

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

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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS TWO SPECIAL TAPINGS OF  
THE ODDLY INFORMATIVE NEWS QUIZ SHOW WAIT, WAIT...DON'T TELL ME!  
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19 & 20  
AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

**BERKELEY, January 8, 2009**—Peter Sagal, Carl Kasell and the rest of the cast of **National Public Radio's** (NPR) *Wait, Wait. . . Don't Tell Me!* Return with their irreverent and sometimes erudite program to Cal Performances' Zellerbach Hall on **Thursday** and **Friday, February 19** and **20** at **8:00 p.m.** From the creators of *Car Talk*—another offbeat NPR radio program—*Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!* highlights the week's whackiest news events, and has become one of public radio's most popular shows, drawing more than 1.5 million listeners each week. Newsman **Carl Kasell** serves as judge, scorekeeper and straight man as host **Peter Sagal** leads a cast of rotating panelists and call-in contestants through a series of games and questions designed to test their wit and their knowledge of the week's current affairs. The panelists for both Berkeley programs are to be announced.

The program taped on Thursday February 19 will be broadcast nationally Saturday February 21 on NPR affiliate stations, including KQED FM locally. The special guest will be announced. The Friday February 20 program will feature special guest **Michael Pollan**, the reform-minded food writer and Professor at UC Berkeley School of Journalism. The program will be broadcast at a later date, to be announced. While the format of the two programs will be the same, the topic for Friday's taping will be historical events rather than current events.

With a fast-paced, funny look at current affairs and flashbacks in history, panelists play for points and listeners play for the most coveted prize on public radio—Carl Kasell's voice on their home answering machine. The games of skill and wit that one must master to receive the popular prize include "Not My Job" in which expert guests are asked to answer questions totally unrelated to their fields; "Bluff the Listener" in which the listener must identify the hard-to-believe real news story among the false news stories made up by panelists; "Listener Limerick Challenge" in which the listener must fill in the last line of a news-related limerick; and "Who's

Carl This Time” in which the listener is asked to identify a newsmaker based on Carl Kasell’s uncanny impersonations.

### **PETER SAGAL**

**Peter Sagal** has been the host of *Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!* since May, 1998. A native of Berkeley Heights, N.J., he attended Harvard University and subsequently squandered that education while working as a literary manager for a regional theater, a stage director, an actor, an extra in a Michael Jackson video, a travel writer, an essayist, a ghost writer for a former adult film impresario and a staff writer for a motorcycle magazine. He is the author of numerous plays that have been performed in large and small theaters around the country and abroad, including Long Wharf Theater, Actors Theater of Louisville, Seattle Repertory, and Florida Stage. He has also written a number of screenplays, including *Savage*, a cheesy vehicle for obscure French kickboxer Olivier Gruner, and *Cuba Mine*, an original screenplay that became, without his knowledge, the basis for *Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights*.

Among Sagal's honors are a DramaLogue award for directing, grants from the Jerome and McKnight Foundations and a residency grant at the Camargo Foundation in Cassis, France. He has been commissioned to write new plays by the Seattle Repertory Theater and the Wind Dancer Theater and has been invited to work on his plays at Sundance, the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center and the New Harmony Project.

### **CARL KASELL**

Official judge and scorekeeper Carl Kasell is an all-around genius and great guy. He has also been a newscaster for NPR’s daily newsmagazine *Morning Edition* since its inception in 1979. His newscasts on *Morning Edition* can be heard at the top of the hour every weekday morning on public radio stations nationwide. A veteran broadcaster, Kasell launched his radio career more than 50 years ago. He sometimes moonlights as a magician.

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Both performances are sold out. Tickets for *Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!* At Zellerbach Hall on **Thursday & Friday, February 19 & 20 at 8:00 p.m.** in **Zellerbach Hall** are priced at **\$24.00, \$34.00, and \$46.00** and may become available due to last minute returns. 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 \$10.00 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.

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

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**CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Thursday & Friday, Feb. 19 & 20 at 8:00 p.m.**

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

*Strictly Speaking*

*Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!*

**Program:** Host Peter Sagal and sidekick Carl Kasell lead a panel of NPR luminaries through the recording of two programs of the popular nationally broadcast news quiz show.

**Tickets: Both performances are sold out.** Tickets are \$24.00, \$34.00 and \$46.00 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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