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**MEZZO-SOPRANO ANNE SOFIE VON OTTER RETURNS TO
CAL PERFORMANCES WITH A PROGRAM FEATURING COMPOSERS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2005 AT 8:00 P.M.**

BERKELEY, September 9, 2005 – Anne Sofie von Otter, acclaimed mezzo-soprano known for her purity of tone, colorful timbre and exquisite sense of lyricism, comes to Zellerbach Hall **Wednesday, October 19, 2005 at 8:00 p.m.** She demonstrates her trademark willingness to cross genres and take on new challenges with a recital featuring a variety of musical styles from composers around the world, including fellow countryman **Wilhelm Peterson-Berger**, Finnish **Jean Sibelius**, Venezuela native **Reynaldo Hahn**, Australian **Percy Grainger**, Briton **Montague Phillips**, Vienna-born **Franz Schubert**, and two from Ireland, **Howard Ferguson** and **Molly Carew**. She will be accompanied by her long-time collaborator **Bengt Forsberg** who will also perform a solo work, to be announced from the stage. This performance marks Von Otter's only West Coast appearance this season.

ANNE SOFIE VON OTTER

Intelligence, integrity, clarity, and expressiveness are some of the terms most frequently heard in regard to **Anne Sofie von Otter's** musical talent. A native of Sweden, her vocal studies began in Stockholm and continued with Vera Rozsa at London's Guildhall School of Music. An exceptional interpreter of Mozart and Strauss, von Otter is particularly renowned for her interpretation of Oktavian in *Der Rosenkavalier*. Since the mid-1980s she has performed at numerous international music festivals in Salzburg, Aix-en-Provence, and London, among others. She is also an accomplished interpreter of early music by such composers as Monteverdi, Bach, Handel, Glück, Purcell, Vivaldi, and Rameau.

An exclusive Deutsche Grammophon recording artist since 1985, von Otter has made over 80 recordings including Glück's *Alceste* with John Eliot Gardiner; a selection of Offenbach arias and scenes with Les Musiciens du Louvre; a recital of Beethoven, Meyerbeer and Spohr with Melvyn Tan; and the Gramophone Award-winning and Grammy-nominated *Mots d'amour*, a complete disc dedicated to the music of Cécil Chaminade. Her 2001 collaboration, *For the*

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Stars, with singer, songwriter and producer Elvis Costello, demonstrated the pair's ability to marry the best of pop and classical techniques to create a sophisticated recording that transcends categorization. Her latest recording, *Watercolours*, is a collection of Scandinavian songs. Two recent CDs of Schubert "Lieder with Orchestra" with bass baritone Thomas Quasthoff, and Mahler's Symphony No. 3 with Pierre Boulez, were the winners of the 2003 Grammy Awards for Best Vocal Performance and Best Classical Album, respectively. In addition to her numerous artistic and recording awards, Anne Sofie von Otter was invited to sing at the special Nobel Concert to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Nobel Prize in December 2001.

Von Otter's other United States appearances include two concerts in New York City with Royal Stockholm Philharmonic and the New York Philharmonic and a production of *Carmen* at the Santa Fe Festival next summer. She will travel to Munich to sing Gluck's *Orphée et Eurydice*. Von Otter's future engagements include her first Branganes in *Tristan und Isolde* and Waltraute in Wagner's Ring Cycle under Simon Rattle in 2009.

BENGT FORSBERG

For more than 20 years, Swedish pianist **Bengt Forsberg** has traveled the world for recital tours, solo engagements with orchestras, and as accompanist of Anne Sofie von Otter. He directs the Chamber Music Society in Stockholm, and favors championing lesser-known composers such as Medtner, Alkan and Schmidt. He has made several highly praised recordings for Hyperion with Swedish cellist Mats Lidström, as well as solo recordings of piano music by Schubert, Schumann, and the late Romantic Swedish composers. Together with Anne Sofie von Otter, Forsberg has made recordings of songs as diverse as Strauss, Korngold, Stenhammer, Schumann and Weill, as well as an award-winning selection of Grieg.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for mezzo-soprano **Anne Sofie von Otter** in recital with pianist **Bengt Forsberg** on **Wednesday, October 19, 2005 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$34.00, \$46.00** and **\$58.00**. Performance tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens and other students receive a \$2 discount, and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$3 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

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Cal Performances' 2005/2006 Centennial Season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

The *Contra Costa Times* and Classical 102.1 KDFC are season media sponsors of the 2005/06 performing arts season.

The *Dr. A. Jess Shenson Recital Series* is sponsored by Nancy Livingston and Fred M. Levin, The Shenson Foundation.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Wednesday, September 19, 2005 at 8:00 p.m. **Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

Recital

Anne Sofie von Otter, mezzo-soprano

Bengt Forsberg, piano

Program: The Swedish mezzo-soprano gives a recital featuring works by a variety of composers including Wilhelm Peterson-Berger, Jean Sibelius, Reynaldo Hahn, Percy Grainger, Montague Phillips, Franz Schubert, Howard Ferguson, and Molly Carew.

Tickets: \$34.00, \$46.00 and \$58.00 available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door.