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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS CONCERTO KÖLN
SATURDAY, MAY 1 AT 8:00 P.M.
AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

BERKELEY, March 22, 2010—The “resplendent” (*Guardian*) Baroque chamber music ensemble **Concerto Köln** appears on **May 1, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.** at Berkeley’s **First Congregational Church**. Performing on period instruments, the group’s program *Bach and the Concerto di Camera in Italy and France* features the music of **Dauvergne, Bach, Vivaldi, and Sammartini**. Winner of the 2006 Grammy Award for Best Opera (Mozart’s *Le Nozze di Figaro*), Concerto Köln boasts an extensive discography that has garnered top awards in the recording industry. Praised as an ensemble of “remarkable precision and zest” by *The New York Times*, Concerto Köln keeps an ambitious touring schedule, with upcoming concerts throughout Europe and North America, including a three-city California tour in May.

PROGRAM

Concerto Köln will begin its program with the *Concert de Simphonie* in A major, Op. 4, No. 4 of **Antoine Dauvergne** (1713-1797). Active as a composer, violinist and artistic administrator in Paris from the late 1730s until his death, Dauvergne’s music fits squarely in the Italian-influenced style popular in France at the height of the 18th century. Each of Dauvergne’s eight *concerts de simphonie* is scored for two violins, viola and bass, and takes the form of two suites of alternating slow and fast movements.

The ensemble will continue with **Johann Sebastian Bach**’s Brandenburg Concerto No. 5, BWV 1050. Composed around 1721 and so named for the nobleman Margrave Christian Ludwig of Brandenburg, to whom they were dedicated, the six Brandenburg Concertos are masterpieces of instrumentation and composition, showcasing Bach at the height of his compositional powers. The fifth concerto is notable for the outsize harpsichord solo that

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dominates the first movement, which, it is speculated, Bach wrote to showcase his own virtuosity at the keyboard.

After intermission, Concerto Köln will perform the Concerto for Violoncello, Strings and Continuo No.23 in D minor by **Antonio Vivaldi**. Representing the zenith of the Italian baroque style, Vivaldi was a prolific composer of concerti for all manner of instruments, from violin to piccolo and bassoon, and composed twenty-seven cello concertos. Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No.4, BWV 1049, also dating from around 1721, follows Vivaldi's. In addition to a standard complement of strings and continuo, this Brandenburg concerto features two flutes.

The program concludes with the Symphony in A major by **Giovanni Battista Sammartini** (1700-1775). One of the first composers in the *gallant* style of Gluck and C.P.E. Bach, Sammartini is widely credited as one of the contributors to the development of modern symphonic form, expanding the "symphony" of the Baroque era, a brief opera overture, into a three-movement work much like the symphony Concerto Köln will perform.

CONCERTO KÖLN

Concerto Köln was founded in 1985, and before long established itself amongst the highest-ranking orchestras for historical performance practice. From the very beginning, both audience and critics alike were highly enthusiastic about the energetic performance style of the ensemble, which brings thoroughly researched interpretations to the stage with their trademark vivacity. Since its inception, Concerto Köln has toured extensively throughout the United States, Southeast Asia, Canada, Latin America, Japan, Israel and most of Europe.

Concerto Köln boasts a discography of more than fifty recordings, including a Grammy-winning recording of Mozart's *Le Nozze de Figaro* on the Harmonia Mundi label, released in 2005. The ensemble currently collaborates with Berlin Classics; their recordings have been additionally released by labels including Deutsche Grammophon, Harmonia Mundi, Teldec, EMI-Virgin Classics and Capriccio. Concerto Köln's recordings have been honored by Echo Klassik, and German Record Critics Awards, the Choc du Monde de la Musicque and the Diapason d'Or, among others.

In 1992, with the collaboration of Deutschland Radio, Concerto Köln founded the Cologne Festival for Early Music; since then, the festival has developed into a platform for the ensemble to bring the newest discoveries of 17th- and 18th-century music to public performance.

Although Concerto Köln generally performs without a conductor, a consideration of historical performance practice, conductors such as René Jacobs, Marcus Creed, Daniel Harding, Evelino Pidò, Ivor Bolton, David Stern, Daniel Reuss, Pierre Cao, Laurence Equilbey and Emmanuelle Haïm have led the ensemble in the choral-orchestral repertoire.

Under the artistic direction of Martin Sandhoff since 2005, Concerto Köln has collaborated with a wide range of musicians and artists, including vocalists Cecilia Bartoli, Natalie Dessay, Andreas Scholl, pianist Andreas Staier, actors Bruno Ganz and Ulrich Tukur, director Peter Sellars, and choirs including the RIAS Chamber choir, Accentus, and Arslys de Bourgogne.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Concerto Köln**, on **Saturday, May 1, 2010**, at **8:00 p.m.** in **First Congregational Church** are priced at **\$52.00**. 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). ID is required for all discounts. For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.org, or visit Cal Performances' Facebook page.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three 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 at (510) 642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, three hours prior to a performance only. Rush tickets are announced, also three hours prior to the performance, on Cal Performances' Facebook page.

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CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, May 1 at 8:00 p.m.

First Congregational Church
2345 Channing Way, Berkeley

Music Before 1850
Concerto Köln

Program:

Dauvergne/Quatrième Concert de Simphonie, Op. 4 No. 4 in A Major

Bach/Brandenburg Concerto No. 5, BWV 1050

Vivaldi/Concerto for Violoncello, Strings and Continuo No.23 in D minor, RV 407

Bach/Brandenburg Concerto No. 4, BWV 1049

Sammartini/Symphony in A major

Tickets: \$52.00, 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.

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