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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Wellspring to Perform in New York: Erick Hawkins Tribute**

KALAMAZOO – Next month, Wellspring/Cori Terry & Dancers will travel to New York City to perform in the *American Dance Guild 2009 Festival*. The ADG Festival will present 52 artists from around the globe and pay tribute to modern dance masters Donald McKayle and Erick Hawkins, celebrating Erick's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### A Brief Bio of Erick Hawkins (1909-1994)

Erick Hawkins was a revolutionary American dancer and choreographer. In his youth, he worked with the great Martha Graham and became the first male dancer of her company. The "Hawkins Technique" was spawned from Graham's legendary technique, softening her bound energy movement into a free-flowing dynamic, formulating his own aesthetic. In 1951, he created the Erick Hawkins Dance Company where Wellspring's founder and Artistic Director, Cori Terry, was a member from 1974-1980.

The ADG Festival will take place at the beautiful new Manhattan Movement Arts Center in New York City on September 10-13, 2009. Wellspring will perform "Counter Offer" at 8PM on Saturday, Sept 12<sup>th</sup>. "Counter Offer" (2007), choreographed by Artistic Director Cori Terry, will be performed by Wellspring company members Alexis Harris, Jennifer Hudson, Michael Miller, Rachel Miller and Francesca Pileci to the musical score "Sweet Air" by David Lang.

"This is an exhilarating opportunity for me," Cori Terry explains, "to re-connect with the people I grew up with as a dancer." Terry continues, "Thirty-five years ago, I trained hard and toured across the country and abroad with many of the people I will see there, so, this is an exciting return for me. To have the resources to be able to bring the exquisitely talented Wellspring dancers, whom I have trained to perform my work, is an added thrill. We all hope Erick would feel proud and honored."

Tickets for ADG Festival performances are \$20, or \$60 for the Festival Pass (admits you to all five performances). Group rates and member/student/senior discounts are available. To purchase tickets, visit [www.smarttix.com](http://www.smarttix.com) or call 212-868-4444.

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## Wellspring to Perform in New York

Wellspring/Cori Terry & Dancers is southwest Michigan's only professional modern dance company. Founded in 1981 by dancer and choreographer, Cori Terry, Wellspring presents performances featuring works choreographed by Ms. Terry, company members and guest artists from around the world.

This extraordinary company of poetic and athletic dancers is committed to revealing the language of modern dance to adults and children alike. Critics have called Wellspring's work *dramatic, impassioned, seamless, compelling, exuberant, and life affirming*.

Located in the Wellspring Theater in downtown Kalamazoo's Epic Center, Wellspring offers performances, classes and outreach programs sharing the art form of modern dance. The organization's outreach and education programs serve an estimated 2,000 participants each year, including children, their families, and those with special needs.

Annually, the company produces two feature performances, the *Fall Concert of Dance* and the *Spring Concert of Dance*. Wellspring presents the region's finest choreographers in the annual *Midwest Regional Alternative Dance Festival* (formerly *Dance Forum*) and brings the works of national and international guest artists possessing diverse modern dance styles to Kalamazoo through the *Alternative Dance Project*. The company also tours, and offers numerous performances, lecture/demonstrations and master classes. For more information on Wellspring, visit [www.wellspringdance.org](http://www.wellspringdance.org).

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