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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS THE SECOND BIENNIAL
BERKELEY EDGE FEST:
A FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCE
JUNE 3-5, 2005 AT HERTZ HALL, UC BERKELEY CAMPUS**

FOUR-CONCERT SERIES FEATURES A 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR MINIMALIST TERRY RILEY AND THE WORK OF VISIONARY JOHN ZORN

THREE WORLD PREMIERES FROM JORGE LIDERMAN, FERNANDO BENADON AND REYNOLD THARP, PLUS WORKS BY KEERIL MAKAN AND ADRIANA VERDIE ARE ALSO ON THE PROGRAM

BERKELEY, April 8, 2005—The second biennial **Berkeley Edge Fest, June 3 – 5, 2005** will be presented by Cal Performances in **Hertz Hall** on the UC Berkeley campus. Designed to provide a showcase for new and contemporary works of performing art, the 2005 Berkeley Edge Fest gets off to a celebratory start with a 70th birthday concert for the prolific and unpredictable **Terry Riley**. Friends and musical cohorts of Riley's will perform including son **Gyan Riley** (guitar), **Tracy Silverman** (electric viola), **George Brooks** (saxophone), **Paul Hanson** (bassoon), **Zakir Hussain** (*tabla*); **John Zorn** (saxophone), **Joan Jeanrenaud** (cello); **Toni Minnicola** (dance); and **Michael McClure** (poetry), among others..

After the streamers and balloons have been cleaned up, the work of maverick composer **John Zorn** will move center stage. Zorn has contributed literally hundreds of groundbreaking works spanning a vast array of styles; the two Berkeley Edge Fest concerts feature four works: *Walpurgisnacht* (2004), *Le Momo* (1999), excerpts from *Masada Book Two – The Book of Angels* (2004), and *Necronomicon* (2003). The closing Berkeley Edge Fest concert includes three world premiere works by composer and UC Berkeley faculty member **Jorge Liderman** and recent UCB graduate alumni **Fernando Benadon** and **Reynold Tharp**. The work of **Keeril Makan** and **Adriana Verdie**, also graduate alumni of Berkeley's distinguished music department, will be presented. Musicians at the 2005 Berkeley Edge Fest include **Masada String Trio**, **Crowley Quartet**, new-music violinist **Jennifer Choi**, Zorn-specialist pianist

Stephen Drury, and **Berkeley Contemporary Chamber Players** conducted by **David Miles**, among others.

The Berkeley Edge Fest is produced by Cal Performances in association with the Department of Music and the Center for New Music and Audio Technologies at UC Berkeley. **Robert Cole**, Director of Cal Performances, is the General Director of the Berkeley Edge Fest.

BERKELEY EDGE FEST CONCERT SCHEDULE

The Berkeley Edge Fest opens **Friday, June 3** at **8:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall with a **70th Birthday Celebration for Terry Riley**. No one represents the California revolution in minimalism and electronic experimentation better than Terry Riley, the undisputed hipster of contemporary music turns 70 this spring. Since his 1964 seminal *In C* hit the airways, his influence has been reflected in the music of Steve Reich, Philip Glass and John Adams, as well as rock groups such as The Who, The Soft Machine, Curved Air, Tangerine Dream, and many others. Riley's multi-layered, polymetric, brightly orchestrated, eastern-flavored improvisations and compositions set the stage for the prevailing interest in a New Tonality. His solo keyboard and piano concerts have become legendary since his all-night performances in the 60's. He was listed in the *London Sunday Times* as one of the "1000 Makers Of The 20th Century." Riley has begun work on a series of music sketches under the collective title of *Beat Sutras*, inspired by the beat poetry of Jack Kerouac and Michael McClure, two of the original beat poets of the 1950's movement. Presently scheduled to join Riley on stage are **Zakir Hussain** (percussion), **Joan Jeanrenaud** (cello), **Tracy Silverman** (electric viola), **Gyan Riley** (guitar), **George Brooks** (saxophone), **Krishna Bhatt** (sitar), **Antonia Minnicola** (dance and voice), **John Zorn** (saxophone), and of course Terry Riley (guitar and electric guitar).

Berkeley Edge Fest concerts on **Saturday, June 4** and **Sunday, June 5** will explore the protean music of **John Zorn**, encompassing avant-garde and experimental music, classical string quartets and opera, movie scores and jazz, among others. With the formation of his record label *Tzadik*, Zorn has catapulted Jewish music into the 21st-century, thereby adding another genre to his repertoire. Zorn creates music at an astonishing rate, having produced more than 250 CDs. In February 2005 alone, he released three new recordings: *Rituals*, a strange and mystical monodrama for mezzo soprano and ten instruments; *Filmworks XV: The Protocols of Zion*, an

intimate score for a new documentary film on the controversial subject of the rise of anti-semitism after 9/11; and a re-mastered, five CD set version of one of his most popular, and most brutal and uncompromising, pieces *Naked City*. "My work is like a little prism," says Zorn. "You look through it and it goes off in a million different directions." The Saturday, June 4 at 8:00 p.m. performance begins with *Walpurgisnacht* (2004), a depiction of the witches' sabbath familiar from the Faust legend, with leading New York new music violinist **Jennifer Choi**, violist **Richard O'Neill** and cellist **Fred Sherry**. The work demands "high-tension virtuosity and shuttles schizophrenically between avant-garde, nontonal extravagance and almost hypnotically tonal sweetness" (*The Boston Globe*). Zorn's 16 minute minimalist chamber piece *Le Momo* (1999) was inspired by the works of 20th-century shaman Antonin Artaud and the subjects of exorcism and possession. It will be performed by Choi and, New England Conservatory and long-time Zorn collaborator, pianist **Stephen Drury**. The second half of the concert is devoted to an excerpt from *Masada Book Two – The Book of Angels* (2004) with the **Masada String Trio** comprised of **Mark Feldman** (violin), **Erik Friedlander** (cello) and **Greg Cohen** (contrabass), with Zorn conducting. This work is part of the Masada project started by Zorn in 1994, encompassing more than two hundred compositions that integrate elements of klezmer and Middle Eastern music with jazz, avant-garde and classical, to produce a new form of Jewish music; the Masada works have become one of Zorn's most popular musical projects.

A second excerpt from *Masada Book Two – The Book of Angels* opens the **Sunday, June 5** concert at **3:00 p.m.** Mark Feldman (violin) will be joined by pianist **Sylvie Courvoisier**. After intermission, *Necronomicon* (2003), a five-movement tour de force for string quartet, is performed by the **Crowley Quartet** including Jennifer Choi (violin), **Jesse Mills** (violin), Richard O'Neill (viola), and Fred Sherry (cello). *Necronomicon* ("book of dead names") first premiered at Zorn's month-long 50th birthday celebration and is "full of precipitous contrasts: skittering pizzicato, haunting legato cries, fortissimo climaxes, [and] hushed interludes," says David Adler of *JazzTimes*. "The harmony, like Zorn himself, was absolutely and thrillingly impenetrable."

The 2005 Berkeley Edge Fest concludes **Sunday, June 5** at **7:30 p.m.** with a concert featuring works by composer and UC Berkeley Music Professor **Jorge Liderman** and recent UC

Berkeley graduate alumni, including three world premieres written for the festival. Born in Buenos Aires, Jorge Liderman received his doctorate in composition from the University of Chicago and, one year later, joined the UC Berkeley faculty. His works have been commissioned and performed by London Sinfonietta, American Composers Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Tanglewood Orchestra, Radio France, Netherlands Wind Ensemble, and many others. He has been the recipient of awards and commissions from the Guggenheim Foundation (2003), The American Academy of Arts and Letters (2004), The Fromm Music Foundation (2000), and the University of California President's Fellowship (2003). The *San Francisco Chronicle* described Liderman's work on his 2004 CD *Trompetas de Plata: A Collection of Chamber* as "brisk, witty and rhythmically vital." Berkeley Edge Fest presents the world premiere of *Faster...*, a composition for cello, piano and marimba in three movements. "The two outer movements are rhythmic, pulsating and dynamic in their quality, oscillating between fragmented passages," explains the composer. "The second movement serves as a contrast... is a slow movement that explores a wide harmonic and timbral gamut." Musicians are to be announced.

Liderman will also give the American premiere of a second piece, *Flautando* (2005), a concertino for flute and chamber ensemble featuring 22 variations on a theme. **Berkeley Contemporary Chamber Players**, a group founded in 1970 and comprised of students from UC Berkeley, will perform *Flautando*, along with a flutist, to be announced. **David Milnes**, Associate Professor of Music at UC Berkeley and who also serves as director of the San Francisco Contemporary Music, conducts **Tod Brody**, (flute), **Carey Bell** (clarinet), **Terry Baum** (violin), **Thalia Moore** (cello), **Jacqueline Chew** (piano), **Karen Rosenak** (piano), **Michael Orland** (percussion), **Chris Froh**, (saxophone). Liderman wrote the work for flutist Peter Bacchus; it debuts in April 2005 in Barcelona.

Also on the Sunday, June 5 program are works by four recent graduate alumni of UC Berkeley's Department of Music. **Fernando Benadon**, composer and Professor of Music at Washington University, has written a work for Berkeley Edge Fest for clarinet, violin and cello. Praised as "engagingly forward" by *The New York Times*, Benadon's work has been performed by a number of ensembles worldwide, including Les Jeunes Solistes, Aspen Contemporary Ensemble and Tanglewood Orchestra, to name just a few. In 2001, he was the recipient of UC

Berkeley's Ladd Prize which funded a two-year residency in Paris to compose, research and study with composer Philippe Leroux. **Reynold Tharp**, also a Ladd Prize winner and currently a visiting assistant professor of composition and theory at the University of Illinois, presents two works: the first, a yet to be titled world premiere for piano and percussion; and, *Cold* (2002) scored for vibraphone and piano. Tharp's compositions have been performed by Berkeley Contemporary Chamber Players, Ensemble Diffraction (Paris), the Orchestre Lyrique de Région Avignon-Provence, and the Nieuw Ensemble (Amsterdam).

Rounding out the program is **Adriana Verdie's** flute solo *Flute 3.2.4.* (1995), inspired by pan pipe music from the Andres. The *San Francisco Chronicle* compared the piece to Varese's *Density 21.5* "in its vivid exploration of this instrument's capabilities." Verdie's music has also been called "compelling and original" (*LA Times*). She is on the faculty of California State University at Long Beach. Lastly, a work for solo baritone saxophone by University of Illinois Professor **Keeril Makan** will be performed by **Brian Sacawa**. Makan has written works for the Kronos Quartet, the Bang on a Can All-Stars, the Paul Dresher Electroacoustic Band, and the Left Coast Chamber Ensemble. He has also received major awards and commissions from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, ASCAP, The Fromm Music Foundation, Gerbode Foundation in San Francisco, Meet the Composers, and Carnegie Hall. Makan's to-be-titled composition for Berkeley Edge Fest will be presented in New York City in April.

TICKET INFORMATION

Subscriptions and single tickets for the **Berkeley Edge Fest 2005** are on sale now at the Cal Performances Ticket Office. Individual tickets for the John Zorn and Terry Riley concert on **Friday, June 3** and the John Zorn concerts on **Saturday, June 4** and **Sunday, June 5** are **\$32.00** each; individual tickets for the matinee concert featuring the music of Jorge Liderman and recent UC Berkeley graduates on **Sunday, June 5** are **\$26.00**. Subscribers to all four concerts receive a 20% discount off the single ticket prices. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students; UC Berkeley Alumni Association members receive a \$3 discount; UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, and other students receive a \$2 discount. For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988 or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

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CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, June 3 at 8:00 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at College, Berkeley

Berkeley Edge Fest 2005

THE 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF TERRY RILEY

Terry Riley, *keyboard, voice and tamboura*

Gyan Riley, *guitar and electric guitar*

Joan Jeanrenaud, *cello*

Tracy Silverman, *electric viola*

George Brooks, *saxophones*

Paul Hanson, *bassoon*

Krishna Bhatt, *sitar*

Zakir Hussain, *tablas and percussion*

Antonia Minnicola, *dance and voice*

Michael McClure, *poet*

John Zorn, *saxophone*

Program:

Riley/Invocation; Olde English; Crazy World; Ghost Tantra; Emerald Runner; Pictures and Stories; Curse of the 7 Generations Blues; Amina.

Tickets: \$32.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; on line at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door.

Saturday, June 4 at 8:00 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at College, Berkeley

Berkeley Edge Fest 2005

THE MUSIC OF JOHN ZORN

John Zorn, conductor

Jennifer Choi, violin

Richard O'Neill, viola

Fred Sherry, cello

Stephen Drury, piano

Masada String Trio

Mark Feldman, violin
Erik Friedlander, cello
Greg Cohen, contrabass

Program:

Zorn/*Walpurgisnacht* (2004); *Le Momo* (1999); *Masada Book Two – The Book of Angels* (2004), excerpt

Tickets: \$32.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; online at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door.

Sunday, June 5 at 3:00 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at College, Berkeley

Berkeley Edge Fest 2005

THE MUSIC OF JOHN ZORN

Mark Feldman, violin
Sylvie Courvoisier, piano
Crowley Quartet
Jennifer Choi, violin
Jesse Mills, violin
Richard O'Neill, viola
Fred Sherry, cello

Program:

Zorn/*Masada Book Two – The Book of Angels* (2004), excerpt; *Necronomicon* (2003)

Tickets: \$32.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; online at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door.

Sunday, June 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at College, Berkeley

Berkeley Edge Fest 2005

THE MUSIC OF JORGE LIDERMAN, FERNANDO BENADON, REYNOLD THARP,
KEERIL MAKAN AND ADRIANA VERDIE

Berkeley Contemporary Chamber Players

David Milnes, conductor
Tod Brody, *flute*
Carey Bell, *clarinet*
Terry Baum, violin
Thalia Moore, *cello*
Jacqueline Chew, piano
Karen Rosenak, *piano*
Michael Orland, *percussion*
Chris Froh, *saxophone*
Brian Sacawa, baritone saxophone
Additional musicians, to be announced

Program:

Liderman/*Faster...* (world premiere)
Liderman/*Flautando* (American premiere)
Benadon/new piece for clarinet, violin and cello (world premiere)

Tharp/new piece for piano and percussion (world premiere)

Tharp/*Cold* (2002)

Verdie/*Flute 3.2.4.* (1995)

Makan/new piece for solo baritone saxophone (West coast premiere 2004)

Tickets: \$26.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; online at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door.