FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 18, 2009

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS
GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING JAZZ VOCALIST <u>DIANNE REEVES</u>
SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2009 AT 8:00 P.M. AT ZELLERBACH HALL

BERKELEY, March 18, 2009 – Groundbreaking jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves graces the stage at Zellerbach Hall with her sultry, virtuosic sound Saturday, April 25 at 8:00 p.m. The songstress continues the vocal legacies of artists like Sarah Vaughan, Carmen McRae and Ella Fitzgerald, gracefully incorporating R&B, gospel, classical, pop, and world influences into a sound all her own. Among numerous recognitions are her four Grammy Awards for Best Jazz Vocal Performance, three of which were awarded consecutively—a Grammy first in any vocal category. "Reeves can wrap her voice around a melody like few other current jazz singers, hitting the high notes, the low notes, and everything in between as she caresses every phrase with palpable warmth and joy" salutes *Billboard*. She released her 18th recording, 2008's *When You Know*, and will sing selections from the CD when in Berkeley. Reeves' performance is backed up by Reginald Veal (bass), Terreon Gully (drums) and Peter Martin (piano).

Born in Detroit and raised in Denver, **Dianne Reeves**' musical influences stem from her family: her father was a singer, her mother a trumpet player, and her uncle a bassist with the Colorado Symphony. At the age of 16, while singing with her high school band at a National Association of Jazz Educators convention in Chicago, Reeves was noticed by trumpeter Clark Terry, and she subsequently began performing with him while attending the University of Colorado. Moving to Los Angeles in 1976 to pursue music full-time, Reeves was able to expand her musical horizons. She joined the Latin fusion group Caldera and found inspiration with an experimental jazz band, Night Flight, led by pianist Billy Childs. In 1981, touring with Brazilian musician Sergio Mendes, Reeves made her first appearance on the international scene. Since then, Reeves has recorded numerous albums and logged countless live performances as a solo artist.

Under the Palo Alto label, Reeves recorded her first two albums *Welcome to My Love* (1982) and *For Every Heart* (1985). Signed to Blue Note in 1987 as the label's first vocal artist, Reeves has recorded nine more albums to date. Reeves' discography, which includes a Christmas album, showcases a wide variety of styles, ranging from pop/R&B sounds to roots in Latin jazz. She won three consecutive Grammy Awards of the same category for her live performance album, *In the Moment* (2001), her Sarah Vaughan tribute album, *The Calling: Celebrating Sarah Vaughan* (2002) and for *A Little Moonlight* (2003). Reeves won again in the Vocal Performance category for *Goodnight, and Good Luck* (2006), the soundtrack for the film of the same name starring George Clooney. Released in April 2008, her latest recording, *When You Know*, is a collection of love songs whose perspectives range from youthful innocence to enlightened maturity.

Reeves' career has been marked with notable international performances. In 2002, Reeves performed in the closing ceremony of the Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City. In addition to recording the soundtrack for *Goodnight*, *and Good Luck*, she made an appearance in the film.

Pianist **Peter Martin's** parents were his earliest teachers while growing up in Florida and St. Louis. Before Martin could speak, he could play the violin. He graduated to the piano at age 3, and by 5 was reading, writing and composing music. Today, Martin is a longtime resident of New Orleans and an integral part of its community of musicians. He has toured with Betty Carter, Dianne Reeves, and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra.

Born in Chicago and raised in New Orleans, bassist **Reginald Veal** experimented with piano, bass and trombone in his youth before choosing the bass. He studied with Ellis Marsalis in high school and later with Alvin Batiste. Veal has recorded and toured extensively with the likes of Diane Reeves, Cassandra Wilson, Wynton Marsalis and Marcus Roberts.

East St. Louis native **Terreon "Tank" Gully** began his musical career playing drums for his church as a child. He later joined the renowned Lincoln Center Senior High School Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Ronald Carter. He is a member of the Christian McBride Band

and has additionally toured and recorded with artists such as Stefon Harris, David Sanborn, Yerba Buena and Lauryn Hill. Gully is currently a professor at the University of Manitoba.

## TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Dianne Reeves** in concert Saturday, **April 25** at **8:00 p.m.** at Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$30.00**, **\$40.00** and **\$50.00**. 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). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988 or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.org.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced two 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 \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 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, two hours prior to a performance only.

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## **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

## **CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

Saturday, April 25 at 8:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

Jazz
Dianne Reeves, vocals
Peter Martin, piano

**Reginald Veal**, bass **Terreon Gully**, drums

**Program**: Three-time Grammy Award-winning jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves returns to Berkeley.

**Tickets:** \$30.00, \$40.00 and \$52.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.net; and at the door.

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