

CONTACT:  
Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714  
ckellogg@calperfs.berkeley.edu  
Joe Yang 510.642.9121  
scyang@calperfs.berkeley.edu

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**AVERY FISHER PRIZE WINNER VIOLINIST JOSHUA BELL PERFORMS WORKS  
BY TARTINI, PROKOFIEV, DVOŘÁK AND GRIEG  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24 AT 3:00 P.M. AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

**BERKELEY, January 17, 2008**—The “dazzling” (*Grammophone*) **Joshua Bell** has captivated audiences worldwide for more than two decades with his musicality, dynamic technique and charismatic presence, earning a worldwide following. Sharing the stage with his frequent musical partner, the accomplished pianist **Jeremy Denk**, Bell will perform **February 24 at 3:00 pm at Zellerbach Hall**. The program includes **Giuseppe Tartini**’s Sonata in G minor, also known as “The Devil’s Trill;” **Sergey Prokofiev**’s Violin Sonata No. 1 in F minor; **Antonin Dvořák**’s Four Romantic Pieces for violin and piano; and **Edvard Grieg**’s Sonata No. 3 in C minor. Bells highly popular recitals—performed on his 300-year-old 1713 Gibson ex-Huberman Stradivarius—leave audiences cheering. “The roar of applause...had almost physical power, rushing forth like a river that had suddenly been undimmed” (*San Francisco Chronicle*). The Grammy Award-winning violinist recently added even greater luster to his reputation by receiving the coveted Avery Fisher Prize.

**THE PROGRAM**

Tartini’s best-known Sonata for Violin and Continuo in G minor, “The Devil’s Trill,” opens the recital. A legend surrounding the piece either is derived from its nickname or gave rise to it. Tartini supposedly took refuge in a monastery after a secret marriage to one of his students. While there, he had a dream in which he asked the devil to play the violin. The devil responded by performing a sonata which, when Tartini awoke, he composed in imitation of the one played in his dream. Next up is Prokofiev’s Sonata No. 1 in F minor for violin and piano, Op. 80, that was composed in 1946, although some of the material dates from 1938. The tone of the work is charged, intense and passionate, yet the pervasive darkness carries with it moments of beauty. It opens with a meditative first movement, followed by a relentless bombardment in the *Allegro* movement with a rhythmic gallop to the finale, closing with a return to the ephemeral and mysterious atmosphere where it began.

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After intermission, Dvořák's melodic style is on full display in his Four Romantic Pieces, notable for its expansive quality and subtle use of Czechoslovakian folk tunes. While he wrote many specifically rustic pieces (e.g. the *Slavonic Dances*), folk melodies are seamlessly woven into the texture of his music. Grieg's Violin Sonata No. 3 in C minor concludes the concert. The sonata was composed in 1887 and remains among his most popular, establishing itself in the standard repertoire. The work was also a personal favorite of Grieg's, who premiered the sonata himself on piano with Adolf Brodsky on violin. This three-movement sonata is built on Norwegian folk melodies and rhythms.

### **JOSHUA BELL**

**Joshua Bell** has captured the public's imagination like no other classical violinist of his time. His 2007–2008 season follows a seminal year highlighted by receiving the Avery Fisher Prize, being the only United States musician named by the World Economic Forum as one of 250 Young Global Leaders, and his appointment to the Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music faculty as a senior lecturer. In concerts and on recordings, his artistry has brought a fresh voice to venerable masterpieces while also uncovering lesser-known gems and new works, as with the fall 2007 CD release of *The Red Violin Concerto* by John Corigliano. He has created a richly varied catalogue of recordings, including the recent *The Essential Joshua Bell*, while *Voice of the Violin* continues to soar on the heels of *Romance of the Violin*, which *Billboard* named the 2004 Classical CD of the Year, and Bell the Classical Artist of the Year.

After summer performances at Tanglewood, the Verbier Festival in Switzerland and Mostly Mozart at Lincoln Center, Joshua Bell's 2007–2008 season includes concerts with the BBC Proms at London's Royal Albert Hall, a European tour with Kurt Masur conducting the Orchestre National de France and appearances with the Pittsburgh Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra and Chicago Symphony, the Salzburg Mozarteum Orchestra and the Tonhalle-Orchester. He welcomed 2008 as the guest soloist with Lorin Maazel and the New York Philharmonic at the annual New Year's Eve Gala at Lincoln Center. His current recital tour with Jeremy Denk takes the pair to Europe and the United States, including the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall. Bell will also tour Europe as a guest soloist with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields.

From the classical repertoire, Bell has made critically acclaimed recordings for Sony Classical of the concertos of Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Sibelius and Goldmark, as well as the Grammy Award-winning concerto by Nicholas Maw. Bell's Grammy-nominated recording *Gershwin Fantasy* premiered a new work for violin and orchestra based on themes from Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*. Its success led to an all-Bernstein recording (also a Grammy nominee) that included the premiere of the *West Side Story Suite* as well as a new recording of the composer's *Serenade*.

Bell's performances for Sony Classical film soundtracks include the Classical Brit-nominated *Ladies in Lavender* and Academy Award-winning film *Iris*, in an original score by James Horner. Bell has also appeared as himself in the film *Music of the Heart* starring Meryl Streep, and millions of people are just as likely to see him on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, *The Tonight Show* and the PBS programs *Great Performances*.

### **JEREMY DENK**

American pianist **Jeremy Denk** has steadily built a name as one of today's most compelling young artists, with an unusually broad repertoire. He has appeared as soloist with many major orchestras, including the Philadelphia Orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony, the Atlanta Symphony, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, the Orchestra of St. Luke's, the London Philharmonia, the Dallas Symphony, and the Houston Symphony. This season, he appeared for the third time with the San Francisco Symphony, replacing an ailing Itzhak Perlman and performing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1. He will be an artist-in-residence at this year's Gilmore Keyboard Festival, and this upcoming season he will give a recital tour pairing Ives's "Concord" Sonata and Beethoven's "Hammerklavier," culminating with a solo debut at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall.

It was at the 2004 Spoleto Festival that Denk met and first performed with violinist Joshua Bell, who subsequently invited him to do a recital tour. A Philadelphia reviewer noted their "equal partnership, with no upstaging." He and Bell recently recorded the Corigliano Violin Sonata for Sony Classical.

## TICKET INFORMATION

This concert is sold-out. Tickets for the recital of violinist **Joshua Bell** accompanied by pianist **Jeremy Denk** on **February 24 at 3:00 p.m.** at Zellerbach Hall are priced at \$34.00, \$48.00, \$62.00 and may become available due to last minute returns. Call for ticket availability, or be added to the notification list. Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall (510) 642-9988. 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.org](http://www.calperformances.org)

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, 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, February 24 at 3:00 p.m.**

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

*Recital*

**Joshua Bell**, violin  
**Jeremy Denk**, piano

**Program:**

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Tartini/Sonata in G minor, “The Devil’s Trill.”  
Prokofiev/Violin Sonata No. 1 in F minor  
Dvořák/Four Romantic Pieces, Op. 75  
Grieg/Sonata No. 3 in C minor, Op. 45

**Tickets:** This concert is sold out. Tickets are priced at \$34.00, \$48.00 and \$62.00 and may become available due to last minute returns. Call the Cal Performances Ticket Office at (510) 642-9988 for availability.

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