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**PIANO VIRTUOSO RUDOLF BUCHBINDER
PERFORMS FIVE BEETHOVEN SONATAS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 AT 3:00 P.M. AT HERTZ HALL**

BERKELEY, August 12, 2008—“Unpredictable and expressively potent,” **Rudolf Buchbinder** is “...the Viennese oracle on the core literature of Haydn, Beethoven and Brahms,” says the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. Returning for the fifth consecutive season, Buchbinder will continue his traversal of composer, **Ludwig van Beethoven’s** piano sonatas **Sunday, September 21 at 3:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall**. As a “fearless keyboard technician” (*San Francisco Chronicle*), Buchbinder admires the passion in the romantic composer’s materials; Beethoven dedicated many of his sonatas to the important women in his life. “You feel how much love, how much deepness, how much soul is in his music” says Buchbinder. He will perform five sonatas in Berkeley.

A *Sightlines* pre-performance talk with musicologist Paul M. Ellison will be held Sunday, September 21, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at Hertz Hall. This *Sightlines* event is free to all ticket holders.

PROGRAM

The first half of the concert will feature a work often referred to as Beethoven’s first virtuosic piano sonata, Sonata No. 3 in C major, Op. 2, No. 3; and Sonata No. 22 in F major, Op. 54 with its dance-like gentility and tempo. After intermission, Buchbinder will perform Sonata No. 24 in F-sharp major, Op. 78 (*A Thérèse*), which Beethoven dedicated to Countess Therese Brunsvik; one of Beethoven’s shorter sonatas, No. 25 in G major, Op. 79 (*Cuckoo*), named for its frequent jumps in the music; and one of the late period sonatas, considered an intimate and mature composition, Sonata No. 28 in A major, Op. 101.

RUDOLF BUCHBINDER

Born in 1946, Rudolf Buchbinder has lived his entire life in Vienna, where he began his piano studies at age five as the youngest student to ever be admitted to the Vienna Musik Hochschule. At 19 years old, he first toured outside of Europe, visiting Japan, Central America and South America. A North American debut occurred the following year, in which he performed with the California Chamber Symphony. Buchbinder is a regular guest of such renowned orchestras as

the Berlin Philharmonic, Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, London Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, Orchestre de Paris, Vienna Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, Chicago Symphony and Cleveland Orchestra. He has collaborated with the world's most distinguished conductors, including Lorin Maazel, Claudio Abbado, Carlo Maria Giulini, Zubin Mehta, Kurt Masur, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Christoph von Dohnányi and Wolfgang Sawallisch.

For Buchbinder's recording of his formidable cycle of Beethoven's 32 piano sonatas, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* hailed Buchbinder "one of today's most important and competent Beethoven performers." Buchbinder has over 100 recordings in all, many on the Teldec label, including an 18-disc set of Haydn's complete works for piano for which he was awarded the "Grand Prix du Disque." He has also recorded rarely performed pieces such as the collection of *Diabelli Variations*. Buchbinder's cycle of the complete Mozart piano concertos, which he conducted and performed with the Vienna Symphony Orchestra, was recorded live at the Vienna Konzerthaus. Joachim Kaiser, Germany's renowned music critic, named the recording CD of the Year in 1998. Buchbinder's latest CDs are live recordings—the Brahms piano concertos with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra under Nikolaus Harnoncourt, and all five Beethoven piano concertos with the Vienna Symphony Orchestra as soloist and conductor. One highlight in 2006 was a series of concerts with the Vienna Philharmonic for the city's international festival; the program consisted of the 12 piano concertos by Mozart and has been recorded on DVD.

In August 2007, Buchbinder became the founding artistic director of the Grafenegg Music Festival, a major international music festival near Vienna. During the 2007 festival, he performed Beethoven's Concerto No. 5 with the London Symphony Orchestra and conductor Valery Gergiev. This past summer, Buchbinder performed with the Sinfonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks under Christoph Eschenbach and the NDR Symphony Orchester under Peter Ruzicka in addition to recitals in Milan at Sala Verdi and Prague. In addition to his performance at Cal Performances, he will tour with the Dresden Staatskapelle conducted by Fabio Luisi and perform with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra as soloist and conductor.

Owning more than 18 complete editions of Beethoven's sonatas and an extensive collection of autograph scores, first editions and original documents, Buchbinder attaches considerable importance to the meticulous study of musical sources.

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TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Rudolf Buchbinder** on **Sunday, September 21** 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; 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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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, September 21, 2:00–2:30 p.m.
SIGHTLINES

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

Rudolf Buchbinder pre-concert talk by musicologist **Paul M. Ellison**, San Francisco State University. *Sightlines* is a continuing program of pre- and post-performance discussions with artists and scholars, designed to enrich the concertgoer's experience. These events are free to ticketholders.

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Sunday, September 21 at 3:00 p.m.

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

Recital

Rudolf Buchbinder, piano

Program: Beethoven/Sonata No. 3 in C major, Op. 2, No. 3; Sonata No. 22 in F major, Op. 54; Sonata No. 24 in F-sharp major, Op. 78 (*A Thérèse*); Sonata No. 25 in G major, Op. 79 (*Cuckoo*); Sonata No. 28 in A major, Op. 101.

Tickets: \$42.00, 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.

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