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**TENOR JONAS KAUFMANN MAKES HIS BAY AREA DEBUT
WITH SONGS BY ROBERT SCHUMANN AND RICHARD STRAUSS
SUNDAY, MARCH 13, AT 7:00 P.M. AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, February 8, 2011—Cal Performances and San Francisco Opera co-present the Bay Area debut of one of the stellar tenors of this generation, **Jonas Kaufmann**. “Perhaps the finest German lyric tenor since the great Fritz Wunderlich” (*Sunday Times*, London). Kaufmann will sing an all-German lieder program consisting of 33 songs by **Robert Schumann** and **Richard Strauss** on Sunday, **March 13, at 7:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall** in Berkeley. While celebrated and sought-after for opera performances, the versatile Kaufmann also performs regularly in concert and recital settings. Kaufmann will perform with his longtime accompanist, pianist **Helmut Deutsch**.

PROGRAM

Jonas Kaufmann will open his program with four songs from **Robert Schumann**’s Op. 35 collection of lieder set to poems by the German poet and physician Justinus Kerner. Written during Schumann’s “Year of Song” (1839–1840), in which he wrote 130 songs, and dedicated to the poet, the *Kerner-Lieder* express a world-weary sentiment while exhibiting subtle humor and variety. Of the twelve songs Schumann wrote for the set, Kaufmann will sing *Wanderlied* (“Song of Travel”); *Erstes Grün* (“First Green”); *Wanderung* (“Wandering”); and *Stille Tränen* (“Silent Tears”).

Next, Kaufmann will sing Schumann’s song cycle, *Dichterliebe* (“The Poet’s Love”), Op. 48. Composed in 1840 to poems by German journalist and poet Heinrich Heine, *Dichterliebe* begins with a song lauding springtime’s flowers, birds and love (*Im wunderschönen Monat Mai*, “In Beautiful May”) and wends through texts mulling over nature, love, flowers, sadness and loss, concluding with *Die alten, bösen Lieder* (“The Old, Bad Songs”), which describes in colorful detail the metaphorical burial at sea of bad songs, bitterness, anger and suffering. The early-

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Romantic *Dichterliebe* is often described as enigmatic and mysterious, and offers the singer and piano as partners, rather than soloist and accompanist.

After intermission, Jonas Kaufmann will return to sing *Schlichte Weisen* (“Simple Tunes”), Op. 21, by **Richard Strauss**. The title of the song cycle—translations vary, with some calling the cycle “Simple Melodies,” “Simple Ways” and even “Homely Ditties”—comes from the five poems by German lawyer and historian Felix Dahn. The five songs are *All mein’ Gedanken, mein Herz und mein Sinn* (“All My Thoughts, My Heart and My Mind”), *Du meines Herzens Krönelein* (“You, My Heart’s Little Crown”), *Ach Lieb, ich muss nun scheiden* (“Ah Love, I Must Now Leave”), *Ach weh mir unglückhaften Mann* (“Ah Me, Unlucky Man”) and *Die Frauen sind oft fromm und still* (“The Women Are Often Quiet and Still”). The poetry is complex and romantic, and the songs are outwardly simple and folksy, belying their rhythmic, charming depth.

Four more Strauss songs, written between 1896 and 1900, follow: *Sehnsucht* (“Longing”) from Op. 32, to a text by Detlev von Liliencron; *Nachtgang* (“Night Stroll”) from Op. 29, to a text by Otto Julius Bierbaum; *Freundliche Vision* (“Pleasant Vision”), from Op. 48, to a text by Bierbaum; and *Ich liebe dich* (“I Love You”) from Op. 37, to a text by von Liliencron.

Jonas Kaufmann’s recital will conclude with a final set of four Strauss lieder, Op. 27: *Ruhe, meine Seele!* (“Rest, My Soul”), to a text by Karl Friedrich Henckell; the famous *Cäcilie* (“Cecily”), to a text by Heinrich Hart; *Heimliche Aufforderung* (“Secret Invitation”), to a text by John Henry Mackay; and *Morgen* (“Morning”) to a text by Mackay. Written in 1894, these four songs are among the composer’s most heartfelt, and indeed, were dedicated to Strauss’s beloved Pauline de Ahna and presented to her on their wedding day. She often performed them.

JONAS KAUFMANN

Jonas Kaufmann was born in Munich, Germany, and studied at the Hochschule für Musik in that city. While in school Kaufmann made his professional debut at the Staatstheater Saarbruecken in 1994, and was soon invited to appear at other important German theaters, including the Stuttgart and Hamburg State operas, as well as international opera venues including

the Lyric Opera of Chicago, the Paris Opera and the Teatro alla Scala. His operatic career has since included appearances at the Metropolitan Opera, the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, the Berlin State Opera and the Vienna State Opera, in roles ranging from Florestan (*Fidelio*), Don Jose (*Carmen*), Alfredo (*La Traviata*), Cavaradossi (*Tosca*), Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*), Tamino (*The Magic Flute*), and *Faust* (both Gounod's and Berlioz's versions). "He can bend a plaintive phrase with tender pianissimos and then stun you with the visceral power of his full-voiced top notes," raved the *New York Times* in 2009. "He has everything: intelligence, musicianship, and resourceful technique. As an actor, he is both savvy and uninhibited."

Kaufmann has worked with leading orchestras and conductors, including the Berlin Philharmonic with Sir Simon Rattle, the Cleveland Orchestra with Franz Welser-Möst, and the Vienna Philharmonic with Helmut Rilling. In 2007, he sang Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in Lucerne under Claudio Abbado, and that same year made his Carnegie Hall debut singing the same work. His recital tours, including a tour of Japan, have been to sold-out crowds and rave reviews; he has also been praised for his "rugged good looks" (*Sunday Times*, London).

Kaufmann's recent discography includes *Verismo Arias* (2010), *Wagner: Lohengrin* (DVD set with Anja Harteros, Michaela Schuster and Wolfgang Kochs, directed by Kent Nagano, 2010), *Schubert: Die Schöne Müllerin* (with Helmut Deutsch, 2009), and *Sehnsucht* (featuring arias and scenes by Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven and Wagner, directed by Claudio Abbado, 2009). Kaufmann lives in Zurich, where he has been on contract with the Oper Zürich since 2001, with his wife, mezzo-soprano Margarete Joswig, and their three children. His official website is www.jonaskaufmann.com.

HELMUT DEUTSCH

Pianist **Helmut Deutsch** is a professor at the Hochschule für Musik in Munich, Germany—the same school where Jonas Kaufmann studied. His career as an accompanist began with German soprano **Irmgard Seefried**, and for 12 years Deutsch was the regular recital partner of German baritone **Hermann Prey**. He has accompanied Kaufmann in recital since 2002, and has accompanied singers including Juliane Banse, Barbara Bonney, Grace Bumbry, Ileana Cotrubas, Olaf Bär, Matthias Goerne, Thomas Moser and Andreas Schmidt.

Deutsch has performed at music festivals around the world, appeared on numerous prize-winning recordings, and given master classes throughout Europe and Japan. He taught for more than a decade at the Musikhochschule Wien.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for the **Jonas Kaufmann**, tenor, with Helmut Deutsch, piano, on **Sunday, March 13**, in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$40.00, \$56.00, \$70.00, \$86.00, and \$100.00**. 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 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 \$20.00 for all other community members. Information is available on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, three hours prior to a performance only.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES AND SAN FRANCISCO OPERA PRESENT

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

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

Special Event

Jonas Kaufmann, tenor
Helmut Deutsch, piano

Program:

Schumann/Selections from Lieder, Op. 35; Dichterliebe, Op. 48

Strauss/Schlichte Weisen, Op. 21; Sehnsucht, Op. 32, No. 2; Nachtgang, Op. 29, No. 3;
Freundliche Vision, Op. 48, No. 1; Ich liebe dich, Op. 37, No. 2; Vier Lieder, Op. 27

Tickets: \$40.00, \$56.00, \$70.00, \$86.00 and \$100.00, 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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