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**BARITONE DMITRI HVOROSTOVSKY MAKES HIS
CAL PERFORMANCES DEBUT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4
AT 3:00 P.M. AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

**THE RICH TRADITIONS OF RUSSIAN VOCAL ARTS ARE ALSO PERFORMED BY THE MOSCOW
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA AND ACADEMY OF CHORAL ART, MOSCOW,
CONDUCTED BY CONSTANTINE ORBELIAN**

**A SIGHTLINES PRE-PERFORMANCE TALK WITH ELENA SHARKOVA WILL BE GIVEN SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 4 AT 2:00 P.M. AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, September 24, 2007—Praised for his “plangent, velvety, unmistakably Russian timbre” (*The London Guardian*), baritone **Dmitri Hvorostovsky** makes his Cal Performances debut at **November 4 at 3:00 p.m. at Zellerbach Hall**. Hvorostovsky is recognized for his rich voice and his magnetic stage presence that have earned him a reputation as a heartthrob in the world of classical music. Joining him are the **Moscow Chamber Orchestra**, led by San Francisco-born **Constantine Orbelian**, and the **Academy of Choral Art, Moscow** in a program featuring choral, liturgical and folk music, as well as operatic arias with Hvorostovsky’s “voice communicating beyond language” (*The New York Times*).

A free *Sightlines* pre-performance talk with Elena Sharkova, choir master of Symphony Silicon Valley, will take place Sunday, November 4 from 2-2:30 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall. This event is free to event ticket holders.

DMITRI HVOROSTOVSKY

Dmitri Hvorostovsky was born in 1962 in Krasnoyarsk, Russia. After his debut with the Krasnoyarsk Opera House, Hvorostovsky went on to gain fame and respect as a top baritone, winning first place honors at the Russian Glinka Competition in 1987 and the Toulouse Singing Competition in 1988. In 1989, Hvorostovsky’s position as a leading classical vocalist was sealed when he won the BBC Cardiff Singer of the World Competition, besting favorite Bryn Terfel. Since then, Hvorostovsky has enjoyed great success on the stages of opera houses and recital

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halls over the world, including Queen Elizabeth, Avery Fisher and Carnegie Halls, and the Metropolitan Opera, among many others. His repertoire consists of works of opera by Verdi (*La Traviata*, *Don Carlo*), Bellini (*I Puritani*) and Tchaikovsky (*Eugene Onegin*, *Queen of Spades*). Hvorostovsky is also committed to keeping the Russian vocal arts tradition alive. In addition to Russian opera arias, the bulk of his work has featured Russian choral music and folk songs, works by Mussorgsky and several song cycles by György Sviridov.

Hvorostovsky's many recordings include *Tchaikovsky & Verdi Arias* (1990), with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and conducted by Valery Gergiev; *From Russia With Love* (2001), a hugely popular collection of folk songs released under the Philips label; *I Met You My Love* (2002), a collection of old Russian romance songs; and *Olga and Dmitri* (1998), an album in collaboration with the mezzo-soprano and fellow Russian Olga Borodina.

MOSCOW CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Applauded by Dmitri Shostakovich as “the greatest chamber orchestra in the world,” the **Moscow Chamber Orchestra** begins its sixth decade of world-wide critical and audience success. Founded in 1956 by the violinist and conductor Rudolph Barshai and long considered a national treasure to Russia, the organization has served as inspiration to such important Russian composers as Shostakovich, who entrusted the debut performance of his *14th Symphony* to the Orchestra. Under Constantine Orbelian's direction since 1991, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra performed at the 50th anniversary of United Nations in San Francisco in 1995, and celebrated its own gold anniversary in 2006. The Orchestra performs at “the peak of perfection” (*The New York Times*) to sold-out crowds all over the world.

CONSTANTINE ORBELIAN

San Francisco native **Constantine Orbelian** has the distinction of being the first American to ever become music director of an ensemble in Russia. First trained at the San Francisco Conservatory and graduating from the Juillard School of Music in 1980, Orbelian made his debut as a pianist with the San Francisco Symphony when he was just eleven years-old. After graduating from Juillard, Orbelian continued an illustrious career as solo pianist, performing in the Symphony Orchestras of Boston, Detroit, San Francisco and St. Petersburg,

the Moscow Philharmonic and the Budapest Chamber Orchestra, among others. He has recorded numerous works, including those of Tchaikovsky, Shostakovich, Bach, Mozart and Beethoven. Orbelian's recording of the Kachaturian Piano Concerto with the maestro Neeme Järvi and the Scottish National Orchestra was awarded the “Best Concerto of the Year” title in the United Kingdom. In 1991, Orbelian was appointed as Music Director of the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, which has been considered a breakthrough event in the cultural relationship between Russia and the United States.

Orbelian, born to Armenian and Russian émigré parents, has expanded upon the Moscow Chamber Orchestra’s glittering reputation. The Orchestra performs an average of 120 concerts worldwide per year. Since his appointment as conductor of the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, Orbelian has received honors and accolades, many unprecedented for a non-Russian citizen. In 2000, he was inducted into the Academy of Arts and Sciences of St. Petersburg, one of only two conductors to be honored, and in 2004, President Vladimir Putin awarded Orbelian the title “Honored Artist of Russia,” a title that had never before been bestowed on a non-Russian citizen. Since 2000, Orbelian has also been the Permanent Guest Conductor of the Moscow Philharmonic.

ACADEMY OF CHORAL ART, MOSCOW

Originating from a scholarly Orthodox tradition, the **Academy of Choral Art, Moscow**, was founded by Victor Sergeyevich Popov on the foundation of Aleksandr Sveshnikov’s Moscow Choral College. The institution has expanded from an exclusively male high school to a co-ed program that offers education to students from ages 7 to 25. In addition to the traditional liturgical songs typically performed in such academies, the Academy of Choral Art has adapted a vast repertoire of secular Russian and Slavic music. The Academy performs throughout Russia and beyond, frequently collaborating with symphony and chamber orchestras. In 2002, the Academy performed twice for UNESCO’s “Thousand Cities of the World,” first in St. Petersburg and again at the Vatican, in front of an audience which included Pope John Paul II.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for baritone **Dmitri Hvorostovsky**, the **Moscow Chamber Orchestra**, and the

Academy of Choral Art, Moscow in concert on **Sunday, November 4** at **3:00 p.m.** at **Zellerbach Hall** are priced at **\$34.00, \$52.00, \$76.00, and \$90.00**. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students; UCB Alumni Association members, UCB faculty and staff, senior citizens, and other students receive a \$5 discount. 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 Rush Tickets to UCB students, faculty and staff, senior and community members. 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, and 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 \$20.00 for all other community members. For more information call 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, November 4 from **7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**
SIGHTLINES

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

A pre-performance talk will be given by Elena Sharkova, choir master of Symphony Silicon Valley. *Sightlines* is a continuing program of pre- and post-performance discussions with Cal Performances' guest artists and scholars, designed to enrich the audience's experience. These events are free to ticketholders.

Sunday, November 4 at 3:00 p.m.

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

Recital

Dmitri Hvorostovsky, baritone
Moscow Chamber Orchestra
Constantine Orbelian, conductor
Academy of Choral Art, Moscow

Program: Baritone Dmitri Hvorostovsky is joined by the Moscow Chamber Orchestra and the Academy of Choral Art, Moscow in a program featuring choral, liturgical and folk music, as well as operatic arias.

Tickets: \$34.00, \$52.00, \$76.00 and \$90.00, 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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