Berkeley, December 18, 2019 — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley welcomes the return of early-music scholar and viola da gamba virtuoso Jordi Savall, his instrumental ensemble Hespèrion XXI, and the Grammy-winning choir La Capella Reial de Catalunya. Savall and his colleagues perform a selection of works collected under the title *Splendor of the Iberian Baroque*, traversing a century of popular, sacred, and art music that originated at the crossroads of continents and cultures. Cal Performances has been presenting concerts with Jordi Savall regularly for nearly three decades. This
season’s concert takes place on Saturday, February 1 at 8pm in First Congregational Church, Berkeley.

_Splendor of the Iberian Baroque_ explores Spanish music during the overlapping lifetimes of two famed literary figures whose work was hugely influential in the 16th and 17th centuries: Lope Félix de Vega y Carpio (1562–1635) and Pedro Calderón de la Barca (1600–1681). The so-called “Golden Century” across the cultural melting pot of the Iberian Peninsula was a period of thriving artistic and cultural practice in art, music, architecture, and politics. Savall’s life’s work has been to champion the range and depth of musical expression that originated in his Catalan homeland, through thoughtfully researched and curated programs that connect cultures and eras. This program includes instrumental selections by Pedro Guerrero, Francisco Correa de Arauxo, Pedro de San Lorenzo, Sebastián Aguilera de Heredia, Joan Cabanilles, Antonio Valente, and others, and features the ornamented melodies and modal harmonies of the Arab-Andalusian tradition, plus dancing songs and romantic and pastoral themes woven together with masterful improvisation. Hespèrion XXI consists of Jordi Savall, _treble and bass viol_; Lixsania Fernández, _tenor viol_; Juan Manuel Quintana, _bass viol_; Xavier Puertas, _violone_; Xavier Díaz-Latorre, _guitar and vihuela_; Andrew Lawrence-King, _Spanish Baroque harp_; and David Mayoral, _percussion_. La Capella Reial de Catalunya consists of soprano Èlia Casanova, mezzo-soprano Lixsania Fernández, countertenor David Sagastume, tenor Víctor Sordo, and baritone Víctor Torres.

A pre-performance talk with Savall and Cal Performances Executive and Artistic Director Jeremy Geffen is planned in the church at 7pm, and is free to concert ticket holders.

**Ticket Information**

Tickets for _Jordi Savall with La Capella Reial de Catalunya and Hespèrion XXI_ on Saturday, February 1 at 8pm in First Congregational Church range from $56–$92 (prices 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**
Saturday, February 1, 8pm

First Congregational Church
2345 Channing Way, Berkeley

*Early Music*
Jordi Savall with
La Capella Reial de Catalunya
and Hespèrion XXI

*Splendor of the Iberian Baroque*

**LA CAPELLA REIAL DE CATALUNYA**
Èlia Casanova, *soprano*
Lixsania Fernández, *mezzo-soprano*
David Sagastume, *countertenor*
Víctor Sordo, *tenor*
Víctor Torres, *baritone*

**HESPÈRION XXI**
Jordi Savall, *treble & bass viol*
Lixsania Fernández, *tenor viol*
Juan Manuel Quintana, *bass viol*
Xavier Puertas, *violone*
Xavier Díaz-Latorre, *guitar & vihuela*
Andrew Lawrence-King, *Spanish Baroque harp*
David Mayoral, *percussion*

Jordi Savall, *director*

**Program:** Viola da gamba virtuoso and musical polymath Jordi Savall returns with a performance celebrating the rich cultural melting pot of the Iberian Peninsula of the 16th and 17th centuries. Savall is joined by the Grammy-winning choir La Capella Reial de Catalunya and his septet of virtuoso instrumentalists Hespèrion XXI for a tour through the ornamented melodies and modal harmonies of the Arab-Andalusian tradition, plus dancing songs and romantic and pastoral themes woven together with colorful improvisation.

**Tickets:** $56–$92 (prices subject to change)

**Pre-performance Talk**
First Congregational Church
Saturday, February 1, 7pm
A conversation between Jordi Savall and Cal Performances Executive and Artistic Director Jeremy Geffen. Free to ticket holders.

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