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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 12, 2009

**KRONOS QUARTET PREMIERES TERRY RILEY'S
TRANSYLVANIAN HORN COURTSHIP AND VLADIMIR MARTYNOV'S
NEW QUINTET WITH CELLIST JOAN JEANRENAUD AT HERTZ HALL
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, AT 7:00 P.M.**

***Sightlines:* Post-performance talk will be given by the artists**

David Harrington will discuss *Sonic Immersion: An Exploration of Eclectic and Unusual Sounds and Musics* on Monday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. at 125 Morrison Hall

BERKELEY, November 12, 2009—Known for music that “knows no boundaries” (*The Boston Globe*), the Grammy-winning **Kronos Quartet** returns to Cal Performances on **Sunday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Hertz Hall**. The quartet—**David Harrington** (violin), **John Sherba** (violin), **Hank Dutt** (viola) and **Jeffrey Zeigler** (cello)—is insatiable when it comes to finding fresh influences and cutting-edge compositions to incorporate into its repertoire. Cellist **Joan Jeanrenaud**, who played with Kronos for 20 years, will reunite with the ensemble onstage for the first time in a decade for the world premiere of *Schubert-Quintet (Unfinished)* composed for the artists by **Vladimir Martynov**. The program will additionally feature three other works written specifically for the Quartet, including the West Coast premiere of **Terry Riley's** *Transylvanian Horn Courtship*; **Bryce Dessner's** *Aheym (Homeward)*; and **Missy Mazzoli's** *Harp and Altar*.

A ***Sightlines*** post-performance talk will be given by the artists. Prior to the concert, David Harrington will give a talk titled ***Sonic Immersion: An Exploration of Eclectic and Unusual Sounds and Musics*** on **Monday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. in 125 Morrison Hall**. The Kronos Quartet founder and artistic director will share music from his collection, with commentary and a discussion moderated by David Wessell of the Center for New Music and Audio Technology (CNMAT). This event is presented by the Berkeley Center for New Media in association with Cal Performances as part of the Art, Technology and Culture Colloquium, a series sponsored by the Office of the Chancellor.

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THE PROGRAM

The first two items on the program pay tribute to the city of Brooklyn. The program will open with Bryce Dessner's *Aheym*, a piece written for a Kronos performance in Prospect Park, Brooklyn. "Aheym" means 'homeward' in Yiddish; the idea of flight and passage is evoked in this piece. Dessner was inspired by the diversity of Brooklyn's cultures and communities, where his father's family had also once lived. Second on the program is Missy Mazzoli's *Harp and Altar*, a love song to the Brooklyn Bridge. Mazzoli writes that the Brooklyn Bridge is "an apt symbol for [Brooklyn's] vastness, its strength and its history." The title comes from a poem by Hart Crane; pre-recorded lines from the poem will be sampled by vocalist **Gabriel Kahane**.

The first half concludes with the world premiere of *Schubert-Quintet (Unfinished)* by Vladimir Martynov, one of Russia's most prominent composers. Martynov wrote, "every time I come into contact with Schubert's music, I want to prolong forever each moment of sound." *Schubert-Quintet (Unfinished)* presents a 21st century version of Schubert, where every sound and pause are magnified. For this reason, the score carries the subtitle 'Unfinished'.

Following intermission, the Kronos will perform the West Coast premiere of Terry Riley's *Transylvanian Horn Courtship*. After a conversation with David Harrington, Riley was inspired to create a new textural sound for the string quartet using Stroh instruments (a string instrument with a metal horn to amplify its sound). The Kronos had an entire set of Stroh instruments built for this piece, giving the sounds deeper range and color. Real-time looping is also employed to give the composition a denser texture. This single continuous movement with nine sections was written in just six weeks.

KRONOS QUARTET

Adventure and eclecticism have been at the heart of the **Kronos Quartet's** performances and commissions since the ensemble's inception. David Harrington formed Kronos in 1973, after hearing a performance of George Crumb's *Black Angels*, a work for amplified string quartet and featuring spoken word passages, bowed drinking glasses and electronic effects. Kronos themselves released a recording of *Black Angels* in 1990, a year after their groundbreaking

recording of Steve Reich's *Different Trains*, a work written for, and dedicated to, the Kronos Quartet.

Kronos recognizes no boundaries. In addition to bringing exceptional technical and interpretive skills to 20th century masterworks by Bartók, Shostakovich, Debussy and Berg, Kronos has gone on to expand the repertoire for string quartet by performing and recording works from a wide range of artists, including jazz greats such as Ornette Coleman, Charles Mingus and Thelonious Monk, Icelandic experimental art-rockers Sigur Rós and Azerbaijani composer Franghiz Ali Zadeh. Kronos's collaborations have "widened the world of sound" (*The New Yorker*) with works that evoke "awe, ferocity and terror" (*San Francisco Chronicle*). In all, Kronos has given over 400 premieres, including all three of Górecki's string quartets, which were written for Kronos. Their search for the new continues.

One of the ensemble's most impressive initiatives is the Kronos: Under 30 Project, a unique commissioning and composer-in-residence program for composers under 30 years old, launched in conjunction with Kronos's own 30th birthday in 2003. By cultivating creative relationships with such emerging talents and a wealth of other artists from around the world, Kronos reaps the benefit of 30 years of wisdom while maintaining a fresh approach to music-making inspired by a new generation of composers and performers.

The ensemble has received ten Grammy Award nominations, a Grammy Award for Best Chamber Music Performance for their 2003 recording of Alban Berg's *Lyric Suite* with soprano Dawn Upshaw, recognition as "Musicians of the Year" (2003) from Musical America and The Recording Academy President's Merit Award in honor of their professional achievements.

JOAN JEANRENAUD

Joan Jeanrenaud was Kronos's cellist for over 20 years, performing to much acclaim at major concert halls across Europe, Asia and the Americas. She appeared in over 2,000 concerts and more than 30 recordings with the Quartet. After leaving the ensemble in 1999, Jeanrenaud pursued a colorful career that has included solo projects and collaborations with a diverse array of groups and artists, ranging from Yo-Yo Ma and Alessandro Moruzzi to the AXIS Dance

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Company and Austin Ballet. She has experimented with many musical arenas, including composition, improvisation, electronics and multi-media performance. In 2001, Jeanrenaud served as the Artist-In-Residence for the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco. During her residency, she created a solo multi-media work, *Metamorphosis*, described as “visceral, hypnotic, and... compelling” (*Strings Magazine*). Also during her stay, she developed and performed the four-hour piece, *Ice Cello*. She was the sole composer of all the music in her album *Strange Toys*, which was nominated for a 2008 Grammy Award.

TICKET INFORMATION

This performance is sold out. Tickets for **Kronos Quartet with Joan Jeanrenaud, cello**, on **Sunday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.** and in **Hertz Hall** are priced at **\$50.00** and may become available due to last-minute returns. Patrons should check with the Cal Performances Ticket Office at (510) 642-9988 for availability. Additionally, patrons may join the notification list at www.calperformances.org to be contacted via e-mail if tickets become available for this performance. All other 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 three 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

Monday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m.
Lecture

125 Morrison Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Sonic Immersion: An Exploration of Eclectic and Unusual Sounds and Musics

Kronos Quartet founder and artistic director David Harrington shares music from his collection, with commentary and a discussion moderated by David Wessell of the Center for New Music and Audio Technology. Presented by the Berkeley Center for New Media in association with Cal Performances as part of the Art, Technology and Culture Colloquium, a series sponsored by the Office of the Chancellor.

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Sunday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.

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

20th Century Music & Beyond

Kronos Quartet

with **Joan Jeanrenaud**, cello

Program:

Bryce Dessner/*Aheym (Homeward)*

Missy Mazzoli/*Harp and Altar*

Vladimir Martynov/*Schubert-Quintet (Unfinished)* [World premiere]

Terry Riley/*Transylvanian Horn Courtship* [West Coast premiere]

Tickets: This performance is sold out. Tickets are \$50 and may become available due to last-minute returns. Call the Cal Performances Ticket Office at (510) 642-9988 for availability or join the notification list at www.calperformances.org.

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Sunday, December 13

Sightlines

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus

Bancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Kronos Quartet with Joan Jeanrenaud post-concert discussion with the artists. *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.

– Cal Performances –