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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 3, 2008

**RUSSIAN DUO VADIM REPIN AND NIKOLAI LUGANSKY**  
**RETURNS TO HERTZ HALL**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2008 AT 5:00 P.M.**

**BERKELEY, October 3, 2008**—Cal Performances welcomes back violinist **Vadim Repin** and pianist **Nikolai Lugansky**, who dazzled audiences in their Bay Area duo recital debut on the Cal Performances stage in 2006. The pair will perform at **Hertz Hall Sunday, November 9 at 5:00 p.m.** with a program of sonatas by **Claude Debussy, Sergei Prokofiev** and **Ludwig van Beethoven**. As solo artists, the Russian virtuosos have each built reputations that place them at the top of their professional fields; together, they form a nuanced and sensitive ensemble. Repin's recent Deutsche Grammophon recording of the Beethoven Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 9 in A Major, the "Kreutzer" Sonata, was hailed as "a blend of profound inspiration and sheer beauty of sound" (*The Cincinnati Enquirer*). Other sonatas in the program include Sonata for Piano and Violin in G minor by Debussy and Prokofiev's Sonata No. 1 in F minor, Op. 80. A testament to Repin and Lugansky's virtuosity, this performance is sold out.

**VADIM REPIN**

**Vadim Repin** is one of a number of musicians to emerge from Novosibirsk, Siberia in the past thirty years. Violinist Yehudi Menuhin describes Repin as "[s]imply the best, the most perfect violinist I have ever heard." Starting at the age of five, Repin studied the violin in Novosibirsk with celebrated violinist and pedagogue Zakhar Bron, who also taught fellow Novosibirsk native Maxim Vengerov. Within six months, Repin had given his first concert performance. At just 11 years old, Repin won the gold medal in all age categories at the prestigious Wieniawsky Competition and gave recital debuts in Moscow and St. Petersburg. He made debuts in 1985 in Tokyo, Munich, Berlin and Helsinki, and his Carnegie Hall debut a year later. In 1989 the 17-year-old Repin became the youngest musician to ever win the most prestigious and demanding violin competition in the world, the Queen Elisabeth International Music Competition.

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Repin has performed with the world's greatest orchestras, including the Berlin Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Israel Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Concertgebouw, San Francisco Symphony, St. Petersburg Philharmonic and La Scala. He is a regular guest in New York, and last season played with the New York Philharmonic and Riccardo Muti at Lincoln Center and with the North German Radio Symphony Orchestra with conductor Christoph von Dohnányi in Carnegie Hall.

Repin counts pianists Nikolai Lugansky and Itamar Golan as frequent collaborators in recital. His prize-winning recordings on the Erato/Warner Classics label include the Shostakovich Violin Concerto No. 1 and Prokofiev Violin Concerto No. 2 with Kent Nagano and the Hallé Orchestra and the Tchaikovsky and Sibelius concertos with the London Symphony under Emmanuel Krivine. His recording of the Prokofiev violin sonatas with pianist Boris Berezovsky won the Diapason d'Or, and his recording of the Mozart violin concerti with the Vienna Chamber Orchestra under Yehudi Menuhin won Repin the 1999 Echo Klassik Instrumentalist of the Year award.

Repin released a two-disc recording of works by Beethoven in 2007, his debut for the Deutsche Grammophon label. The concertos, performed with the Vienna Philharmonic and pianist Martha Argerich under the direction of conductor Riccardo Muti, received wide acclaim; "Vadim Repin's infallible ear and flawless technique make it the most beautifully considered version of Beethoven's concerto to appear for years" (*The Independent*). Repin plays Brahms in his second recording with the yellow label, due out in January 2009.

Repin plays on the 1736 "Von Szerdahely" Guarneri del Gesù and the magnificent 1708 "Ruby" Stradivarius. He resides with his wife and son in Switzerland and Italy.

### **NIKOLAI LUGANSKY**

**Nikolai Lugansky** has been called "a pianistic phenomenon of exceptional class" (*NRC Handelsblad*, Rotterdam). Born in 1972 in Moscow, signs of innate musicality began to appear at the age of five, to the astonishment of his research scientist parents. "I was simply pre-

destined to be a pianist,” he says, recalling an incident from the days before he had even learned how to read music, when he went to a neighbor’s *dacha* and sat down at the piano, playing a Beethoven sonata from memory, having learned the music by ear.

At age seven, Lugansky entered the Central School of Music in Moscow and studied with Tatiana Kestner, a former pupil of Alexander Goldenweiser. In 1985, Lugansky became a pupil of the celebrated Russian pianist Tatiana Nikolaeva, remaining with her for nine years. During that time, teacher and pupil performed together in concertos for two pianos. In her last interview before her death in 1993, Nikolaeva declared that Lugansky was to be “The Next One” in the line of great Russian pianists.

In 1988, Lugansky won the First Prize at the All-Union Competition in Tbilisi, and the Silver Medal at the 8th International Bach Competition in Leipzig. In 1990, he was awarded Second Prize at the Rachmaninoff Competition in Moscow. In 1992, at the International Summer Academy “Mozarteum” in Salzburg, Austria, Lugansky was awarded a special prize for “Best Pianist,” and in 1994 he won the prestigious 10th International Tchaikovsky Competition.

Since then, Lugansky has come to be acknowledged as one of the world’s great interpreters of the piano repertoire. He regularly performs with prominent conductors and major orchestras. His concerts, recitals and chamber music performances throughout Europe, Asia and the Americas have earned him the applause of critics as well as audiences, and his playing has been compared to that of Rachmaninov, Moïseiwitsch, Horowitz and Richter.

His numerous recordings have earned him critical praise as well as a slew of accolades. In 2000, he won the Diapason d’Or de l’Année for his recording of the complete Chopin etudes. His subsequent recordings of Rachmaninoff preludes and *Moments musicaux* and Chopin preludes each won him a Diapason d’Or, making Lugansky a winner three years in a row. His disc of the Rachmaninoff Piano Concertos Nos. 1 and 3 was awarded Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik in 2003.

In addition to the two-month-long world tour with Repin, which includes engagements in London, Vienna, New York and Berkeley, Lugansky's future engagements include a tour with the Orchester der Haag under the direction of conductor Neeme Järvi. In addition to performing, Lugansky teaches at the Moscow Conservatory.

### TICKET INFORMATION

This performance is sold out. Tickets for **Vadim Repin** and **Nikolai Lugansky** on **Sunday, November 9, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.** in **Hertz Hall** are priced at \$58 and may become available due to last-minute returns. Call the Cal Performances Ticket Office at (510) 642-9988 for availability. If available, half-price tickets are offered for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens and other students receive a \$2 discount, and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$3 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.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Sunday, November 9 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Hertz Hall, UC Campus**

Bancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

*Recital*

**Vadim Repin**, violin

**Nikolai Lugansky**, piano

**Program:**

Debussy/Sonata for Violin and Piano in G minor

Prokofiev/Sonata No. 1 in F minor, Op. 80

Beethoven/Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 9 in A Major, *Kreutzer*

**Tickets:** This performance is sold out. Tickets are \$58, and may become available due to last minute returns. Call the Cal Performances Ticket Office at (510) 642-9988 for availability.

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