KEEP DANCING
Directed by Greg Vander Veer
20 min. U S A, 2010
After celebrated careers, legendary dancers Marge Champion and Donald Saddler became friends while performing together in the Broadway Show Follies (2001). When the show closed, they decided to rent a private studio together where they have been choreographing and rehearsing original dances ever since. At 90 years old, they continue to pursue their passion for life through their love and mastery of dance. It is this passion that has allowed them to persevere through times filled with great joys and unbearable heartbreak. Today, Marge and Donald defy stereotypes. They are symbols of the ability to age with strength, optimism and meaning. Marge became famous in the late 1940’s when she danced with her husband, Gower Champion, as one of America’s most successful dance teams. Together, they starred in major MGM films such as Showboat and Three for the Show, pioneered early television programs, and were featured in many Broadway shows. Donald also began his career in MGM musicals, but his true — and tremendous — success came when he became a dancer and founding member of Ballet Theatre (soon to be American Ballet Theatre), before becoming a distinguished performer on Broadway. After years as a brilliant dancer, Donald moved on to be a premier choreographer of American musical theatre, winning two Tony Awards in the process. KEEP DANCING seamlessly blends 9 decades of archival film and photographs with present day footage to tell a story through dance of the passing of time and the process of aging.

Music of the Brain
Directed by Fiona Cochrane
55 min. Australia, 2009
Music affects our development from the womb to the grave. This documentary examines the role music plays in developing our brains as humans, beginning with premature infants in neonatal intensive care wards, moving through the role of music in enhancing performance in childhood (including discussion of the Mozart effect), the role of music therapy in hospitals, and finally looking at the elderly. Music is good for our health - and this documentary shows you how and why.