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[Press Room](#)



Images of Anssi Karttunen and Nicolas Hodges are available for download from the Cal Performances [press room](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS
CELLIST ANSSI KARTTUNEN AND PIANIST NICOLAS HODGES
IN A CONCERT FEATURING ONE WORLD PREMIERE AND TWO US PREMIERES
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 IN HERTZ HALL**

Berkeley, September 18, 2017 — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley presents a recital by two internationally-recognized, leading lights of contemporary music, cellist **Anssi Karttunen** and pianist **Nicolas Hodges**, on Sunday October 29 at 3pm in Hertz Hall. The program includes the world premiere of a new work by **Sean Shepherd**, co-commissioned by Cal Performances, as well as the US premieres of works by **Pascal Dusapin**, also a Cal Performances co-commission, and **Ashkan Behzadi**. Commissioning is a key component of Cal Performances' Berkeley RADICAL initiative, which seeks to give audiences greater access to, and insight into, the most significant artists and works of our time. Both instrumentalists, performing in Berkeley here for the first time as a duo, are champions of new music: Karttunen, from Finland, is among the world's most renowned interpreters of challenging new scores, and has performed more than 160 world premieres; Hodges,

from England, has long been associated with the works of Elliott Carter, Thomas Adès, and Harrison Birtwistle.

The duo performs the world premiere of *Aquaria*, a new work by the young American composer Sean Shepard, whose Cello Sonata was premiered by Karttunen last year. Pascal Dusapin's monumental *Slackline*, composed for and dedicated to Karttunen, receives its US premiere. The work was composed exactly 100 years after Debussy's *Sonata* for Cello and Piano, and as Karttunen has noted, "*Slackline* is in its size and emotional scale a direct continuation in the tradition of the great instrumental duos of the late 19th and early 20th centuries...the cello-piano repertoire now has a new masterpiece, almost Mahlerian in its scale." *Fling*, by the young New York-based, Iranian-born composer, Ashkan Behzadi, also receives its US premiere. In addition to the new works, the program includes Brahms' Sonata No. 2 in F Major and Beethoven's late-period D-Major Cello Sonata.

Two private events for music students are planned with Karttunen at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and in the UC Berkeley Department of Music, on Monday October 30.

Ticket Information

Tickets for *Anssi Karttunen and Nicolas Hodges* on Sunday October 29 at 3pm in Hertz Hall are \$58 (price 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

Sunday, October 29, 3pm

Hertz Hall
Bancroft Way at College Avenue

Recital

Anssi Karttunen, cello
Nicolas Hodges, piano

Program:

Ashkan Behzadi/*Fling* (US Premiere)

Beethoven/Cello Sonata No. 5 in D Major, Op. 102, No. 2

Pascal Dusapin/*Slackline* (US Premiere, Cal Performances Co-Commission)

Sean Shepherd/*Aquaria* (World Premiere, Cal Performances Co-Commission)

Brahms/Cello Sonata No. 2 in F Major, Op. 99

Tickets: \$58 (price subject to change).

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