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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 11, 2013

**CHICK COREA, 20-TIME GRAMMY WINNER,
RETURNS WITH BÉLA FLECK, 15-TIME WINNER,
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18 AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, December 11, 2013—Two of the most decorated jazz musicians of all-time, pianist and composer [Chick Corea](#) and banjo virtuoso [Béla Fleck](#), will perform a [series of genre-busting duets](#) on Saturday, January 18 at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall. The duo has nearly 100 Grammy Award nominations between them, plus the 2007 Latin Grammy-winning album *The Enchantment*, which they recorded together after only a single night's rehearsal in a Los Angeles hotel. Fleck, who has been nominated in more categories than anyone in Grammy history, is making his debut at Cal Performances, while Corea, a Berkeley favorite, is returning for a fourth time. With two original voices and a distinctive combination of instruments, Corea and Fleck “may not seem like a natural paring...Supernatural is more like it” (*The Washington Post*). The duo's performance in Zellerbach Hall will transverse a variety of genres from jazz to bluegrass to classical, as well as pieces from *The Enchantment* album.

At age 72, **Chick Corea** shows no signs of slowing down. Since his last appearance with Cal Performances in 2009, Corea has continued his relentless string of productivity, including non-stop world tours and seven new albums. His latest project, *The Vigil*, with all new music and an all new band was released on August 6, 2013. Born Armando Anthony Corea, he got his start accompanying luminaries like Mongo Santamaria and Sarah Vaughan. In 1968, he replaced Herbie Hancock in Miles Davis's band, who at the time, was conceiving a new electric sound and insisted Corea use an electric keyboard. He formed a new group, Return to Forever, in 1972 and turned up the volume with compositions that were electric mini-symphonies, thrilling audiences worldwide. A short time later, he began incorporating strings, horns and even vocals into Return to Forever and subsequent groups. Over the next four decades, Chick's creative universe has only grown, encompassing everything from straight-ahead jazz to classical

excursions to uncategorizable fusions of musical adventure.

A New York native, **Béla Fleck** has collaborated with numerous musicians from around the globe and across several genres. He began playing the banjo at age 15 and was encouraged to experiment with bebop and jazz after seeing Corea in a Return to Forever concert when he was 17. “I remember having a magic moment when I realized that all of the notes they were playing were on my banjo, too, and I had to go find them,” Fleck said. “It became my secret desire to do that, and eventually it blossomed into the career I have now.” Fleck released his first solo album, *Crossing the Tracks*, in 1980 which featured material ranging from straight ahead bluegrass to Corea’s *Spain*. In 1989, he formed the Flecktones, which have collaborated with artists as diverse as Bruce Hornsby, Branford Marsalis, John Medeski, Andy Statman, the Alash Group, Dave Matthews, and Corea. In 2011, Fleck wrote his first stand alone banjo concerto, *The Imposter*, on commission with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra and Giancarlo Guerrero. Fleck and wife, Abigail Washburn – also a banjo player – are currently touring with their new baby and The Banjo Summit.

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TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Chick Corea** and **Béla Fleck** on **Saturday, January 18, at 8:00 p.m.** in **Zellerbach Hall** range from **\$26.00 to \$76.00** and are subject to change. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. For more information about tickets and discounts, go to <http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php> or call (510) 642-9988.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their major support of the 2013–2014 Season.

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CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, January 18 at 8:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Dana Street, Berkeley

Jazz

Chick Corea, piano

Béla Fleck, banjo

Program: Legendary pianist Chick Corea and banjo virtuoso Béla Fleck perform a series of genre-busting duets.

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