

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 19, 2011

**WORLD CELEBRATED TAKÁCS QUARTET RETURNS TO
CAL PERFORMANCES IN THREE DISTINCT SUNDAY CONCERTS
NOVEMBER 6 & DECEMBER 4, 2011 AND FEBRUARY 19, 2012
AT HERTZ HALL AT 3:00 P.M.**

Sightlines pre-performance talks at 2:00 P.M. proceeds each concert

BERKELEY, October 19, 2011—The thrilling sound of the **Takács Quartet** returns to **Hertz Hall** for three Sunday concerts this season on **November 6 & December 4, 2011** and **February 19, 2012**. Recognized as one of the world's premier string quartets, the Grammy Award-winning group, comprised of **Edward Dusinberre** (violin), **Károly Schranz** (violin), **Geraldine Walther** (viola) and **András Fejér** (cello), is acclaimed for its expressive musical personality. "Every time one is blown away by the rightness and freshness of everything they do" (*London Guardian*).

This season, the Takács travels through many spectrums of the chamber music repertoire. The November 6 program will include guest double bassist **Scott Pingel** of the San Francisco Symphony who joins the ensemble for **Antonín Dvořák's** Quintet for Quartet and Double Bass in G major, Op. 77. Dvořák's Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 51 is also on the program plus **Joseph Haydn's** Quartet in D major, Op. 64, No. 5, "*The Lark*." The second concert on December 4 includes **Leoš Janáček's** Quartet No. 1, "*Kreutzer Sonata*," **Benjamin Britten's** Quartet No. 1 in D major and **Maurice Ravel's** Quartet in F major. In the final concert on February 19, the Takács Quartet performs the second of Janáček's two quartets, his "Intimate Letters" which references Janáček's own doubt, joy and despair over a married woman. This performance also includes **Claude Debussy's** Quartet in G minor, Op. 10 and Britten's Quartet No. 3 in G major, which utilizes all possible pairings of the instruments and incorporates the styles of Beethoven, Shostakovich, and even that of Bartók.

Each concert is introduced with a **Sightlines** pre-performance talk. UC Berkeley

-MORE-

Department of Music Professor **Nicholas Mathew** will speak on Sunday, November 6 and Sunday, December 4 at 2:00 p.m., and **Scott Foglesong** of San Francisco Conservatory of Music will speak on Sunday, February 19 at 2:00 p.m. All talks will be given in Hertz Hall and are free to ticket holders.

TAKÁCS QUARTET

Based in Boulder, Colorado, the **Takács Quartet** gives over 90 concerts a year worldwide. In addition to the composers presented in the Berkeley concerts, the group's repertoire ranges from Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert to Bartók, Dutilleux, and Sheng. The quartet has performed in virtually every music capital in North America, Europe, Australia and Japan, as well as at prestigious festivals, including Aspen, Berlin, Ravinia, Salzburg, Schleswig-Holstein and Tanglewood. The Quartet has been coming to Berkeley since 1999, often performing twice a season and always to sold-out audiences. The ensemble is also known for its award-winning recordings on the Decca label which have gained them Grammy, Gramophone, the BBC Music Disc of the Year, the Classical Brit for Ensemble Album of the Year (late quartets) and three Japan Record Academy Chamber Music Awards.

The Takács Quartet was formed in 1975 at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest by Gabor Takács-Nagy, Károly Schranz, Gabor Ormai and András Fejér, while all four were students. Of the original ensemble, violinist Károly Schranz and cellist András Fejér remain. In addition to its residency at the University of Colorado, the ensemble is also a Resident Quartet at the Aspen Music Festival and School, and in 2005 its members were named Associate Artists of the South Bank Centre in London. The Takács Quartet has received two significant awards from the Republic of Hungary in the last decade: the Order of Merit of the Knight's Cross in 2001, and individual awards of the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit this year.

Through Hyperion Records, with whom they signed in 2005, the Takács Quartet recently released a recording of the Brahms Quartet in A minor, Op. 51, No. 2, and Piano Quintet in F minor, Op. 34, with Stephen Hough. In May 2009, the ensemble's performances of Schumann's works in the South Bank Centre culminated in a recording of the Piano Quintet with Marc-André

Hamelin was released in 2009. The Quartet's complete Haydn "Apponyi" Quartets, Op. 71 and 74, are aimed to be released November of this year.

TICKET INFORMATION

These performances are close to being sold out. Tickets for the **Takács Quartet** on **Sunday, November 6, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall, **Sunday, December 4, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall, and **Sunday, February 19, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall are priced at **\$60.00**. Please check with the Cal Performances Ticket Office at 510.642.9988 for availability. 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 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 for UCB students; \$15 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20 for all other community members. Information is available on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at (510) 642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

#

Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bank of America for major support of the 2011/12 Season.

KDFC is media sponsor of the 2011/12 Season

#

**CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:
CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

Sunday, November 6 at 2:00 p.m.
Sightlines

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

Sightlines pre-performance talk will be given by Professor Nicholas Mathew of the UC Berkeley Department of Music. Sightlines is a continuing program of pre- and post-performance discussions with Cal Performances' guest artists and scholars, designed to enrich the audience's experience. This event is free to ticket holders.

#

Sunday, November 6 at 3:00 p.m.

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

Chamber Music

Takács Quartet

Edward Dusinberre, violin

Károly Schranz, violin

Geraldine Walther, viola

András Fejér, cello

Scott Pingel, double bass

Program:

Dvořák/Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 51; Quintet for Quartet and Double Bass in G major, Op. 77
Haydn/Quartet in D major, Op. 64, No. 5, (*The Lark*)

#

Sunday, December 4 at 2:00 p.m.
Sightlines

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

Sightlines pre-performance talk will be given by Professor Nicholas Mathew of the UC Berkeley Department of Music. Sightlines is a continuing program of pre- and post-performance discussions with Cal Performances' guest artists and scholars, designed to enrich the audience's experience. This event is free to ticket holders.

#

Sunday, December 4 at 3:00 p.m.

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

Chamber Music

Takács Quartet

Edward Dusinberre, violin

Károly Schranz, violin

Geraldine Walther, viola

András Fejér, cello

Program:

Janáček/Quartet No. 1, (*Kreutzer Sonata*)

Britten/Quartet No. 1 in D major

Ravel/ Quartet in F major

#

Sunday, February 19 at 2:00 p.m.

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

Sightlines

Sightlines pre-performance talk will be given by Professor San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Department of Musicianship and Music Theory Chair Scott Foglesong. Sightlines is a continuing program of pre- and post-performance discussions with Cal Performances' guest artists and scholars, designed to enrich the audience's experience. This event is free to ticket holders.

#

Sunday, February 19 at 3:00 p.m.

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

Chamber Music

Takács Quartet

Edward Dusinberre, violin

Károly Schranz, violin

Geraldine Walther, viola

András Fejér, cello

Program:

Janáček/Quartet No. 2, (*Intimate Letters*)

Britten/Quartet No. 3 in G major

Debussy/Quartet in G minor, Op. 10

Tickets: These performances are close to being sold out. \$60.00, 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.