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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 8, 2012

**THE LEGENDARY TON KOOPMAN CONDUCTS**  
**THE AMSTERDAM BAROQUE ORCHESTRA & CHOIR**  
**IN BACH'S MASS IN B MINOR**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 10, IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

**Sightlines: A pre-concert talk will be given by Jeffrey Thomas of American Bach Soloists on Saturday October 15, 7:00–7:30 pm**

**BERKELEY, February 8, 2012**—In their first time at Cal Performances, one of the foremost champions of early music, conductor **Ton Koopman**, will lead the **Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir** in **Bach's Mass in B minor** at **8:00 p.m.** on **March 10** in **Zellerbach Hall**. Bach was a prolific composer whose work ranged in style over his lifetime. The Mass in B minor (BWV 232) was finished in 1749 (one year before his death) and was his final large-scale work. A setting of the full Latin Mass was rare for Bach, who was a Lutheran, and it is still unclear what inspired him to complete this monumental work. It synthesized the wider range of contributions he made to composition, and is known as one of the great works in Western music. Ton Koopman and the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir have won rave reviews for their recording of the Mass, and are currently performing on a worldwide tour. The *New York Times* hailed, "Mr. Koopman found a blend of virtuosity, musicality and what might be called spiritual intelligence that brought one very close to what Bach must have had in mind."

A Sightlines pre-performance talk will be given on **Saturday, March 10**, at 7:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall. **Jeffrey Thomas**, artistic director of American Bach Soloists and UC Davis Professor of Music, will host. This event is open to all concert ticket holders.

**Ton Koopman** was born in 1944, and studied organ, harpsichord and musicology in Amsterdam. He has been fascinated with authentic instruments and a performance style based on sound scholarship since his time in University. In his 40-year career, Koopman has worked as a soloist, accompanist, and conductor, and has recorded a vast library on Erato, Teldec, Sony and

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Philips. He recently created his own record label, “Antoine Marchand,” that will produce all of his future recording including those by the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir).

The **Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra**, founded by Ton Koopman in 1979, is made up of internationally renowned baroque specialists who come together and present programs several times a year. With the Amsterdam Baroque Choir, the ensemble performs repertoire that includes instrumental and vocal-instrumental composed between 1600 and 1791; “I draw the line at Mozart’s death” says Ton Koopman. The **Amsterdam Baroque Choir**, founded in 1992, made its debut during the Holland Festival of Early Music. With its rare combination of interpretive flexibility and textural clarity, they are considered one of today’s outstanding choirs.

The Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir has recorded all major baroque and classical works. In 1994, Ton Koopman and the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir received the Deutsche Schallplattenpreis “Echo Klassik” award for their groundbreaking recordings of Bach’s secular and sacred cantatas based on the most recent musicological research. Koopman and musicologist Christoph Wolff published three companion books, which were also the basis for six television documentaries. Among many others, the orchestra has received the Gramophone Award, Diapason D’Or, 10 de Répertoire, Stern des Monats-Fono Forum, the Prix Hector Berlioz and the Edison Award.

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets prices for **Ton Koopman** and the **Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir** on **Saturday, March 10, 2012 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall range from **\$30.00-\$95.00** and are subject to change. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5.00 discount (Special Events excluded). For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior, and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three hours prior to a performance on Cal Performances’ Facebook page and at 510-642-9988 and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; one ticket per

person; all sales are cash only. For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org).

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bank of America for major support of the 2011/12 Season.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:  
CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Saturday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m.  
Sightlines**

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus  
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley**

A pre-performance talk will be given by Jeffrey Thomas, artistic director of American Bach Soloists and UC Davis Professor of Music. Sightlines is a continuing program of pre- and post-performance discussions with Cal Performances' guest artists and scholars, designed to enrich the audience's experience. This event is free to ticket holders.

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**Saturday, March 10, at 8:00 p.m.**

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus  
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley**

**Early Music  
Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir  
Ton Koopman, conductor**

**Program:**  
Bach/Mass in B minor

**Tickets:** Range from \$30.00-\$95.00 and are subject to availability. Tickets may be purchased at Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at [calperformances.org](http://calperformances.org); and at the door.

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