FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 10, 2010

## BANDLEADER, COMPOSER AND GUITAR MASTER JOHN MCLAUGHLIN AND HIS 4TH DIMENSION PERFORM AT ZELLERBACH HALL, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, AT 8:00 P.M.

BERKELEY, November 10, 2010—The multitalented, Grammy Award-winning iconic guitarist and composer John McLaughlin leads his band The 4th Dimension with "devastating precision and velocity" (*The Times*, London) on Saturday, December 11, at 8:00 p.m. at Zellerbach Hall. Performing works from their latest album, *To the One*, released earlier this year, along with jazz fusion favorites from their vast repertoire, McLaughlin is joined by keyboardist and drummer Gary Husband, bassist Etienne M'Bappe and drummer Mark Mondesir. Inspired by Coltrane's jazz masterpiece *A Love Supreme*, the six original compositions in *To the One* expresses McLaughlin's quest for the meaning of music and spirituality. "I believe we're all here to discover our true identity and the unity that binds us together," says McLaughlin. "How we are in life is how we are in music."

Born in Yorkshire, England, 1942, **John McLaughlin** was encouraged to learn piano from age nine by his amateur violinist mother. Two years later upon hearing an older brother playing the blues of Bill Broonzy, Muddy Waters and Leadbelly, McLaughlin knew that his destiny was to play a guitar. Essentially self-taught as a guitarist, McLaughlin's earliest influence outside blues was flamenco music, and later, Django Reinhardt, Tal Farlow, Jim Hall, Barney Kessel, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Cannonball Adderley, Bela Bartók and Claude Debussy were all to make a lasting impression. In the 1960s, McLaughlin contributed to the British blues revival with Alexis Korner, Georgie Fame, Graham Bond and Brian Auger. He then entered into a period of experimentation with free music in company of baritone saxophonist John Surman and bassist Dave Holland. In 1968, he took part in pianist Gordon Beck's Experiments with Pops; in 1969 the McLaughlin-Surman collaboration *Extrapolation* produced some of the most exciting, free-ranging exploration heard in jazz at that time. That same year, McLaughlin crossed the Atlantic and joined Miles Davis's drummer, Tony Williams, in his new Lifetime unit. Through Williams, he was included on Davis's influential album *In a Silent Way* and the

association continued with McLaughlin growing in confidence and a new economy.

In 1971, deeply inspired by meditation, McLaughlin formed the Mahavishnu Orchestra with bassist Rick Laird, keyboardist Jan Hammer, violinist Jerry Goodman and drummer Billy Cobham. Playing a double-neck guitar, McLaughlin's demanding rhythmic playing fused eclectic jazz and rock with Eastern and Indian influences. A clash of egos resulted in the breakup of the group and a second Mahavishnu Orchestra launched in 1974.

McLaughlin took another direction in 1978, joining forces with Paco de Lucia and Larry Coryell and touring as a virtuoso acoustic guitar trio. McLaughlin took a daring step of reforming the Mahavishnu Orchestra with Cobham and a completely new line-up. It included the saxophonist Bill Evans from the Miles Davis group. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, McLaughlin recorded and performed live in a trio with bassist Kai Eckhardt and percussionist Trilok Gurtu.

McLaughlin recorded a ballet score, *Thieves and Poets*, in 2003, along with arrangements for classical guitar ensemble of favorite jazz standards. Three years later, he released a hard bop/jazz fusion album entitled *Industrial Zen*, on which he experimented with the Godin Glissentar as well as expanded his guitar-synth repertoire. McLaughlin engaged in a late summer/fall 2008 tour with Chick Corea, Vinnie Colaiuta, Kenny Garrett and Christian McBride under the name Five Peace Band, which performed here at Cal Performances.

The 4th Dimension is the culmination of many years of collaboration with musicians from different cultures and musical traditions both Eastern and Western. As a true multi-instrumentalist, Gary Husband plays keyboards and drums. He has played with Allan Holdsworth, Jack Bruce, Jeff Beck, Mike Stern, Christian McBride, Billy Cobham, Mike and Ian Carr's bands, Bob Berg and Robin Trower, among others. He leads his own bands that have included such musicians as Randy Brecker, Jerry Goodman, Matthew Garrison and Jim Beard, and he has played with McLaughlin in recordings and performances for the past four years.

Drummer Mark Mondesir has been active on the London scene with musicians such as

Courtney Pine and Julian Joseph, and on the international scene with McCoy Tyner, Ravi Coltrane, Gary Thomas, Wynton and Branford Marsalis, John Scofield, Jeff Beck, Joe Zawinul, and many more. Mondesir has been featured on recordings with McLaughlin dating back to 1995, and to a much greater extent in the past four years.

Bassist **Etienne M'Bappe** played with Ray Charles, Selif Keita, Manu Dibango, Steps Ahead and the Parisian fusion band Ultramarine, before creating his own band Su La Take, based in Paris. M'Bappe has just recently joined The 4th Dimension, and has been touring with the group in Europe and North America since 2010.

## TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **John McLaughlin & 4th Dimension** on **Saturday, December 11,** at **8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at \$36.00, \$44.00, \$58.00, \$66.00 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 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 \$20.00 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, December 11 at 8:00 p.m.

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

Jazz

John McLaughlin, guitar & The 4th Dimension Gary Husband, keyboards and drums Mark Mondesir, drums Etienne M'Bappe, bass

**Program:** Veteran guitar master John McLaughlin brings his group The 4th Dimension to Zellerbach Hall.

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