TENOR <u>IAN BOSTRIDGE</u> PERFORMS *WINTERREISE* AT ZELLERBACH HALL SUNDAY, MARCH 21 AT 3:00 P.M.

Sightlines pre-concert talk will be given by Mills College musicologist Nalini Guhman on Sunday, March 21, 2:00–2:30 p.m.

BERKELEY, February 17, 2010—British tenor **Ian Bostridge**, who reigns as one of the great *lieder* tenors of today, returns to Cal Performances for a recital of **Franz Schubert**'s 24-song cycle *Winterreise*, set to the poetry of **Wilhelm Müller**. The concert on **Sunday, March 21** at **3:00 p.m.** in **Zellerbach Hall** is Cal Performances' third and final Special Event of the season. A former academic with no formal vocal training, Bostridge's distinct musical personality and his emphasis on diction, elegance and nuance have launched him to stardom. Paired with his own passion for the emotional and text-driven art songs, Bostridge is among the most sought-after lyric singers of our time. Of his 2005 *Winterreise* performance at Carnegie Hall, *New York* magazine stated: "this was a *Winterreise* to haunt the imagination long after the notes died away." Bostridge made his 1998 American debut at Cal Performances and returns to the stage with longtime collaborator, pianist **Julius Drake**.

A *Sightlines* pre-performance talk will be given by Mills College musicologist Nalini Guhman on <u>Sunday, March 21, at 2:00 p.m.</u> This talk is free to event ticketholders.

WINTERREISE

The 24-song set is the second of Schubert's two song cycles composed to poems by Wilhelm Müller. Müller was Schubert's contemporary and died in 1827 at the age of 32, a year before Schubert's own death. Arguably it is assumed that Müller's works would be lesser-known today had not Schubert set many of his *lieder* to Müller's poetry. *Die schöne Müllerin* (*The Pretty Maid of the Mill*) and *Winterreise* (*The Winter Journey*) stand not only as the two foremost examples of the German Lied but also as some of Schubert's most beloved works.

Schubert's short career was ended by disease and punctuated by later works such as *Winterreise*—the song cycle was composed a year before his untimely death at 31 (the second

half of *Winterreise* was written in October 1827, weeks after Müller's mysterious death). These later compositions reveal an increasingly dark meditation on the human psyche, and Schubert's matured forays into spirituality and the afterlife. The cycle of poems, all set in the first-person narrative, tells the story of a rejected lover who wanders the road in despair, passing landmarks paralled with various emotional stages including nostalgia, bitterness and desolation. True to the style of Schubert's *lieder*, the song cycle hinges on the balanced relationship of the powers of the voice, the piano and the text.

Winterreise has played an important role throughout Bostridge's successful career as a tenor. Bostridge's 1994 London debut singing *Winterreise* drew high praise, and in 1997 he made a film of the song cycle for Britain's Channel 4 directed by David Alden, which drew him to national attention. "Mr. Bostridge takes the vulnerability to an extreme. The pain of loss and loneliness that underpins the lieder repertory is delivered physically, like an electric current" (*The New York Times*).

IAN BOSTRIDGE

Tenor **Ian Bostridge** was a post-doctoral fellow in history at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, before turning his hobby of singing into a full-time career with a 1993 debut at Wigmore Hall. A year later, he made his operatic debut as Lysander in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Opera Australia at the Edinburgh Festival, directed by filmmaker Baz Luhrman. Since then, Bostridge has amassed a vast operatic repertoire with roles including Quint in Britten's *Turn of the Screw*, Caliban in Adès's *The Tempest*, Tamino and Don Ottavio in Mozart's respective operas *Die Zauberflöte* and *Don Giovanni*, and Vasek in Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*.

Bostridge's recital career includes the world's major concert halls and the Salzburg, Edinburgh, Munich, Vienna, Aldeburgh and Schubertiade festivals. He has sung Janáček's *Diary of one who Vanished* in a new translation by Seamus Heaney, staged by Deborah Warner and regular collaborator Julius Drake, in London, Paris, Munich, Amsterdam and New York. Bostridge's recordings include Schubert's *Die schöne Müllerin* with Graham Johnson (1996), for which he was awarded *Gramophone*'s Solo Vocal Award; *The Rake's Progress* with Sir John Eliot Gardiner (Grammy Award, 1999); and *Belmonte* with William Christie. An exclusive EMI Classics recording artist since 1998, Bostridge has recorded *Schubert Lieder* and *Schumann Lieder* (*Gramophone* Award 1998), and *The English Songbook* and *Henze Lieder* with Drake; Britten's *Our Hunting Fathers* and *Turn of the Screw* (*Gramophone* Award 2003) with Daniel Harding; *Idomeneo* with Sir Charles Mackerras; *Bach: Cantatas and Arias* with Fabio Biondi; and *Handel Arias* with Harry Bicket. Recently, Bostridge sang in the 2010 Grammy-winning recording of Britten's *Billy Budd*, with Nathan Gunn and conductor Daniel Harding.

In 2001 Bostridge was elected an honorary fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford and in 2003 he was made an Honorary Doctor of Music by the University of St Andrews. He was created a CBE in the 2004 New Year's Honors. From 2003 through 2004 he held artistic residencies at the Vienna Konzerthaus and the Schubertiade Schwarzenberg, and in the 2004/2005 season he shared a Carte-Blanche series with Thomas Quasthoff at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw. Bostridge had his own Perspectives series at Carnegie Hall in the 2005/2006 season and another in 2008 at the Barbican in London. Bostridge is currently the music columnist for *Standpoint* magazine.

JULIUS DRAKE

Pianist **Julius Drake** has performed in the major recital and concert halls around the world. In recent seasons concerts have taken him to the Aldeburgh, Edinburgh, Munich, Schubertiade and Salzburg Music festivals; and concert halls including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Centre, the Concertgebouw, La Scala, the Musikverein, Wigmore Hall and BBC Proms. Specializing in the field of chamber music, Drake works with many of the world's leading artists, both in recital and on disc.

Drake's passionate interest in song has led to invitations to devise song series for venues such as the Wigmore Hall in London and the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. "Julius Drake and Friends," a series of song recitals in the historic Middle Temple Hall in London, has featured recitals with vocal artists such as Ian Bostridge, Angelika Kirchschlager, Sergei Leiferkus, Felicity Lott, Katarina Karneus, Christopher Maltman, Mark Padmore, Christoph Pregardien, Amanda Roocroft, and Willard White.

Drake's recordings include *Sibelius Songs* and *Grieg Songs* with Katarina Karneus (both Hyperion), *French Sonatas* with Nicholas Daniel (Virgin), *Spanish Song* with Joyce Didonato (Eloquentia), *Mahler Songs* and *Tchaikovsky Songs* with Christianne Stotijn (both Onyx) and *Schumann Lieder* with Alice Coote (EMI). Drake has made an award-winning series of recordings with Ian Bostridge for EMI, including discs of Schumann, Schubert, Henze, Britten, The English Songbook and La Bonne Chanson. His recent series of recordings with Gerald Finley for Hyperion—Ives, Barber, Schumann, Ravel and Britten—has been widely acclaimed and Barber Songs and then Schumann Heine Lieder have won both the 2008 and 2009 *Gramophone* Awards.

A Professor at the Royal Academy of Music in London and visiting Professor at the Royal Northern College of Music, Drake regularly gives master classes. He was appointed artistic director of Leeds Lieder 2009 and the Machynlleth Festival in Wales from 2009-2011. Drake has frequently accompanied Ian Bostridge in recitals, concerts and in recordings since 1992.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Ian Bostridge**, tenor, and **Julius Drake**, piano, on **Sunday**, **March 21**, **2010**, at **3:00 p.m.** at **Zellerbach Hall** are priced at **\$30.00**, **\$42.00**, **\$56.00**, and **\$72.00**. 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 \$5.00 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 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 on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at (510) 642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, three hours prior to a performance only.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, March 21, 2:00–2:30 p.m. SIGHTLINES

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

Ian Bostridge pre-concert talk by Mills College musicologist **Nalini Guhman**. *Sightlines* is a continuing program of pre- and post-performance discussions with artists and scholars, designed to enrich the concertgoer's experience. These talks are free to event ticketholders.

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Sunday, March 21 at 3:00 p.m.

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

Special Events Winterreise Ian Bostridge, tenor Julius Drake, piano

Program: Schubert/*Winterreise*, op. 89, D911

Tickets: \$30.00, \$42.00, \$56.00, \$72.00, 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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