

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 29, 2009

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS SAN FRANCISCO-BASED  
CHAMBER ENSEMBLE CYPRESS STRING QUARTET  
SUNDAY, MAY 3 AT 3:00 P.M. IN HERTZ HALL**

**SIGHTLINES: A pre-performance talk will be given by the artists at 2:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall**

**BERKELEY, March 27, 2009**—The young, dynamic **Cypress String Quartet** comes to Cal Performances' Hertz Hall on **Sunday, May 3 at 3:00 p.m.** Recognized for their technical precision and innovative programming, the ensemble will perform a program of **Joseph Haydn**'s Quartet in F major, Opus 77, No. 2, his last works in this form, nicknamed "Wait Till the Clouds Roll By"; **Bela Bartok**'s Sixth String Quartet, a dark piece written just before he fled Hungary to the United States; and **Ludwig van Beethoven**'s Quartet in F major, Op. 135, the return to a more classical aesthetic and the brevity of the piece make it stand apart from his other quartets in this period. Formed just over a decade ago, the Cypress—consisting of **Cecily Ward** (violin), **Tom Stone** (violin), **Ethan Filner** (viola) and **Jennifer Kloetzel** (cello)—have been reaching out in new, imaginative ways to revitalize interest in chamber music. "An attractive combination of structured Apollonian restraint and unleashed Dionysian exuberance" (*The Washington Post*).

A **Sightlines** pre-performance talk by the artists will take place on **Sunday, May 3 at 2:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall. This event is free to ticket holders.

Founded in 1996 by current members Jennifer Kloetzel and Cecily Ward, the San Francisco-based Cypress String Quartet has been widely celebrated for its virtuoso performances and educational outreach. The Quartet performs a broad repertoire of traditional chamber music, collaborates with some of the most talented solo artists in classical music and commissions new works. In honor of Felix Mendelssohn's 200th birthday, the Cypress String Quartet collaborated with the Library of Congress and co-commissioned a new quartet by Kevin Puts, a young

-MORE-

American composer. The performance premiered in Washington, D.C., in February as part of the “Mendelssohn on the Mall” project in conjunction with the National Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian Museum. Other recent commissions include composer George Tsontakis and Grammy nominees Benjamin Lees and Jennifer Higdon. Four of the ensemble’s original commissions earned spots on Chamber Music America’s “101 Great American Ensemble Works” list.

Since its inception, the Cypress String Quartet has created education programs that have reached over 100,000 students nationwide. Ward, Stone, Filner and Kloetzel were named “Exemplary Arts Educators” by the California Arts Council for their trailblazing Call & Response program, in which thousands of Bay Area students have participated. Other educational outreach programs have been designed and implemented for use with Native Americans in rural New Mexico and inner-city students in Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Chicago. In 2004, the Juilliard School selected the ensemble to receive the McGraw-Hill Companies’ Robert Sherman Award for Music Education and Community Outreach for its dedication to musical education.

The Cypress String Quartet is currently quartet in residence at San Jose State University, where it serves both the University and greater San Francisco Bay Area community.

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for **Cypress String Quartet** on **Sunday, May 3 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. 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; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10 for UCB students; \$15 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.

# # #

Cal Performances 2008/09 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

Classical 102.1 KDFC is our 2008/09 season media sponsor.

# # #

**CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Sunday, May 3 from 2:00 to 2:30 p.m.**  
**SIGHTLINES**

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

The artists will give a pre-performance talk. *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. This event is free to ticket holders.

**Sunday, May 3 at 3:00 p.m.**

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

*Chamber Music & Orchestra.*

**Cypress String Quartet**

**Cecily Ward**, violin

**Tom Stone**, violin

**Ethan Filner**, viola

**Jennifer Kloetzel**, cello

**Program:**

Haydn/String Quartet in F major, Op. 77, No. 2

Bartók/String Quartet No. 6

Beethoven/String Quartet in F major, Op. 135.

**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.

-----  
- Cal Performances -

-MORE-

