

FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE

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**VIOLINIST HILARY HAHN  
MAKES HER CAL PERFORMANCES RECITAL DEBUT WITH  
PIANIST NATALIE ZHU, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2004 IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

**BERKELEY, January 13, 2004** – One of the classical music world’s most captivating young musicians, **Hilary Hahn** comes to Berkeley for the first time in recital on **Sunday, February 8 at 7:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall. At the age of 23, the Grammy Award-winning violinist is acclaimed for her impeccable technique, artistic intelligence and extraordinary musical gifts, and has been considered a virtuoso among the phalanx of young violinists since being named America’s Best Young Classical Musician by *Time* magazine in 2001. A serious performer with a light touch, Hilary Hahn makes a point of connecting with audience members individually to share their mutual appreciation of music, and eschews the mantle and manner of so many wunderkind musicians. “Far too many prodigies crash, burn and vanish, but this remarkable young woman seems here to stay,” writes *Time*’s Terry Teachout. Hilary Hahn appears regularly with the world’s great orchestras in Europe, Asia, and North America, and has established herself as one of the most accomplished and compelling artists on the international concert circuit.

Making her Cal Performances debut, Hilary Hahn’s Berkeley recital with pianist **Natalie Zhu** features **W. A. Mozart’s** Sonata for violin and piano in G major, K. 301 and Sonata for violin and piano in A major, K. 526; **J. S. Bach’s** Partita No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1004; and **Ernest Bloch’s** Sonata for violin and piano, No. 1.

**HILARY HAHN**

**Hilary Hahn** was born in Lexington, Virginia. At the age of three she moved to Baltimore, where she began playing the violin one month before her fourth birthday in a local children’s program. Admitted to Philadelphia’s prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in 1990 at the age of ten, she studied with the legendary Jascha Brodsky—the last surviving student of the

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great Belgian violinist Eugene Ysaye—working closely with him until his death at the age of 89. Though she completed the Curtis Institute's requirements at age 16, Hahn deferred graduation and remained at the school for several more years, coaching regularly with Jaime Laredo, and studying chamber music with Felix Galimir and Gary Graffman. In May of 1999, at the age of 19, she graduated from Curtis with a bachelor of music degree.

Hilary Hahn made her major orchestra debut at age 11 with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Her 1993 Philadelphia Orchestra debut was followed by engagements with the Cleveland Orchestra, New York Philharmonic and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. In March 1995, at age 15, Hahn had the honor of making her German debut playing the Beethoven concerto with Lorin Maazel and the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, in a concert broadcast on radio and television throughout Europe. Two months later she received the Avery Fisher Career Grant. In 1996, she signed an exclusive recording contract with Sony Classical, and made her Carnegie Hall debut in New York, as a soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Highlights of Hahn's 2003/2004 season include recital debuts at Cal Performances, the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., Disney Hall in Los Angeles and the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia; a three-week debut tour of New Zealand with the New Zealand Symphony; and additional recitals that take her from Ann Arbor to Valencia. Other concerts include appearances and recordings with the London Symphony Orchestra and concerts with the symphony orchestras of Montreal, Toronto, and Hong Kong, among others. In Europe, Hahn tours Germany and the Netherlands with the Penderecki Orchestra and performs concerts with the DSO Berlin, NDR Hamburg Radio Orchestra, WDR Koln, Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg, Barcelona Symphony and the Musikkollegium Winterthur of Switzerland all this season.

Hilary Hahn records exclusively for Deutsche Grammophon. Her first album on that label, released in September 2003, features four violin concertos by Bach: the solo concertos in A minor and E major, the Concerto for Two Violins in D minor (with Margaret Batjer, second violin) and the Concerto for Violin and Oboe in C minor (with Allan Vogel, oboe) with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and Jeffrey Kahane. In recent years, prior to signing with Deutsche Grammophon, Hahn made five recordings for Sony Classical. Her first album, featuring Solo

Sonatas and Partitas of J.S. Bach, won Diapason's 1997 "d'Or of the Year" and spent weeks as a bestseller on the Billboard classical charts. Her next recording, concertos by Beethoven and Bernstein, brought her first Grammy nomination, as well as a second Diapason d'Or, the Echo Klassik award for 1999, and *Gramophone's* "CD of the Month"; and her third release—American concertos by Samuel Barber and Edgar Meyer—won the Deutsche Schallplattenpreis and the Cannes Classical Award. Her 2001 recording of the concertos of Brahms and Stravinsky won her a Grammy Award among other awards including a *Gramophone* "Editor's Choice," "Choc" of Monde de la Musique, and became Hahn's fourth consecutive classical bestseller. In the fall of 2002, Sony released her fifth album—concertos by Felix Mendelssohn and Dmitri Shostakovich.

### NATALIE ZHU

The recipient of both the 2003 Avery Fisher Career Grant and the Andrew Wolf Chamber Music Award, **Natalie Zhu** is an active chamber musician, a frequent soloist at the Amelia Island Festival and has appeared at both the Great Lakes Music and Marlboro Music festivals. In 2000 she was a fellow at the Tanglewood Music Festival. Zhu has performed throughout North America, Europe, and China as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. She has performed in the United States with the Pacific Symphony, the Concerto Soloists Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, the Astral Chamber Orchestra, the Bergen Philharmonic, and with the Colorado Philharmonic National Repertory Orchestra. She has also appeared in New York's Steinway Hall, and is featured this season with Astral violinist Christina Castelli and Astral cellist Clancy Newman at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall in addition to her collaboration with Hahn.

Zhu began her piano studies with Xiao-Cheng Liu at the age of six in her native China and made her first public appearance at age nine in Beijing. At eleven she emigrated with her family to Los Angeles, and by 15 was enrolled at the Curtis Institute of Music where she received the prestigious Rachmaninoff Award and studied with Gary Graffman. In 2001 she joined the Curtis faculty as staff pianist. Natalie Zhu received a Master of Music degree from the Yale School of Music where she studied with Claude Frank.

### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for violinist **Hilary Hahn** in recital with pianist **Natalie Zhu** on **Sunday, February 8, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$32.00, \$42.00** and **\$56.00**. 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](http://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](http://www.calperfs.berkeley.edu).

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### CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

#### CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

**Sunday, February 8 at 7:00 p.m.**

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

*Recital*

**Hilary Hahn**, violin  
**Natalie Zhu**, piano

**Program:**

Mozart/Sonata for violin and piano in G major, K. 301  
Sonata for violin and piano in A major, K. 526  
Bach/Partita No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1004  
Bloch/Sonata for violin and piano, No. 1

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