

CONTACT:

Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714

ckellogg@calperfs.berkeley.edu

Joe Yang 510.642.9121

scyang@calperfs.berkeley.edu

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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS VIOLINIST SARAH CHANG IN RECITAL  
SATURDAY, APRIL 7 AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

**BERKELEY, March 9, 2007**—**Sarah Chang** brings her “unparalleled vigor, sensitivity and tonal beauty” (*San Francisco Chronicle*) to **Zellerbach Hall** in a program of works for violin and piano on **Saturday, April 7, at 8:00 p.m.** For her first performance in Berkeley since 2002, Chang has chosen a program that spans two centuries and spotlights her broad interpretive skills: Ludwig van Beethoven's Sonata for Violin and Piano, Op. 47, “Kreutzer;” Sergei Prokofiev's Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 2 in D Major, Op. 94a, and the Bay Area premiere of Richard Danielpour's new “River of Light”. The virtuoso violinist will be joined by the young British pianist **Ashley Wass**, recognized as one of the rising stars of his generation.

**PROGRAM**

The Berkeley program features **Ludwig van Beethoven's** (1770–1827) Sonata for Violin and Piano, Op. 47, “Kreutzer,” composed in 1802–3. Although the sonata is dedicated to French composer and violinist Rodolphe Kreutzer, Beethoven wrote it for English violinist George P. Bridgetower, who gave the first performance. The work is in three movements: Adagio sostenuto – Presto, Andante con variazioni, and Presto. **Sergei Prokofiev** (1891–1953) composed his Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 2 in D Major, Op. 94a, originally for flute and piano in 1943, while he was in Perm, in the Urals, immersed in work on his ballet, *Cinderella*. In 1944 he arranged the Sonata for violin and piano. Its four movements—Moderato, Scherzo – Presto, Andante and Allegro con brio—create a playful and elegant atmosphere. Also on the program is “River of Light” by **Richard Danielpour** dedicated to Isaac Stern.

**SARAH CHANG**

“People assume I always wanted to be a violinist. It was actually just one of many hobbies that I had,” notes **Sarah Chang** in a recent interview. Born in Philadelphia, Chang began learning the piano at age three. After a year's time, she wanted to play a smaller instrument and began taking violin lessons. She gave her first public concert at five, and at age seven she won the Starling Scholarship to the

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Juilliard School, where she studied violin with Hyo Kang and the great Dorothy Delay. A year later she made her professional debut with Zubin Mehta and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra in a performance of Paganini's First Violin Concerto, using a 1/4-size violin. While some prodigies have disappeared after such auspicious beginnings, Chang has become a major player on the world concert stage, having performed in every major music center. In 1999, she received one of the most prestigious awards given to instrumentalists, the Avery Fisher Prize; she was not yet twenty years old. "I love being onstage," Chang explains. "It is the most comfortable place for me. The challenge is to keep myself fresh and to give a spontaneous performance every single night while maturing and growing as a musician every day" (*Newsweek*).

Chang's growth as an artist has been as impressive as her initial successes, and she has developed the musical sensibility to follow the dramatic thread through such disparate works as Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No. 1, Sarasate's Concert Fantasy on Themes from *Carmen*, and Dvořák's Second Piano Quintet. On her journey from a child prodigy to a mature artist with an individual voice she has crossed paths with many of the great conductors of our time, including Charles Dutoit, Bernard Haitink, James Levine, Lorin Maazel, Kurt Masur, Zubin Mehta and many others. She regularly delivers "performance[s] of surprising interpretive maturity" (*Bay Area Reporter*), while her virtuosity and musical sensitivity combine to make her playing both "clean and proportioned" and "impassioned and ravishing" (*The New York Times*).

Chang's recordings, all for EMI Classics, include *Fire and Ice*, a selection of shorter works for violin and orchestra, with Plácido Domingo conducting the Berlin Philharmonic. Members of the Berlin Philharmonic appear on her recording of chamber music for strings, including Dvořák's Sextet and Tchaikovsky's "Souvenir de Florence," while the London Symphony, under Sir Colin Davis, joins Chang for Dvořák's Violin Concerto. Not afraid to branch out into new music, Chang, with Julian Lloyd Webber, has recorded *Phantasia*, a concerto for violin and cello based on material from Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera*. For all of her recordings and performances Chang uses a 1717 Giuseppe Guarneri "del Gesù," which she describes as "a dark instrument, with a beautiful, luscious dark tone ... and at the same time I can coax it into being very sweet" (*Strings*).

### **ASHLEY WASS**

In 1997, **Ashley Wass** became the first British pianist to win first prize in the World Piano Competition. He studied at Chatham's Music School and the Royal Academy of Music, where in 2002 he was made an Associate. His recordings, for EMI, Naxos and the BBC, feature performances of works by a variety of composers, including Beethoven, César Franck and particularly, Arnold Bax, the first Naxos release of which was described as “unmissable” and nominated for a Gramophone Award.

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for violinist **Sarah Chang** on **Saturday, April 7 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at 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.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).

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:  
CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Friday, March 7 at 8:00 p.m.**

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

*Recital*

**Sarah Chang**, violin  
**Ashley Wass**, piano

**Program:**

Beethoven/“Kreutzer” Sonata, Op. 47 (1802)  
Danielpour/ “River of Light”  
Prokofiev/Sonata No. 2 in D major, Op. 94a (1944)

**Tickets: \$36.00, \$48.00 and \$68.00**, available at the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at Tickets.com; and at the door.

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