FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 30, 2016 **updated Aug. 31, Sept. 12, Oct. 4 in red.

More information on Berkeley RADICAL - *Immersion*

CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY
TO LAUNCH BERKELEY RADICAL *IMMERSION* SEASON-LONG THEMATIC STRAND WITH RESIDENCY BY
ESA-PEKKA SALONEN and
PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA, LONDON
FIVE WORKS by STRAVINSKY
October 7–9

2016/17 *IMMERSION* PERFORMANCES ALSO TO FEATURE
TAKÁCS QUARTET performing the
COMPLETE BEETHOVEN STRING QUARTET CYCLE
October 15–16, 2016, and March 4–5, April 8–9, 2017

SEASON-LONG CELEBRATION OF THE HUMAN VOICE
FEATURING 11 CHOIRS, ENSEMBLES, SOLOISTS
Beginning October 21

Collaborative UC Berkeley campus and community events:
Master Classes, Colloquia, Lecture Demonstrations, Artist Talks, Digital Documentation, and Other Engagement for All Ages to Accompany Presentations

**Berkeley, CA, August 30, 2016** — Cal Performances continues the second season of its Berkeley RADICAL initiative with the launch of the season-long *Immersion* thematic strand, which embraces the idea of deep exploration. Over the course of the 2016/17 season, *Immersion* performances and public programs offer audiences a variety of opportunities for intense engagement with one of the most innovative composers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Igor Stravinsky; the complete string quartet cycle by the most well-known name in classical music, Beethoven; and perhaps the most enduring, elastic, and unpredictable musical instrument, the human voice.
The 2016/17 Immersion events begin October 7–9, 2016, as Cal Performances welcomes back the Philharmonia Orchestra, London and its principal conductor and artistic advisor, Esa-Pekka Salonen, for a three-concert residency featuring performances of five symphonic works by Stravinsky over two programs. This focused exploration includes the composer’s iconic The Rite of Spring, Symphonies of Wind Instruments, and Agon on October 8; and on October 9, a re-creation of one of the opening concerts at Zellerbach Hall, when Stravinsky was in attendance, in May of 1968—Symphony of Psalms and Oedipus Rex. Salonen and the orchestra also perform Beethoven’s Symphony No. 3, Eroica, and Sibelius’ Symphony No. 5 on October 7.

One of the most immediately recognizable names in classical music is Beethoven; while his nine symphonies are staples of orchestras world-wide, a focused presentation of the string quartets provides a fresh chance for understanding and relating to his brilliance. The Takács Quartet performs the complete cycle in six concerts over the course of Cal Performances’ 2016/17 season: October 15–16, 2016; March 4–5; and April 8–9, 2017. As part of the Immersion thematic strand, Cal Performances also invites audiences to engage in a celebration of the human voice, with contributions from a culturally, historically, and geographically diverse group of international artists, reflecting a wide range of human experience—from Basiani, a respected folk ensemble from Georgia, the Vienna Boys Choir, the Choir of Trinity Wall Street, and Capella SF, to jazz stylist Anne Hampton Calloway and Ethiopian master vocalist Mahmoud Ahmed, among others.

“Depth, detail, and concentrated focus are often casualties of the digital age, with so much media and information competing for our attention,” commented Cal Performances executive and artistic director Matias Tarnopolsky. “Our Immersion thematic strand this season revels in the ideas of deep connection. The chance to hear Esa-Pekka Salonen, one of Stravinsky’s greatest champions, perform five works over two programs, and the extraordinary Takács Quartet traverse the glorious string quartets of Beethoven during three visits to Cal Performances, are two sublime propositions. Further, to have the opportunity to immerse oneself in the complexities and capabilities of the human voice, as demonstrated by so many diverse artists, invites audiences to listen intensely and engage through a variety of Berkeley RADICAL forums—to tell us something we don’t already know about these musical giants.”
Each Berkeley RADICAL strand of artistic exploration in Cal Performances’ 2016/17 season—*Inclusion, Innovation,* and *Immersion*—encourages audiences to re-imagine conventional ideas of the performing arts. Performances are complemented with related academic symposia, public programs, education programs, and community interactions that connect Cal Performances with the singular learning environment of UC Berkeley. Under the banner of Berkeley RADICAL, artists, curators, UC Berkeley faculty, and other noted figures create imaginative, immersive programs that enhance the commissioning, creation, and presentation mission of Cal Performances. One of the initiative’s key goals is to increase artistic literacy for the next generation and beyond.

The opening night concert on Friday, October 7 at 8pm, showcases the Philharmonia Orchestra, London, in two grand masterworks: Beethoven’s genre-redefining *Eroica* Symphony and Sibelius’ majestic, nature-inspired Fifth Symphony. Salonen’s most recent *Eroica* performance in Los Angeles, as part of his popular *Beethoven Unbound* series with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, was widely praised for its dynamism and energy—the *Orange County Register* called it a “thrilling and cohesive *Eroica*” and the *Los Angeles Times* wrote, “Beethoven the radical was present in this performance.”

Philharmonia’s other programs explore the breadth of Stravinsky’s orchestral music across decades of his prolific career. On Saturday, October 8 at 8pm, the performance highlights two rarely performed works, both composed or re-orchestrated during the 30 years when Stravinsky lived in Los Angeles. The program includes the 12-tone ballet *Agon* (as well as the Fanfare for Three Trumpets, which was originally composed as the ballet’s opening) and Stravinsky’s homage to Debussy, *Symphonies of Wind Instruments*. The groundbreaking *The Rite of Spring* concludes the program, representing the composer’s formative years collaborating in Paris with Sergei Diaghilev and the legendary Ballets Russes.

The performance on Sunday, October 9 at 3pm, features two of Stravinsky’s major works for orchestra and chorus. For the ritualistic opera-oratorio *Oedipus Rex*, the orchestra is joined by the **Lund University Men’s Chorus**, directed by **Andreas Lönqvist**, and the **San Francisco Conservatory Chorus**, directed by **Eric Choate**, with guest soloists, including celebrated mezzo-soprano **Michelle DeYoung**, bass-baritone **Hadleigh Adams**, and tenors **Nicholas Phan** and **Thomas Glenn**. The libretto is by **Jean Cocteau** with sung texts translated into Latin by **Abbé Jean Daniélou**; as The Speaker, **Carl Lumbly** will narrate using using **e.e. cummings’** English-
language translation. The Lund University Men’s Chorus, the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Men’s Chorus, and the Young Women’s Chorus of San Francisco, directed by Susan McMane, augment the orchestra for the austere Symphony of Psalms, which the Guardian (London) has described as "one of the most deeply moving and genuinely spiritual pieces Stravinsky ever wrote."

About Esa-Pekka Salonen
Esa-Pekka Salonen’s career as a conductor and composer has been characterized by a constant spirit of innovation, an attitude toward music-making that has marked him as one of today’s most important artists in classical music. He is the principal conductor and artistic advisor of the Philharmonia Orchestra, London, and conductor laureate of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, where he was music director from 1992 until 2009. Salonen is currently serving a three-year position as the Marie-Josée Kravis Composer-in-Residence at the New York Philharmonic. He is also the artistic director and co-founder of the annual Baltic Sea Festival, which invites artists to promote unity and ecological awareness among the countries around the Baltic Sea, and in 2016 was appointed to a five-year term as artist-in-association by The Finnish National Opera and Ballet. Salonen's work as a composer combines intricacy and technical virtuosity with playful rhythmic and melodic innovations. He is a recipient of the Grawemeyer Award, and his works have been performed by major symphonies all over the world.

About the Philharmonia Orchestra, London
Widely acknowledged as one of the UK’s musical pioneers, the Philharmonia Orchestra, London, is recognized internationally for its quality of playing and for its innovative approach to audience development, residencies, music education, and the use of new technologies in reaching a global audience. The orchestra celebrated its 70th anniversary in 2015; performs more than 160 concerts each year in the UK and abroad; and records music for films, video games, and commercial CD releases. The orchestra has enjoyed associations with the major artists of our time, including Furtwängler, Richard Strauss, Toscanini, Cantelli, Karajan, and Giulini. Resident conductors have included Otto Klemperer, Lorin Maazel, Charles Mackerras, Riccardo Muti, Kurt Sanderling, and Giuseppe Sinopoli.

About Cal Performances
Cal Performances is the performing arts presenter and producer of the University of California, Berkeley, fulfilling its mission by presenting, producing, and commissioning renowned and emerging artists in music, dance, and theater. Cal Performances reaches over 150,000 people annually through concerts as well as campus and community events including talks, symposia, lecture demonstrations, and academic courses based on Cal Performances’ season. Under the leadership of Matías Tarnopolsky, the organization launched Berkeley RADICAL (Research and Development Initiative in Creativity Arts and Learning) to cultivate the artistic literacy of future audiences and connect some of the most innovative artists in the world with UC Berkeley. For details about the many public events offered to enhance Cal Performances’ 2016/17 season, please visit calperformances.org/public-programs.

Ticket Information
Tickets for Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Philharmonia Orchestra, London on Friday–Saturday, October 7–8 at 8pm, and Sunday, October 9 at 3pm in Zellerbach Hall range from $35–$150 and are subject to change. Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at calperformances.org, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to calperformances.org/discounts.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:
CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

*Orchestra Residency*

Friday, October 7, 8pm  
Zellerbach Hall  
Saturday, October 8, 8pm  
Bancroft Way at Dana Street  
Sunday, October 9, 3pm  
UC Berkeley campus

*Berkeley RADICAL*  
Philharmonia Orchestra, London  
Esa-Pekka Salonen, principal conductor and artistic advisor

*Program:*  
Friday, October 7
Beethoven/Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Major, Op. 55, *Eroica*
Sibelius/Symphony No. 5 in E-flat Major, Op. 82

**Saturday, October 8**
Stravinsky/Fanfare for Three Trumpets
Stravinsky/*Symphonies of Wind Instruments*
Stravinsky/*Agon*

Stravinsky/*The Rite of Spring*

**Sunday, October 9***
Stravinsky/*Symphony of Psalms*
  **San Francisco Conservatory Chorus**
  Eric Choate, director
  Lund University Men’s Chorus
  Andreas Lönnqvist, artistic director
  Young Women’s Chorus of San Francisco
  Susan McMane, director
Stravinsky/*Oedipus Rex*
  Oedipus—Nicholas Phan, tenor
  Jocasta—Michelle DeYoung, mezzo-soprano
  Creon—Hadleigh Adams, bass-baritone
  Tiresias—Hadleigh Adams
  Shepherd—Thomas Glenn, tenor
  Messenger—Hadleigh Adams
  Narrator/The Speaker—Carl Lumbly
San Francisco Conservatory of Music Men’s Chorus
  Ragnar Bohlin, director
Lund University Men’s Chorus
  Andreas Lönnqvist, artistic director

* A re-creation of one of the opening concerts at Zellerbach Hall in May, 1968

**Berkeley RADICAL:** These performances are part of Cal Performances’ Berkeley RADICAL *Immersion* season-long thematic strand, which explores a single genre or follows the trajectory of an artist’s work, allowing new perspectives to emerge. More information at calperformances.org/berkeley-radical-immersion.

**Tickets:** Performance prices range from $35–$150 (subject to change).