

CONTACT:  
Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714  
ckellogg@calperfs.berkeley.edu  
Joe Yang 510.642.9121  
scyang@calperfs.berkeley.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 17, 2007

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**  
**BALLET FLAMENCO SARA BARAS'S BAY AREA PREMIERE OF SABORES**  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 AND SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25**  
**AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

**BERKELEY, January 17, 2007**—Dancing a fine line between exquisite and raw, the passionate and powerful **Sara Baras** returns with her company, **Ballet Flamenco Sara Baras**, to Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall on **Saturday, February 24 at 8:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m.** For two evenings, Baras will perform the Bay Area premiere of her latest creation, *Sabores* (Flavors). Known throughout Spain as a superstar flamenco dancer, Baras has been honored with the country's most prestigious dance award, the *Premio Nacional de Danza*. Hailed for her intense and elegant spirit, Baras will perform with her company of ten dancers and six musicians plus musical director **José María Bandera**. Covering various flamenco emotions, *Sabores* draws inspiration from a variety of dance forms, such as *tangos*, *seguiriyas*, *tanguillos* and *bulerías*, creating a flavorful palette and a feast for the senses. *Sabores* is "a perfectly presented show of faultless flamenco" (*The Evening Standard*, London) and had its world premiere in Paris during the 2005 Flamenco Festival. The program also features two guest dancers/choreographers, **José Serrano** and **Luis Ortega**.

**SARA BARAS**

**Sara Baras** was born in Cadiz, Spain in 1971 and began training at her mother's flamenco school at age eight. At 18, she won first prize in a television talent contest and began to gain recognition for her extraordinary gifts as a dancer. By 1998, she had established Ballet Flamenco Sara Baras; the company's first production was *Sensaciones*, a journey through *palos*, traditional forms of flamenco that have no plot but emphasize the feminine aspects of the dance. The second production, titled *Sueños*, premiered in April of 1999 in Jerez, Spain. Paris's *Le Figaro* called Baras "the most sensational discovery on the women's [flamenco] scene—her

-MORE-

dance is sculptural and magnificent, her footwork of a virtuosity rarely attained by a female flamenco dancer.” An audience favorite, *Sueños* toured Europe, United States, South America and Asia. With *Sabores*, her third production, she finishes a trilogy of work begun with *Senaciones*.

Recognized for her youth and beauty as well as for her talent as a dancer and choreographer, Baras was named the “Face of Andalusia” in 2002 and represents the Tourism Council of the Andalusian government. She was honored with a stamp issued by the Spanish postal system and has gained a reputation as a fashion-forward celebrity.

### **BALLET FLAMENCO SARA BARAS**

Ballet Flamenco Sara Baras, founded in 1998, includes two guitarists, two singers, a percussionist and a violinist creating syncopated rhythms that work in symbiosis with the dancers’ explosive footwork and choreography. The award-winning company has toured extensively. In 2002, they made flamenco box office history by selling out every night of a five-month show in Madrid, where Baras now makes her home.

In addition to Baras (director, choreographer, dancer), the company includes dancers **Alicia Fernández, Cecilia Gómex, Ana González, Charo Pedraja, María Vega, Raúl Fernandez, José Galán, Raúl Prieto, Daniel Saltares** and **David Martín**. The band is made up of **Bandera** (musical director, guitar); **Mario Montoya** (guitar); **Miguel de la Tolea** and **Saúl Quirós** (vocals); **Antonio Suárez** (percussion); and **José Amador Goñi** (violin).

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for **Ballet Flamenco Sara Baras Saturday, February 24 at 8:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$28.00, \$38.00** and **\$56.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.net](http://www.calperformances.net); and at the door. Half-price tickets

are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens and other students receive a \$2 discount, and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$3 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at [www.calperformances.net](http://www.calperformances.net).

# # #

Cal Performances' 2006/07 Season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

Classical 102.1 KDFC and SFStation.com are 2006/07 season media sponsors.

# # #

**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Saturday, February 24 at 8:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m.**

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

*World Stage*

**Ballet Flamenco Sara Baras**  
**Sara Baras**, dancer and artistic director

**Program:** Spain's most famous flamenco company, Ballet Flamenco Sara Baras, perform the Bay Area premiere of *Sabores* (Flavors), the final installment in a trilogy of work showing a broad spectrum of flamenco styles.

**Tickets:** \$28.00, \$38.00 and \$56.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.net](http://www.calperformances.net); and at the door.

---