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**THE TRAILBLAZING COUNTERTENOR DAVID DANIELS MAKES HIS
CAL PERFORMANCES RECITAL DEBUT ON SUNDAY,
JANUARY 13 AT 3:00 PM AT HERTZ HALL**

BERKELEY, December 5, 2007—Countertenor **David Daniels**, proclaimed one of the “Top Ten Trailblazers” in classical music today (*Gramophone* magazine), will sing a Cal Performances recital on **Sunday, January 13 at 3:00 p.m.** in **Hertz Hall** on the UC Berkeley campus. His Berkeley recital will present works ranging from 16th-century songs by Italian composers to 20th-century English songs. Daniels has redefined the countertenor voice for the modern classical listener through his full, rich sound and daring repertoire choices. He was the first countertenor to give a solo recital in the Isaac Stern Auditorium of Carnegie Hall. “As a recitalist, [Daniels] pushes the envelope into ‘standard’ repertory, written when the countertenor as a species did not exist” (*New York Times*). Accompanying Daniels will be pianist **Martin Katz**, the “dean of accompanists” (*Los Angeles Times*) and a performer with a 30-year career of collaborating with the finest international vocalists.

PROGRAM

Daniels’ Berkeley recital is organized in five sets. The first consists of five songs by Johannes Brahms, a composer who likely never heard a countertenor sing: *Auf dem See*, *Ständchen*, *Nicht mehr zu dir zu gehen*, *Min Mädels hat einen Rosenmund*, and *O wüsst’ ich doch den Weg zurück*. Next up will be a set of 16th- and 17th-century Italian works: *Gioite al canto mio* by Jacopo Peri; *Danza, danza fanciulla* by Francesco Durante; *Amarilli* by Giulio Caccini; and *Così mi disprezzate* by Girolamo Frescobaldi. These will be followed by four pieces by the Venezuela-born French composer Reynaldo Hahn: *A Chloris*, *Quand je fus pris au pavillon*, *Chanson au bord d’une fontaine*, and *Paysage*.

After an intermission, Daniels will sing two Handel arias, originally written for *castrati* or as breeches roles, for which countertenors are best known today: “Cara sposa, amante cara” from *Rinaldo*, and “Furibondo spira il vento” from *Partenope*. The recital will finish with six songs written in the late 19th or early 20th centuries by English composers – before the age of

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the modern countertenor (which began in the mid-20th century with Alfred Deller) but which have found their way into the countertenor repertoire because of their lush emotionality: *Music When Soft Voices Die* by Roger Quilter, *Linden Lea* by Ralph Vaughan Williams, *Where Corals Lie* by Sir Edward Elgar, *King David* by Herbert Howells, *Drink to me only* by Quilter and *Yarmouth Fair* by Peter Warlock.

DAVID DANIELS

Born in Spartanburg, South Carolina in 1966 to parents who were both voice teachers, David Daniels began singing as a boy soprano and became a tenor when his voice matured. He received an undergraduate degree from the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music and, dissatisfied with his achievements as a tenor, switched to the countertenor range while pursuing a graduate degree at the University of Michigan with George Shirley. A denizen of both the opera and recital stage, Daniels has received wide praise for his artistry. “To say that he is the most acclaimed countertenor of the day, perhaps the best ever, is to understate his achievement. He is simply a great singer” (*New York Times*).

Daniels is known to Bay Area audiences, having sung in recital at Cal Performances in 2004. He also portrayed Bertarido in the San Francisco Opera production of Handel’s *Rodelinda* in 2005, a performance praised by the *San Francisco Chronicle* as “vibrant, clear-toned.” Singing the same role with the Metropolitan Opera that same year, *The New York Times* wrote, “His rich, plaintive, virile and virtuosic singing and his commanding stage presence were captivating in every aria.” In the 2006–2007, season Daniels appeared on opera stages in Glyndebourne, the Metropolitan Opera (in a new production of Gluck’s *Orfeo ed Euridice* directed by Mark Morris and conducted by James Levine) and the Los Angeles Opera. This season he will appear in the Bayerische Staatsoper (Munich) and Washington National Opera productions of *Tamerlano* and the Santa Fe Opera presentation of *Radamisto*. Over the course of his career, he has sung many Handel countertenor roles, including *Giulio Cesare*; Arsace in *Partenope* at Lyric Opera of Chicago; the title role in *Tamerlano*; Arsamene in *Xerxes*; David in *Saul*; and the title role in *Rinaldo*.

As a recitalist, Daniels has won admiration for his performances of concert and art song

repertoire, including song literature of the 19th and 20th centuries that is not normally associated with the countertenor voice. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in 2002, causing the *New York Times* to praise, “This was a compelling, even exhilarating recital, covering a wide range of bases in six distinctive sets.” He has appeared in recital at London’s Wigmore Hall; New York’s Avery Fisher Hall, Alice Tully Hall and Walter Reade Theater; Munich’s Prinzregententheater; Vienna’s Konzerthaus; Barcelona’s Teatre del Liceu; and at the Edinburgh, Tanglewood and Ravinia festivals. This season, Berkeley is the second stop on a six-hall recital tour with Martin Katz that will culminate in a performance in Carnegie Hall’s Zankel Hall.

Daniels is an exclusive Virgin Classics recording artist, appearing on 11 recordings including six solo recordings. His latest album, released in 2004, features Berlioz’s song cycle *Les Nuits d’été* and songs by Ravel and Fauré. One rave review of the recording said, “There’s no faulting his artistry. He has an unusually round, warm sound. He certainly knows his instrument” (*New York Times*). Daniels received *Musical America*’s Vocalist of the Year award in 1999 and the 1997 Richard Tucker Award. The countertenor’s official website is www.danielssings.com.

MARTIN KATZ

Pianist Martin Katz is a sought-after collaborator and accompanist, working in recital and on recordings with vocalists including Cecilia Bartoli, Kathleen Battle, Jose Carreras, Marilyn Horne, Frederica von Stade and Kiri Te Kanawa. The Artur Schnabel Collegiate Professor of Collaborative Piano at the University of Michigan, Katz has been an active performer for more than 30 years and has appeared with celebrated vocal soloists at numerous recitals at Carnegie Hall, at the Salzburg Festival, on tours in Australia and Japan, and in performances at La Scala, the Paris Opera and the Edinburgh Festival. Also a music editor, his editions of Baroque and *bel canto* operas of Handel, Rossini and Vivaldi have been performed by the Metropolitan, Houston and Ottawa operas. He was recipient of *Musical America*’s “Accompanist of the Year” award in 1998.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **David Daniels**, countertenor, in recital with **Martin Katz**, piano, on **Sunday**,

January 13, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall are priced at \$48. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.net; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5 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.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced two hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20 for all other community members. Information is available at (510) 642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

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CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, January 13 at 3:00 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Recital

David Daniels, countertenor
Martin Katz, piano

Program:

Brahms /*Auf dem See; Ständchen; Nicht mehr zu dir zu gehen; Mein Mädels hat einen Rosenmund; wüsst' ich doch den Weg zurück*
Peri /*Gioite al canto mio*
Durante /*Danza, danza fanciulla*
Caccini /*Amarilli*

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Frescobaldi /*Così mi disprezzate*

Hahn /*A Chloris; Quand je fus pris au pavillon; Chanson au bord d'une fontaine; Paysage*

Handel /“Cara sposa, amante cara” from *Rinaldo*; “Furibondo spira il vento” from *Partenope*

Quilter /*Music When Soft Voices Die; Drink to Me Only*

Vaughan Williams /*Linden Lea*

Elgar /*Where Corals Lie*

Howells /*King David*

Warlock /*Yarmouth fair*

Tickets: \$48.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.net; and at the door.

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