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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 3, 2008

**PIANIST PAUL LEWIS MAKES HIS CAL PERFORMANCES RECITAL DEBUT
WITH A PROGRAM THAT RUNS FROM MOZART TO LIGETI
SUNDAY, MAY 4 AT 3:00 P.M. AT HERTZ HALL**

BERKELEY, April 3, 2008—“Soul-searching, momentous...[with] a fierce intelligence” (*The Times* of London), English pianist **Paul Lewis** makes his Cal Performances debut **Sunday, May 4 at 3:00 p.m.** in **Hertz Hall**. The 2003 Royal Philharmonic Society’s Instrumentalist of the Year embodies a rare combination of musical intelligence and an audaciously fresh approach to music making that have rendered him, at just 35 years old, an already well-established star. At Cal Performances, Lewis will perform two pieces by **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**, Fantasia in C minor, K. 475, and Rondo in A minor, K. 511. Between these Mozart pieces, Lewis will play contemporary Hungarian composer **György Ligeti**’s *Musica Ricercata*, a set of eleven pieces for the piano that exploits the tonalities of certain pitch classes, and selections of which were featured in the soundtrack to Stanley Kubrick’s final feature film, *Eyes Wide Shut*. Lewis will end the afternoon with **Franz Schubert**’s Sonata No. 18 in G major, D. 894, often called *Fantaisie*. This characteristically mischievous juxtaposition of classical and modern works has become a signature of Lewis’s performances, in which he “casts forth his intellect with a sense of cosmic play” (*The Washington Post*).

Born and raised in Liverpool, with no known family history of musicianship, **Paul Lewis**’s first signs of musical curiosity came at age four, when he began experimenting with tunes on a small, barely one-octave organ that a relative had given him for Christmas. As a student he studied with Ryszard Bakst at Chetham’s School of Music and Joan Havill at the Guildhall in London, after which he received regular coaching and mentoring from Alfred Brendel, who had been one of his greatest musical inspirations while growing up. Lewis first gained international recognition when he won Second Prize in the 1994 International Piano Competition in London. Slowly building his repertoire and a reputation for his dynamic pianism, Lewis was chosen by Steinway to become their thousandth “Steinway Artist” in 1997. In 2002,

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the Wigmore Hall selected him to represent the artists of that year's "Rising Star" series. Lewis's complete traversal of the Schubert sonata cycle in the 2001-2002 season helped him to gain further popularity and acclaim and also won him the 2003 South Bank Show Television Award.

Since then, Lewis has been a fixture on the classical recital circuit, and also as a much-sought after chamber musician: he has performed with Yo-Yo Ma, Michael Collins, Ernst Kovacic, Katherine Gowers, Adrian Brendel, the Sine Nomine Quartet and the Leopold String Trio, to name a few. As a soloist, he performs regularly in a number of the prestigious concert halls of his mother country, including the Wigmore Hall and the Purcell Room at the Queen's Hall. Additionally, Lewis has already established his appeal abroad, having performed throughout Europe, the United States, Canada, Japan and Australia. He has appeared with many of the world's leading orchestras, including the Vienna Symphony, London Philharmonic, London Symphony, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra and Seattle Symphony, among others.

Lewis records his solo works under the Harmonia Mundi label. The first of his two Schubert recordings with Harmonia Mundi won Lewis a *Diapason d'Or Choc de l'Année* in 2002, while the second won the 2004 Edison Instrumentalist Award in Holland. His third recording, featuring the Liszt sonata, also won the Edison Award in 2005. In addition to touring, Lewis performs at many music festivals and is a Professor of Piano at the Royal Academy of Music, a post that he has held since 2000.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Paul Lewis**, piano, in recital with on **Sunday, May 4, 2008** at **3:00 p.m.** in **Hertz Hall** are priced at **\$42.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; 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.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; 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, May 4 at 3:00 p.m.

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

Recital

Paul Lewis, piano

Program:

Mozart/Fantasia in C minor, K. 475; Rondo in A minor, K. 511

Ligeti/*Musica Ricercata*—11 Pieces for Piano

Schubert/ Sonata No. 8 in G major, D. 894

Tickets: \$42.00, 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.

– Cal Performances –