

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

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**PIANIST KRYSTIAN ZIMERMAN RETURNS TO CAL PERFORMANCES
FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2009 AT 8:00 P.M. AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, March 12, 2009—Renowned pianist **Krystian Zimerman** brings his impeccable technique to Zellerbach Hall **Friday, April 24 at 8:00 p.m.** Zimerman’s trademark has become his meticulous performance preparation in his quest for perfection. His steadfast attention to the various minutiae of musicianship and virtuosic pianism have made him one of the most fascinating soloists for more than 30 years. Zimerman is truly a “pianist’s pianist” (*Cleveland Plain Dealer*). At Cal Performances, Zimerman will perform works by **Johann Sebastian Bach, Ludwig van Beethoven, Johannes Brahms** and compatriot **Karol Szymanowski**.

“One of the greatest [pianists] in our time, Krystian Zimerman...is a supreme keyboard technician—a player with a phenomenal range allied to an acute musical imagination and intelligence,” wrote *The Guardian* of Zimerman’s April 2008 Royal Festival Hall appearance. “Nothing in a Zimerman performance is ever ill-considered, yet his playing is always constantly alive, and surprising.” Known as one of the most individual and articulate pianists of the present day, Zimerman first attracted notice in 1975 when he became not only the first Pole in 40 years to win the Frederic Chopin International Piano Competition in Warsaw but also, at 19, its youngest-ever winner. Since then, he has steered a determined course as an exacting musician, appearing to acclaim in the world’s music capitals as a recitalist and a soloist with major orchestras.

Zimerman has been immersed in music since childhood in Zabrze, Poland, where his father—a factory worker by day, a gifted musician by night—held chamber music sessions in the family living room. The young Zimerman made his first steps in music under his father’s supervision, and at the age of seven started working with Andrzej Jasinski, a senior lecturer at

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the music conservatory in Katowice. After graduating 14 years later, Zimerman earned several prizes at numerous competitions, culminating in the Grand Prix at the Chopin Competition in 1975, which paved the way for performances in concert halls worldwide.

Having collaborated with a number of the most illustrious conductors of the day, including Leonard Bernstein, Herbert von Karajan, Seiji Ozawa, Riccardo Muti, Lorin Maazel, André Previn, Pierre Boulez and Sir Simon Rattle, Zimerman has enriched his knowledge of conducting. He and Bernstein worked together for 13 years; Zimerman was the last—and for some time the only—pianist who performed under Bernstein, both during recording sessions and in concert in Europe and the United States. With more than 25 years of collaboration with Deutsche Grammophon, Zimerman has produced almost 30 recordings, many of which have won prestigious recording awards.

Since 1989, Zimerman has toured with his own piano. His hands-on approach utilizes his piano-building expertise that was first acquired during his early years at the music conservatory in Katowice. The confidence afforded by his own familiar instrument enables him to focus solely on the score. He treats the piano with the highest respect and uses the medium to service his musical creativity.

Zimmerman insists upon a limited performance schedule to allow time for his family in Switzerland. Creating a balance between work and teaching, Zimmerman divides his time between concerts and his teaching position at the Music Academy in Basel.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Krystian Zimerman** in recital on **Friday, April 24** at **8:00 p.m.** in **Zellerbach Hall** are priced at **\$34.00, \$48.00** and **\$62.00**. 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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Cal Performances 2008/09 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, April 24 at 8:00 p.m.

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

Recital

Krystian Zimerman, piano

Program:

Bach/Partita No. 2 in C minor, BWV 826

Beethoven/Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Op. 111

Brahms/*Klavierstücke*, Op. 119

Szymanowski/*Variations on a Polish Theme*, Op. 10

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