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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 12, 2008

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS THE TOKYO STRING QUARTET  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AT 3:00 P.M. IN HERTZ HALL**

BERKELEY, January 12, 2008—Recognized as one of the finest string quartets of modern times, the **Tokyo String Quartet** returns to Cal Performances **Sunday, February 17 at 3:00 p.m. at Hertz Hall**. The Berkeley program consists of **Ludwig von Beethoven's Quartet in G major, Op. 18, No. 2**; **Franz Schubert's Quartet in A minor, D. 804, Rosamunde**; and **Bedrich Smetana Quartet in E minor, From My Life**. **Martin Beaver** (violin), **Kikuei Ikeda** (violin), **Kazuhide Isomura** (viola) and **Clive Greensmith** (cello) “displayed such finesse, such careful shaping of each melodic line as it was passed from one instrument to the next, that it left one almost breathless” (*The Toronto Star*).

Dedicated to the performance of both new work and the classical repertoire, the Tokyo String Quartet has captivated audiences and critics alike since it was founded more than 30 years ago. Regarded as one of the supreme chamber ensembles of the world, the Tokyo Quartet has collaborated with a remarkable array of artists and composers, built a comprehensive catalogue of critically acclaimed recordings and established a distinguished teaching record. Performing over a hundred concerts worldwide each season, the Tokyo String Quartet has a devoted international following that includes the major capitals of the world and extends to all four corners, from Australia to Estonia to Scandinavia and the Far East.

Officially formed in 1969 at The Juilliard School, the quartet traces its origins to the Toho School of Music in Tokyo, where the founding members were profoundly influenced by Professor Hideo Saito. Soon after its formation, the quartet won First Prize at the Coleman Competition, the Munich Competition and the Young Concert Artists International Auditions. An exclusive contract with Deutsche Grammophon firmly established it as one of the world's leading quartets, and the group has since released more than 40 recordings, including the complete quartets of Beethoven, Schubert and Bartók. The quartet's recordings of Brahms, Debussy, Dvořák, Haydn, Mozart, Ravel and Schubert have earned such honors as the Grand

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Prix du Disque Montreux, Best Chamber Music Recording of the Year awards from both *Stereo Review* and *Gramophone* magazines and seven Grammy nominations. The ensemble now records on the Harmonia Mundi label. “The Tokyo is in a new era of musical power and finesse. The four players lavished tonal lustrousness and virtuosic ease” (*Los Angeles Times*).

The members of the Tokyo String Quartet have served on the faculty of the Yale School of Music as quartet-in-residence since 1976. Deeply committed to coaching young string quartets, they devote much of the summer to teaching and performing at the prestigious Norfolk Chamber Music Festival. They also conduct master classes in North America, Europe and the Far East throughout the year.

The ensemble performs on the “Paganini Quartet,” a group of renowned Stradivarius instruments named for legendary virtuoso Niccolò Paganini, who acquired and played them during the 19th century. The instruments have been on loan to the ensemble from the Nippon Music Foundation since 1995, when they were purchased from the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for the **Tokyo String Quartet** on **Sunday, February 17** at **3:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall are priced at **\$46.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door. 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.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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Cal Performances' 2007/2008 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Sunday, February 17 at 3:00 p.m.**

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

*Chamber Music*

**Tokyo String Quartet**

**Martin Beaver**, violin

**Kikuei Ikeda**, violin

**Kazuhide Isomura**, viola

**Clive Greensmith**, cello

**Program:**

Beethoven/Quartet in G major, Op. 18, No. 2, *Compliments*

Schubert/Quartet in A minor, D. 804, *Rosamunde*

Smetana/Quartet in E minor, *From My Life*

**Tickets:** \$46.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door.

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