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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS THE ELECTRIFYING
CECILIA BARTOLI IN RECITAL SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22
AT 3:00 P.M. AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, January 9, 2009 —“A celebrity of incomparable stature” (*Washington Post*), mezzo-soprano **Cecilia Bartoli** returns to Zellerbach Hall **Sunday, February 22 at 3:00 p.m.** Her 2004 concert at Zellerbach Hall was called “enthraling” and “awesome” (*San Francisco Chronicle*), adjectives that have become standard reactions to the Roman diva’s performances. For this engagement, Bartoli will sing a program titled *Maria Malibran’s Salon Romantique* in honor of the early 19th-century diva with songs by Malibran, **Gioachino Rossini, Vincenzo Bellini, Gaetano Donizetti, Pauline Viardot** and **Manuel del Pópulo**. Bartoli released two CDs in 2008: *Maria*, also a homage to the brilliant but all-too-short career of Malibran, and *Bellini: La sonnambula*, in which she is joined by tenor Juan Diego Flórez. Selections from both CDs will be part of her Berkeley program. She will be accompanied by pianist **Sergio Ciomei**.

CECILIA BARTOLI

Cecilia Bartoli was honored with three major international awards in 2007–2008, including the Netherlands’ Edison 2008 prize (vocal solo category) for her album, *Maria*; the King of Spain bestowed on Bartoli the *Medalla de oro al merito en las bellas artes* for the year 2007; and Italy awarded her the *Bellini d’Oro*, a prestigious prize given by the *Società Catanese Amici della Musica* to great singers and conductors. The two new CDs she released in 2008: *Maria* and *Bellini: La sonnambula* both garnered praise. She also continues to enjoy a host of international honors due to her back-to-back Grammy Award-winning recordings of newly discovered operatic works by Vivaldi and Gluck, and has also enjoyed critical acclaim for *The Salieri Album*. About that recording, the *Los Angeles Times* said that Bartoli “revealed the composer’s expressive compass no less than her own.” *Gramophone* called her “the world’s most scrumptious mezzo-soprano” and “an enormously accomplished artist: every note plumb in the middle, the words always carefully placed, naturally musical phrasing, and of course beauty and variety of tone.”

Bartoli has recorded more than ten complete operas, most recently Haydn's *Armida* and Handel's *Rinaldo*, in addition to numerous solo albums, including three CDs of Rossini arias and songs; two Mozart aria CDs; an album of French songs; and a CD of Mozart, Rossini and Donizetti duets with bass-baritone Bryn Terfel. Bartoli's 1999 *Vivaldi Album* has sold an impressive 500,000-plus copies worldwide, a considerable accomplishment for a recording of unknown classical repertoire. *Dreams and Fables: Gluck Italian Arias* (2001), a survey of the little-known early Italian arias of Christoph Willibald von Gluck, was another bestseller and Grammy Award-winner. *The Art of Cecilia Bartoli* (2002) demonstrates the multiple facets of her superb vocal instrument, and features duets with Terfel, David Daniels and Luciano Pavarotti. *The Salieri Album* was released in September 2003.

Bartoli, who has often used her worldwide fame and tireless musical curiosity to bring attention to rarely heard operas, is a native of Rome. She used the passion she feels for the city and for its rich musical history as inspiration for her 2005 album *Opera Proibita*. "Everything I've learned from living in Rome I find in this music: the continuous movement in the architecture, the dramatic play of light and shade that only a southern climate can create, the majesty of the ruins of the Forum, the sinuous curves of water in the fountains," explains Bartoli.

In addition to winning Grammys for the Vivaldi and Gluck recordings, Bartoli is also the recipient of two Grammy Awards for Best Classical Vocal Album—for her *Italian Songs* CD with András Schiff and *An Italian Songbook* with James Levine. She has been honored with multiple awards including the Deutsche Schallplatten Preis, La Stella d'Oro, the Diapason d'Or and the Chevalier of Arts and Letters from the French government.

After Bartoli finishes her United States tour, which includes stops in Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston, Washington, D.C., and New York, she will perform in Zurich, Berlin, Amsterdam, Basel, Brussels, London, Paris, Munich, and Cologne.

TICKET INFORMATION

This performance is sold out. Tickets for **Cecilia Bartoli**'s concert on Sunday, February 22, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. at Zellerbach Hall are priced at \$50.00, \$75.00, \$150.00 and \$250.00 and may become available due to last-minute returns. Call the Cal Performances Ticket Office at (510) 642-9988 for availability. Tickets are available through the 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.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, February 22 at 3:00 p.m.

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

Recital

Cecilia Bartoli, mezzo-soprano

Sergio Ciomei, pianist

Program:

Rossini/"La regata veneziana," *Three songs in Venetian dialect*: I: "Anzoleta avanti la regata," II: "Anzoleta co passa la regata," III: "Anzoleta dopo la regata"; "Or che di fiori adorno," *anon.*; "Beltà crudele," *anon.*; "Canzonetta spagnuola," *anon.*; La danza, *Carlo Pepoli*; "Ariette à l'ancienne," *Jean-Jacques Rousseau*; "L'Orpheline du Tyrol," *Emilien Pacini*; "La grande coquette," *Emilien Pacini*

Bellini/"L'Abbandonov" *anon.*; "Il fervido desiderio," *anon.*; "Vaga luna," *anon.*; La Farfalletta," *anon.*; "Dolente immagine," *Maddalena Fumaroli*; "Malinconia, ninfa gentile," *Ippolito Pindemonte*; "Ma rendi pur contento," *Metastasio*;

Donizetti/"Il barcaiolo," *L. Tarantini*; "Amore e morte," *G.L. Redaelli*; "La conocchia," *Canzone napoletana*; "Me voglio fà 'na casa," *Canzone napoletana*

Viardot/"Havanaise," *Louis Pomey*; "Hai luli!," *Xavier de Maistre*

Vicente García/"Yo que soy contrabandista," *caballo from the monodrama "El poeta calculista" (1805)*. Words: *anon.*

Malibran/"Rataplan," *chansonette*. *Words: anon.*

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