SORPRANO NUCCIA FOCILE MAKES HER CAL PERFORMANCES’ RECITAL DEBUT
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 AT 3:00 P.M. IN HERTZ HALL

THE CONCERT OF OPERA ARIAS WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MEMBERS OF THE
BERKELEY SYMPHONY CONDUCTED BY ROBERT COLE

BERKELEY, August 14, 2006 – With a voice deemed “simply world-class, floating
gloriously focused notes everywhere” (The Echo), Italian soprano Nuccia Focile makes her Cal
Performances debut Sunday, September 17 at 3:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall. Her program of Italian
and French works includes arias from two different Manons, Puccini’s “Sola perduta
abbandonata” and Massanet’s “Adieu notre petite table.” The program also includes Cilea’s
infrequently performed “Ecco l’umile ancella” from Adriana Lecouvreur and concludes with
Verdi’s “Pace, Pace.” Focile will be accompanied by members of the Berkeley Symphony
conducted by Cal Performances’ Director Robert Cole, making for an unusually intimate
orchestral recital. Additional works performed by members of the Berkeley Symphony include
“Les Nubiennes” and “Adagio” from Gounod’s Faust and “Intermezzo” from Mascagni’s
Cavalleria Rusticana.

Nuccia Focile was born in Militello, Sicily. Her roles include Violetta in La Traviata,
Giulietta in I Capuleti e i Montecchi, Nedda in Pagliacci, Drusilla in L’incoronazione di Poppea,
Ascanio in Lo Frate ’nnammorato, Ilia in Idomeneo, Despina in Così fan tutte, Musetta and
Mimi in La Bohème, Giulia in La Scala di Setta, Tatiana in Eugene Onegin, Juliette in Romeo et
Juliette, Pamina in Die Zauberflöte, Micaela in Carmen, Liu in Turandot, Amelia in Simon
Boccanegra, the title role in Katya Kabanova, Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni and Elisabetta in
Don Carlo.

Focile has appeared with many of the world’s leading opera houses, including the Royal
Opera House, Metropolitan Opera, Teatro alla Scala, Paris Opera, Bayrische Staatsoper, Paris
Opera, Welsh National Opera, Teatro Colon, Hamburg Staatsoper, Houston Grand Opera, La
Fenice, Seattle Opera and Deutsche Oper Berlin.

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Focile’s operatic recordings include *Eugene Onegin* with Semyon Bychkov; *Così fan tutte, Le nozze di Figaro* and *Don Giovanni*, all with Sir Charles Mackerras; and *L’Assedio di Calais* with David Parry. Other recordings include *Petite Messe Solennelle* (Rossini) with Sir Neville Marriner, Schumann’s *Frauenliebe und Leben*, Tosti songs and a solo album of Donizetti, Verdi and Puccini songs. She has also performed with such illustrious maestri as Sir Colin Davis, Seiji Ozawa, James Levine, Riccardo Muti and Antonio Pappano.

Future engagements include *Pagliacci* at the Metropolitan Opera; *Così fan tutte* at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Accademia di Santa Cecilia and Cincinnati Opera; Mimi in *La Bohème, Pagliacci, La Traviata* and *Iphigénie en Tauride* at the Seattle Opera; *Falstaff* at the Glyndebourne Festival; the Countess in *Le nozze di Figaro*; title role in *Maria Golivin; Desdemona* in *Otello*; Musetta in *La Bohème* with the Royal Opera House; Tatiana in *Eugene Onegin* with Welsh National Opera; and Mimi in *La Bohème* at the Teatro Comunale di Bologna.

**TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for **Nuccia Focile** on **Sunday, September 17 at 3:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall are priced at **$48.00**. Performance 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

Sunday, September 17 at 3:00 p.m. Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Recital
Nuccia Focile, soprano
Members of the Berkeley Symphony
Conducted by Robert Cole

Program:
Mozart/“Porgi amor” from Le nozze di Figaro
Gounod/Marguerite's Jewel Song from Faust
Puccini/“Si mi chiamano Mimi” from La Bohème
Leoncavallo/“Stridono lassu” from Pagliacci
Cilea/“Ecco l’umile ancella” from Adriana Lecouvreur
Puccini/“Sola perduta abbandonata” from Manon Lescaut
Massenet/“Adieu notre petite table” from Manon
Verdi/“Pace, Pace” from La Forza del Destino
Gounod/“Les Nubiennes” and “Adagio” from Faust
Mascagni/“Intermezzo” from Cavalleria Rusticana.

Tickets: $48.00, 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.

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