movin’ Out*), two Drama Desk Awards (Best Choreography: *Movin’ Out* and *Come Fly Away*), two Emmy Awards (1984 TV special, *Baryshnikov by Tharp*), nineteen honorary doctorates, and a 2008 Kennedy Center Honor. The Chicago Tribune commends her as “the supreme choreographer of her time.”

And on her plans for the next 50 years with her company? “I’ll continue to work, and to create,” said Ms. Tharp. “It’s what I do!” At 73 years old, there is no slowing her down. Tharp’s decades of creation and experience are living proof that time is her partner and her continually deepening creativity makes her one of the century’s most treasured artists.

Twyla Tharp Dance will be making their Wharton Center debut on November 3, 2015 at 7:30 PM in the Cobb Great Hall. The company will be celebrating 50 years in dance with a two new works: *Preludes and Fugues* set to J.S. Bach’s *Well-Tempered Clavier* and *Yowzie* with jazz from Steve Bernstein and Michigan State University alumnus Henry Butler. With their immaculate technique and joy, her fierce band of dancers is sure to bring the choreography to life. For more details about the performance and to purchase tickets, please visit whartoncenter.com or call 1-800-WHARTON.