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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS
THE 2006 BERKELEY FESTIVAL & EXHIBITION, JUNE 4 – 11**

EIGHTH FESTIVAL FEATURES THE WEST COAST PREMIERE OF *BAROQUE CARNIVAL* BY
LE POÈME HARMONIQUE & LE CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS DU CIRQUE;
SKIP SEMPÈ'S CAPRICCIO STRAVAGANTE TRIO

PLUS

PERFORMANCES BY MUSICA PACIFICA, ASTERIA, THE KING'S NOYSE AND
THE WHOLE NOYSE, PHILHARMONIA CHAMBER PLAYERS, CHANTICLEER, AND
OTHERS FILL A WEEK OF EARLY MUSIC CONCERTS AND ACTIVITIES

**Festival events include American Bach Soloists' International Young Artists Vocal
Competition, Early Music America's annual conference and marketplace of music,
instruments and merchandise, plus symposia, master classes and Early Music for Families**

BERKELEY, CA – The international early music audience will focus on the Bay Area's
influential early music hub for the eighth **Berkeley Festival & Exhibition, June 4 - 11, 2006**.
Since its inauguration in 1990, the Berkeley Festival & Exhibition has been regarded as one of
the premier events of its kind, as early music performers, scholars, instrument makers, publishers
and other professionals gather for a week of concerts, lectures, symposia and master classes on
and around the campus of the University of California, Berkeley. *The Berkeley Festival &
Exhibition is produced by Cal Performances, the San Francisco Early Music Society (SFEMS),
Early Music America and the Department of Music at UC Berkeley.*

The 2006 Festival & Exhibition features 10 main stage performances, plus dozens of
Fringe events featuring music from the Middle Ages through the Baroque. Sponsored by Early
Music America, the **Berkeley Festival Exhibition & Music Marketplace, Thursday -
Saturday, June 8 - 10**, features handcrafted musical instruments, sheet music, accessories,
recordings, new and rare publications and “mini-concert” demonstrations of instruments.

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“The emphasis and excitement of the Festival has always centered on inspired, impeccable musicianship fused with revelatory scholarship, and this year will be no different,” says **Robert Cole**, Director of Cal Performances and founder of the Berkeley Festival. “We’re putting a special emphasis on inviting the whole family to the festival with performances such as *Baroque Carnival*, the precursor to the modern-day circus, that will appeal to early music aficionados as well as first-timers. And by ‘we’ I want to emphasize the importance of our invaluable partners, in particular the San Francisco Early Music Society that will present four concerts by **Asteria**, **Musica Pacifica**, **The King’s Noyse** and **The Whole Noyse**, and **Capriccio Stravagante Trio**. The Berkeley Festival & Exhibition is truly a collaboration in every sense of the word.”

Making their first appearance on the West Coast, **Le Poème Harmonique** and **Le Centre National des Arts du Cirque** bring *Baroque Carnival* to Berkeley with all the excitement and splendor of a 17th-century Roman festival, complete with tumblers, jugglers, musicians, and vocalists. The ever-popular harpsichordist **Skip Sempé** will return with the **Capriccio Stravagante Trio**; **The King’s Noyse** and local brass ensemble **The Whole Noyse** will join forces in a concert featuring German music; and **Philharmonia Chamber Players** will perform a candlelight Vivaldi concert—and this is just a sampling of concerts in store. New this year is **Early Music for Families**, an event especially planned with children in mind, where most of the participants will be young performers, and as in the past a substantial Fringe element of concerts will keep Berkeley humming with music for an entire week.

The Berkeley Festival & Exhibition draws international talent and visitors to the Bay Area. In addition to the concerts, conference and exhibition, **American Bach Soloists (ABS)** will hold its International Bach Competition, this year focusing on the voice. The competition has been renamed in honor of Dr. Henry I. Goldberg, who served as Board President of ABS from 2002 to 2005. Semi-finals will be held **Wednesday, June 7** at **4:00 p.m.** at Trinity Chapel; and Finals will be held **Friday, June 9** at **8:00 p.m.** at First Congregational Church.

BERKELEY FESTIVAL CONCERT SCHEDULE

The Festival opens **Sunday, June 4** at **7:00 p.m.** at Mission Dolores, San Francisco, with

Chanticleer's presentation of *La Guerre: Triumph & Tragedy*. From the frightful sounds of battlefields to impassioned pleas for God's aid, 16th-century conflicts resonate today. Composers **Clément Janequin, Tomás Luis de Victoria, Francisco Guerrero** and **Juan de Padilla** depict the timeless and tragic results of the quest for victory. The tensions and vibrancy of the era are evident in Victoria's *Missa Pro Victoria* and Guerrero's *Missa de la batalla escoutez*, both mass settings based on Janequin's chanson "La Guerre." *Please note that tickets for this event are available through City Box Office at 415.392.4400 or www.cityboxoffice.com.*

Wednesday, June 7 at 8:00 p.m. at Berkeley's First Congregational Church, **Le Poème Harmonique** will make its West Coast debut. The award-winning company of superb musicians and vocalists was founded by **Vincent Dumestre** to promote the authenticity and eloquence of the works of innovative 17th-century composers. Led by Dumestre on theorbo, the ensemble includes Camille Poul, soprano; Bruno Le Levreur, countertenor; Serge Goubioud, tenor; Bernard Arrieta, baritone; Martin Bauer, bass viol; and Frederic Michel, organ and harpsichord. They will perform the works of Michel Richard de Lalande, the most influential and talented composer of sacred music working at the Court of Versailles during that period. While the male voice was considered the ideal instrument to perform spiritual music, Lalande composed for the female voice, with his wife and daughters frequently performing his compositions. The program includes Lalande's *Leçons de Ténèbres* and *Miserere*, works that display the technical mastery and eloquent expression of this maverick composer.

On **Thursday, June 8 at 7:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall, the **University Chorus** under the direction of **Marika Kuzma** will present a concert, the program of which will be announced.

Friday, June 9 at 5:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall, **Asteria** presents *A Rose of Such Virtue: Sacred and Secular Love in the Waning Middle Ages*. The program features chansons by **Guillaume Dufay, Gilles Binchois** and **Robert Morton**, among others. Much of the courtly poetry from the 12th- to the 15th-centuries can be summed up, as Robert Morton does in his chanson from the later 15th-century, with one phrase: "Vive Ma Dame!" The Lady, the absolute, flawless, most worthy object of chivalric desire, is one of the most mysterious and intriguing elements of medieval art. A picture of the secular Lady as well as the Sacred Lady, the Virgin

Mary, is drawn through these French songs. Asteria, featuring Sylvia Rhyme, soprano and Eric Redlinger, tenor and lute, was the winner of the 2004 Early Music American Medieval/Renaissance competition. This concert is sponsored by San Francisco Early Music Society.

Friday, June 9 at 8:00 p.m. at Zellerbach Hall the musicians and vocalists of Le Poème Harmonique are joined by the circus artists of **Le Centre National des Arts du Cirque (CNAC)** in a splendid and spirited presentation of *Baroque Carnival*. The production takes the audience back to the richness of 17th-century Rome during the ten days of non-stop Carnival that precede the austerity of Lent. The set depicts the Piazza Navona and is based on engravings by Jacques Callot, painted on canvas panels to create an impression of perspective. The carnival scenario is brought to life with acrobats and tumblers, traditional processions, singing performances, gargantuan banquets, Carnival characters such as Gola (Gluttony), and the *lazzi* (sight gags) of *commedia dell'arte*. Both performances of *Baroque Carnival* are Family Fare events, featuring half-price tickets for children 16 and under.

Saturday, June 10 at 5:00 p.m. at Hertz Hall **Musica Pacifica**—known for its “lively virtuosity” and “stunning precision of execution” (*Los Angeles Times*)—will perform *A Venetian Carnival*. Carnival is again the inspiration for the program, this time from Venice, a city equally renowned for its extravagances. Colorful chamber concertos by **Vivaldi**, such as *La Notte* and *Tempesta di Mare* reflect the *chiaroscuro*—the light and dark—of this special season along with incidental music from Italian carnival operas and *commedia dell'arte*, **Uccellini's *La Bergamasca*** and chamber music by such Venetian composers as Giovanni Legrenzi, Tomaso Albinoni, and Francesco Maria Veracini will be performed. Musica Pacifica features Judith Linsenberg, recorder; Elizabeth Blumenstock, violin; Gonzalo Ruiz, oboe; Kate van Orden, bassoon; David Morris, cello; and Charles Sherman, harpsichord. This concert is presented by San Francisco Early Music Society.

In the evening on **Saturday, June 10** at 7:30 p.m. in Hertz Hall, the violin band **The King's Noyse** and Bay Area leading early music brass ensemble **The Whole Noyse** join forces to present *Ornament and Splendor: Highlights of German Music in the 17th Century*, featuring

the sacred music of **Michael Praetorius**. The third book of the composer's treatise, *Syntagma Musicum*, described various types of ornamentation practiced in Italy in the 17th-century, illustrated by ornamented settings of some of his hymns. These hymns will be performed alongside instrumental and dance music, and Latin motets by Praetorius and his contemporaries, including Erasmus Widmann, Heinrich Schütz and Samuel Scheidt. The musicians include David Douglass, Robert Mealy and Shira Kammen, violin and viola; David Morris, cello; Stephen Escher, cornett; Richard Hessel and Sandy Stadtfeld, sackbut; Herb Myers, viola; and Machan Isfahan, organ. This concert is presented by San Francisco Early Music Society.

Also on **Saturday, June 10** at **8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall, Cal Performances presents *Le Poème Harmonique* and *Le Centre National des Arts du Cirque* in the second performance of *Baroque Carnival* (see June 9). Both performances of *Baroque Carnival* are Family Fare events, featuring half-price tickets for children 16 and under.

Saturday, June 10 at **10:30 p.m.** at First Congregational Church, the evening concludes with **Philharmonia Chamber Players's *Viva Vivaldi – Concerti by Candlelight***. The principal players of Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra perform beloved selections and rarely heard gems from Vivaldi's time in Venice. The program includes the unparalleled *Four Seasons* as well as solo concerti featuring recordist Hanneke van Proosdij, lutenist David Tayler and cellist Tanya Tomkins.

Sunday, June 11 at **3:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall charismatic American harpsichordist **Skip Sempé** and **Capriccio Stravagante Trio** will present *The Itinerant Virtuosi*, featuring Sempé, Julien Martin, recorder, and Josh Cheatham, viola da gamba. Maintaining the adventurous marriage of nonchalance and power which is the trademark of Capriccio Stravagante, this lively musical tour features the best-known and loved works by such musical leading lights as **Diego Ortiz, Giulio Caccini, John Dowland, William Byrd, Marin Marais** and **Louis Couperin**.

BERKELEY FESTIVAL EXHIBITION & MARKETPLACE

The Berkeley Festival Exhibition & Marketplace, featuring instruments, publications, recordings, accessories, "mini-concert" demonstrations of instruments and many of the world's

finest craftsmen and builders, will be held in First Congregational Church **Thursday, June 8, 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.** and **Friday & Saturday, June 9 & 10, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.** Sponsored by Early Music America, the exhibit is free and open to the public.

CONCURRENT EVENTS

Early Music America's National Conference: *The Early Music Entrepreneur* will be held **Thursday – Saturday, June 8 – 10, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** at the Berkeley City Club. Keynote speakers include Susan Hellauer of Anonymous 4 and David Douglass of Kings's Noyse/Noyse Productions. For further information, go to www.earlymusic.org or call 888.722.5288.

Early Music is Popular Music symposium will be presented **Friday, June 9 at 2:00 p.m.**, 125 Morrison Hall, UC Berkeley campus. Organized by musicologist Scott Edwards of UC Berkeley's Department of Music, participants include Vincent Dumestre, director of Le Poème Harmonique; David Douglass, director of The King's Noyse; and Skip Sempé, director of Capriccio Stravagante. The symposium is sponsored by the UC Berkeley Department of Music.

On **Saturday, June 10**, at **2:00 p.m. Early Music for Families** will be held at International House, on UCB campus. Young musicians will demonstrate instruments used to play Renaissance and Baroque music. Participants include a viola da gamba consort sponsored by the **Viola da Gamba Society Pacifica Chapter, Junior Recorder Society** students, young musicians from the **Junior Bach Festival, Piedmont Bagpipe Band** players, and children from the **Music Discovery Workshop**. Audience members will have a chance to hear, see and touch a variety of instruments. For further information, call 510.848.5591. This event is free and open to the public.

International House hosts an **Elderhostel** program titled ***A Feast of Early Music***. Accommodations, meals, lectures, and some concerts are included. Visit www.elderhostel.org or call 510.642.4128 for further information.

An assortment of Fringe concerts organized by **San Francisco Early Music Society** will

be held during the Festival week. Further information is available at www.sfems.org.

A variety of participating early music organizations will hold meetings, special events, demonstrations and discussions during the Festival. **Early Music America, San Francisco Early Music Society, American Recorder Society, Western Early Keyboard Association, and Viola da Gamba Society** will convene at the Festival throughout the week as well, with events and schedules TBA. Information on the activities of these associations as well as schedules for demonstrations and all Festival, Exhibition and Fringe information is available at www.bfx.berkeley.edu and at Zellerbach Hall Ticket Office.

TICKET INFORMATION

Subscriptions and single tickets for the Berkeley Festival & Exhibition are on sale now at the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall. Individual ticket prices range from **\$16.00** to **\$42.00** (see calendar). Tickets are available by phone at (510) 642-9988; at <http://bfx.berkeley.edu>; and at the door. Subscribers receive a 10% discount off the single ticket price when purchasing tickets for five or more events. 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. *Tickets for Chanticleer's Sunday, June 4 presentation of La Guerre: Triumph & Tragedy are available through City Box Office at 415.392.4400 or www.cityboxoffice.com.* For information about fees and admission to classes and other events, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-0212. Visit the Berkeley Festival & Exhibition web page at <http://bfx.berkeley.edu> for performance calendar, ticket information and up-to-date Festival details. Both performances of *Baroque Carnival* are *Family Fare* performances, featuring half-price tickets for children ages 16 and under.