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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 14, 2009

**LATIN GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING, QUEEN OF *FADO*, MARIZA  
RETURNS TO CAL PERFORMANCES WITH HER FIVE PIECE BAND  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19 AT 8:00 P.M.**

**BERKELEY, October 14, 2009**—Bringing her expressive and soulful voice once again to Cal Performances, the reigning queen of Portugal blues **Mariza** returns along with her five piece band **Thursday, November 19 at 8:00 p.m.** at Zellerbach Hall. Touring in support of her 2009 Latin Grammy award-winning album *Terra*, Mariza is joined by **Angelo Freire** (Portuguese *guitarra*), **Diogo Clemente** (acoustic guitar), **Marino de Freitas** (acoustic bass), **Vicky** (drums & percussions) and **Simon James** (piano & trumpet) in unearthing the intimate and passionate music of *fado*. When the Portuguese-Mozambican songstress performs, “she often draws her listeners to her with a beckoning finger, addressing the audience with the hushed intimacy one might use toward a lover.” (*Los Angeles Times*) With her latest album, she demonstrates the new voice of Portugal, a voice comfortable enough with Portuguese music to have some fun with it. On one hand, *Terra* is firmly planted in tradition with tracks that rejuvenate well-worn, beloved songs of the past, including a song based on the discovery of a hand-written, never-published poem by one of Portugal’s foremost literary figures, poet David Mourão-Ferreira. On the other hand, Mariza branches out in new directions to incorporate other forms of music and musicians to yield flavors of Spain, Cuba, Argentina and Africa. Mariza’s program will include music from *Terra* and classic songs from her repertoire.

Combining mournful lyrics, African-slave rhythms, and melodies in minor keys, traditional *fado* is usually accompanied by the lute-like, twelve-stringed Portuguese *guitarra*; acoustic guitar; and bass. To this Mariza adds piano, strings, and African-inspired percussion, and commissions lyrics from contemporary poets to expand beyond the standard *fado* catalog of roughly 300 songs. *Fado* is a lyrical style of singing that intertwines freely improvised melody lines according to the performer’s mood. Its history is described as the “Lusophone Triangle,” in which the music traveled with slaves from the Portuguese colonies in Angola to Brazil, then back to Lisbon. Like American blues, it often conveys melancholy—even tragedy. But unlike the

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blues, *fado* can achieve a degree of polish and vocal finesse that can rival classical opera. Mariza embellishes and ventures to the edge of pop to give multidimensional interpretations of the genre.

**Mariza** (full name Mariza Nunes) was born in Mozambique, on the southeastern coast of Africa, but from age three she was raised in Lisbon, Portugal. Her neighborhood, the old Mouraria district of the city, is often identified with the origins of *fado*, and by the age of five she was hearing and emulating the folk singing of working-class men who sang at her father's tavern on weekends. By the late 1990s, when Portugal was rediscovering the vocal style, Mariza was already one of several young vocalists championing it. She has since risen to become one of the most acclaimed performers of this music that originated in the slums and was once scorned, like tango, as low-class. "I fell in love with the sound of the Portuguese guitar coming up through the floor and I started to sing *fado* when I was five years old" Mariza recalls. She considers the stage her own living room where she entertains her friends, and this warmth extends to each of her audiences.

Mariza has performed at such venues as London's Royal Albert Hall, New York's Carnegie Hall, Central Park, the Hollywood Bowl, the Womad Festival, and the Belém Cultural Centre in Lisbon. Gaining recognition internationally, Mariza has been nominated and received numerous awards across the globe including Best European Artist by BBC Radio 3 (2001, 2005 and 2006), European Border Breakers Award (2004), Amália Rodrigues Foundation's International Award for making Portuguese music known worldwide (2005), Order of Henry the Navigator by Portugal President Jorge Sampaio (2006), Finnish Emma Gaala Awards' Best International Artist (2007), Medaille de Vermeil award from the Paris Academy of Arts, Sciences and Letters (2008) and Latin Grammy (2009).

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for **Mariza's** concert on **Thursday, November 19, 2009, at 8:00 p.m.** at **Zellerbach Hall** are priced at **\$24.00, \$36.00, \$48.00** and **\$60.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC

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Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5.00 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 \$20.00 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 2009/10 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Thursday, November 19 at 8:00 p.m.**

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

*World Stage*

**Mariza**

**Program:** “Destined to become one of the world’s great divas” (*The Times of London*), Mozambique-born *fado* superstar Mariza returns with her five piece band.

**Tickets:** \$24.00, \$36.00, \$48.00 and \$60.00, 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.

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