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**VIOLINIST GIDON KREMER, JOINED BY PIANIST ANDRIUS ZLABYS AND
VIBRAPHONIST ANDREI PUSHKAREV, PRESENTS *AFTER BACH*
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, October 12, 2006 — Violinist **Gidon Kremer** will highlight his worldwide reputation as one of the most original artists of his generation when he performs an adventurous program, *After Bach*, at Cal Performances on **Thursday, November 16 at 8:00 p.m.** at **Zellerbach Hall**. Kremer, “an ever-questing performer ... in a class of his own” (*Los Angeles Times*), is admired for the intensity of his playing, the sometimes unorthodox brilliance of his programming and for his friendship and generosity with other musicians. These attributes will be on full display as Kremer shares the stage with **Andrius Zlabys**, a gifted young pianist (described as “a powerhouse” by the *Los Angeles Times*), and vibraphonist **Andrei Pushkarev**, a Grammy Award-winning percussionist. With works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Arvo Pärt, Bela Bartók, Stevan Kovak Tickmayer and Astor Piazzolla on the program, *After Bach* will demonstrate how Bach’s genius and influence have inspired and been incorporated by generations of musicians.

GIDON KREMER

Gidon Kremer has been praised for his “impeccable sense of restraint and his allergy to philistinism” (*The New York Times*). Born in 1947 in Riga, Latvia, Kremer began studying violin with his father and grandfather, both accomplished strings players, at age seven, and by the eighth grade he was auditioning for international competitions. At 18, he began to study with David Oistrakh at the Moscow Conservatory, and in 1967 he won his first international prize, the Queen Elisabeth Competition, in Brussels. In his 30-year career, he has appeared on virtually every concert stage with the finest orchestras of Europe and the Americas, collaborated with today’s foremost conductors and instrumentalists and mastered a repertoire encompassing the standard classical and Romantic violin works as well as music of 20th-century masters. At his debut with the Baltimore Symphony in 2004, he was praised as being “capable of producing

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exquisite tonal shades, and unafraid to add a gritty quality when it suited the material” (*Baltimore Sun*).

In addition to concert performances, Kremer devotes a portion of his busy schedule to recital appearances with a diverse array of partners including Valery Afanassiev, Martha Argerich, Keith Jarrett, Oleg Maisenberg, Vadim Sakharov, Tatyana Grindenko, Misha Maisky and Thomas Zehetmair. In 1996, Kremer founded the Kremerata Baltica chamber orchestra, which fosters outstanding young musicians from the Baltic states. Kremer regularly tours with the orchestra, serving as artistic director and soloist. He also sponsors a music festival in the small Austrian village of Lockenhaus each summer, inviting select musicians from around the world to gather and explore new repertoire in an informal atmosphere conducive to discovery and communication.

Kremer has recorded more than 100 albums for the Deutsche Grammophon, Teldec, Philips, ECM, Sony Classical, EMI/Angel and Nonesuch labels. ECM released Kremer’s most recent recording, of the complete Sonatas and Partitas of Bach, in fall 2005. Kremer’s previous recordings have won the French *Grand Prix du Disque* and the German *Deutsche Schallplattenpreis* awards.

ANDRIUS ZLABYS

Andrius Zlabys began piano studies at the age of six in his native Lithuania at the Ciurlionis Art School. He graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music in 2000, where he studied with Seymour Lipkin, and received an Artist Diploma from the Cleveland Institute of Music under Sergei Babayan in 2005. Zlabys currently studies with Claude Frank at the Yale School of Music. He made his Carnegie Hall debut with the New York Youth Symphony Orchestra in 2001 and was featured at the 2004 Menuhin and Salzburg festivals. Zlabys has participated in Gidon Kremer’s Lockenhaus Music Festival (2001, 2002 and 2004) and has toured with Kremer’s Kremerata Baltica to Japan, China, Europe and South America. His recording of the Enescu Quintet (with Kremer) on Nonesuch Records received a 2003 Grammy Award nomination.

ANDREI PUSHKAREV

Andrei Pushkarev entered the Kiev Music School at age six, and by 14 was studying percussion with Aleksandr Blinov. In 1995, at age 21, he earned first prize in the newly established New Names of Ukraine competition, playing his own musical compositions on solo vibraphone. Pushkarev joined Gidon Kremer's Kremerata Baltica as percussionist in 1999 and has since toured the world with the group and recorded on the Nonesuch and Deutsche Grammophon labels. Pushkarev received a Grammy Award in 2001 and an Echo Award (Germany) in 2002 for the CD *After Mozart*, on which he played solo timpani. He has arranged works for vibraphone, violin and chamber orchestra, two of which will be performed at Zellerbach Hall. Pushkarev also plays in a jazz trio, which he founded in 2000.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Gidon Kremer's *After Bach*** featuring **Andrius Zlabys** and **Andrei Pushkarev** on **Thursday, November 16** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$36.00, \$48.00** and **\$68.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; 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.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

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

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Thursday, November 16 at 8:00 p.m.

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

Recital

Gidon Kremer, violin
Andrius Zlabys, piano
Andrei Pushkarev, vibraphone

Program:

J. S. Bach/“Fuga canonica” from Musical Offering, BWV 1079; Wachet auf, ruft uns die
Stimme, BWV645; Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659; Three two-voice
inventions

Pärt/Fratres

Bartók/Sonata for solo violin

Tickmayer/Three variations on a Hymn of J. S. Bach

Piazzolla, arr. Gubaidulina/Grand Tango

Piazzolla, arr. Pushkarev/Three Milongas

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door.
