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## The Center for Contemporary Dance Hosts Tribute to Dance Icon Merce Cunningham

The Center for Contemporary Dance will present *For Merce*, a tribute to dance legend Merce Cunningham, who passed away at the age of 90 on July 26, 2009. Featuring a film presentation of dancer-choreographer's work, live Cunningham-inspired dance works by Nao Dance Collective and Moore Dance Project, and an open dialogue about the artist's legacy, *For Merce* is part of an ongoing series of learning programs designed to inform the community about pioneers in American and world dance. *For Merce* takes place on Saturday, August 22 at 7pm and Sunday, August 23 at 6pm at The Center for Contemporary Dance, located at 3580 Aloma Avenue # 7 in Winter Park. Tickets are \$10 and all proceeds support The Center's Scholarship Fund, established to assist young students in their dance education goals. To purchase tickets, visit [www.TheCenterForDance.org](http://www.TheCenterForDance.org) or call (407) 695-8366.

### *For Merce*

Saturday, August 22, 2009 at 7pm

Sunday, August 23, 2009 at 6pm

THE CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY DANCE  
3580 Aloma Avenue #7, Winter Park, FL 32792

All Tickets \$10\*

Ticket Purchase:

[www.TheCenterForDance.org](http://www.TheCenterForDance.org) ■ (407) 695-8366

\*All proceeds support The Center for Contemporary Dance's Scholarship Fund, established to assist talented young students in their dance education goals.

One of the most influential choreographers of our time and the founder of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, Cunningham was best known for creating dance works that explored the limitless possibilities of movement itself. Additionally, his pioneering work in video and film enlarged the possibilities of choreography for the camera. Cunningham's distinctive style is at once precise and organic, with emphasis placed on shape and form rather than on emotive storytelling. The artist's radical approach to time, space and technology lives on in performances by the now 56-year-old Merce Cunningham Dance Company, which continues to perform for audiences around the world.

In addition to the public tribute to Cunningham, the dancer-choreographer is the subject of The Center's educational programming throughout the month of August, and "all students of The Center will become intimately acquainted with the artist's contributions to dance," says Dario J. Moore, Artistic Director for The Center. Teachers at The Center will be incorporating important facts about Cunningham into each of their classes and students will work with Cunningham-based movements. "Students must know their dance history," says Moore, "Everything we are is because of the great pioneers who paved the way for contemporary dance artists. Were it not for Cunningham, American dance would not be as diverse or bold as it is today."

### About The Center for Contemporary Dance

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is home to five professional dance companies and an institute for dance education, The Center for Contemporary Dance is a leading production center for dance performance and arts education programs. Over the past 8 years, The Center for Contemporary Dance has supported emerging and seasoned artists in the creation and presentation of more than 170 new dance works. In addition to producing professional stage productions, The Center for Contemporary Dance develops arts education programs that reach child welfare organizations, underserved populations and our public schools. **To learn more, please call (407) 695-8366 or visit [www.TheCenterForDance.org](http://www.TheCenterForDance.org).**

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