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**SOPRANO DAME KIRI TE KANAWA AND MEZZO-SOPRANO
FREDERICA VON STADE SHARE BERKELEY'S ZELLERBACH STAGE
IN A DUO RECITAL THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 AT 8:00 P.M.**

BERKELEY, August 11, 2006 — Two opera legends, **Dame Kiri Te Kanawa** and **Frederica von Stade**, present a rare duo recital for the Cal Performances audience on **Thursday, September 21 at 8:00 p.m.** in **Zellerbach Hall**. Destined to be one of the premier events of the Bay Area music season, the two renowned singers and accompanist **Warren Jones** will present a program of songs, arias and duets ranging from Mozart, Berlioz and Poulenc to Copland and Britten. Both famed singers have the rare combination of breathtaking voice and lively personality that makes them beloved stars in recital as well as on the opera stage. Since their renowned performance together in *Le nozze di Figaro* at the Santa Fe Opera in 1971, the two have enjoyed storied, but only occasionally intersecting, careers. Their sharing of the Berkeley stage is an uncommon and memorable event.

KIRI TE KANAWA

One of the most famous sopranos in the world, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa leapt into the operatic spotlight with her performance as the Countess in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* in London's Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, in 1971. Again and again she has proven herself to be a virtuoso singer, at home in a wide range of repertoires. On the opera stage, her portrayals of lyric soprano heroines include the three major leading roles by Richard Strauss (the Marschallin, the Countess in *Capriccio* and *Arabella*); Mozart's Fiordiligi, Donna Elvira, Pamina and, of course, the Countess Almaviva; Verdi's Desdemona; and Puccini's Tosca. Her performances and recordings of Mozart concert arias, Strauss' *Four Last Songs*, Canteloube's *Chants d'Auvergne*, Berlioz's *Nuits d'été* and countless others have garnered raves from the press and public. And her singing of pieces by Gershwin, Porter, Kern, Bernstein and other classics of popular music and the musical theater have brought her versatile talents to a different, but no less adoring, group of fans. Te Kanawa's 1999 EMI album, *Maori Songs*, tapped into her

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exotic background as a descendent of native Maori aristocracy, and evokes the magic and mystery of her New Zealand homeland.

Particularly notable performances in her career, which has touched five decades, include the 1981 wedding of HRH Prince Charles and Lady Diana in St. Paul's Cathedral, before a worldwide television audience estimated at 600 million; a 1990 outdoor concert in Auckland, where she attracted a crowd of 140,000 listeners; her 50th birthday concert in 1994 at the Royal Albert Hall in London; her performance on the TODAY live global telecast marking the turn of the millennium in 2000; and a 2002 performance at Buckingham Palace in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. In 2004, she launched the Kiri Te Kanawa Foundation with a gala concert in Auckland; the foundation gives support and financial aid to dedicated New Zealand singers and musicians.

In 1982, Te Kanawa became a Dame Commander of the British Empire. She has received honorary degrees from the Universities in Cambridge, Oxford, Dundee, Durham, Nottingham, Sunderland, Warwick, Auckland, Waikoto and Chicago, as well as honorary fellowships at Somerville College, Oxford and Wolfson College, Cambridge. Dame Te Kanawa was invested with the Order of Australia in 1990 and the Order of New Zealand in 1995. She is also an honorary member of the Royal Academy of Music.

FREDERICA VON STADE

Frederica von Stade's career began with a contract from Sir Rudolf Bing at her audition for the Metropolitan Opera, and continued to the stages of the world's great opera houses and concert halls. Since her debut in 1970, she has sung nearly all of the great opera roles with the Met, culminating in new productions of *Pelléas et Mélisande* in 1995 and *The Merry Widow* in 2000 to mark the 25th and 30th anniversaries of her debut, respectively. Her global performing résumé is equally grand, with new productions mounted for her at Teatro alla Scala; the Royal Opera, Covent Garden; the Vienna State Opera; and the Paris Opera. She is invited regularly by the world's finest conductors, including Claudio Abbado, Charles Dutoit, James Levine, Kurt Masur, Riccardo Muti, Seiji Ozawa, André Previn, Leonard Slatkin and Michael Tilson Thomas, to appear in concert with leading orchestras.

Her career has effortlessly traversed a broad spectrum of musical styles and dramatic characterizations. As a specialist in the *bel canto* style, von Stade—widely known by her nickname, “Flicka”—has presented heroines in Rossini’s *La cenerentola* and *Il barbiere di Siviglia* and Bellini’s *La sonnambula*. In the French repertoire, von Stade’s characterizations of Marguerite, Mélisande, Périhole and Mignon have won high praise, and her performances in trouser roles such as Strauss’s Octavian and Mozart’s Cherubino are a testament to her keen imagination and dramatic gifts. Contemporary composers, including Dominick Argento and Jake Heggie, have created works specifically for von Stade.

Von Stade has made over 70 recordings with every major label. Her discography includes complete operas, aria albums, symphonic works, solo recital recordings and crossover albums—including *Show Boat* and *The Sound of Music*, which hold the distinction of simultaneously being first and second on national sales charts. Her recordings have received six Grammy nominations and numerous other awards, including two French *Grand Prix du Disque* awards, the *Deutsche Schallplattenpreis* in Germany, and Italy’s *Premio della Critica Discografica*. Honorary degrees from Yale University, Boston University, the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, the Georgetown University School of Medicine and her alma mater, the Mannes School of Music, are among her accolades, as well as France’s highest honor in the arts, *L’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres*.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Kiri Te Kanawa** and **Frederica von Stade** on **Thursday, September 21** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$48.00, \$68.00, \$86.00** and **\$110.00**. 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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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Thursday, September 21 at 8:00 p.m.

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

Recital

Kiri Te Kanawa, soprano

Frederica von Stade, mezzo-soprano

Program:

Mozart/"Via resti servita" and "Porgi amor" from *Le nozze di Figaro*; "Vedrai carino" from *Don Giovanni*; "A guarda sorella" from *Così fan tutte*

Berlioz/*Nuits d'Ete*: "Villanelle" Op.7 no.1; "Le Spectre de la Rose" Op.7 no.2; "L'île inconnue" Op.7 no.6

Poulenc/"Hôtel"; "Les Gars qui vont à la Fête"; "Chemins de l'Amour"; "Fêtes Galantes"; "C'est ainsi que tu es"; "Voyages à Paris"

Canteloube/*Chants d'Auvergne*: "Baïlèro"; "L' aiò dè rotso"; "Lou Boussu"; "Uno Jionto Pastouro"; "Malurous qu'o uno fenno"; "Brezairola"

Trad., arr. Cullen/"Scarborough Fair"

Britten/"O, Waly Waly"; "Oliver Cromwell"

Copland/"Long Time Ago"; "Simple Gifts"; "Why do they Shut me out of Heaven?"; "I bought me a cat"

Thomas/ "Connais-tu le pays" from *Mignon*

Massenet/"Adieu, notre petite table" from *Manon*

Offenbach/"Barcarolle" from *Les contes d'Hoffmann*

Tosti/"Venetian Song"

C. Porter/"True Love" from *High Society*

Tickets: \$48.00, \$68.00, \$86.00 and \$110.00, 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.