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**KRONOS QUARTET RETURNS TO CAL PERFORMANCES WITH THE  
WEST COAST PREMIERE OF STEPHEN PRUTSMAN'S *PARTICLE 423* AND THE BAY  
AREA PREMIERE OF HENRYK M. GÓRECKI'S STRING QUARTET NO. 3, OP. 67  
SUNDAY, APRIL 15, AT 3:00 P.M. AT CAL PERFORMANCES**

**Berkeley**, March 12, 2007—Entering its fourth decade of ground-breaking music-making, the Grammy-winning **Kronos Quartet** returns to **Cal Performances** on **Sunday, April 15 at 3:00 p.m.** in **Hertz Hall**, with yet another of the eclectic programs, including two premieres, that have become the standard in their illustrious career. Described as “pluralist” in their view of the musical world (*The New Yorker*), the members of Kronos—**David Harrington** (violin), **John Sherba** (violin), **Hank Dutt** (viola) and **Jeffrey Zeigler** (cello)—continue to search for, and commission, cutting-edge works. Harrington has said that “our age is the most exciting I have ever known for music,” and Kronos's explorations have provided a large part of that excitement.

**PROGRAM**

Kronos's program for the Berkeley performance includes an arrangement by Kronos of the anonymous *Oh Mother, the Handsome Man Tortures Me*, followed by selections from **John Zorn's** (b. 1953) *The Dead Man*, including Nocturne, Fantasy, Prelude, Etude, Manifesto and Meditation (The Blue of Noon). Kronos will perform *Escalay (Water Wheel)*, by Nubian *oud* and *tar* master Hamza El Din, in a transcription by Tohru Ueda.

The program also includes the West Coast premiere of **Stephen Prutsman's** *Particle 423*, for string quartet and sound design, which received its first performance in December 2006. Aside from the arrangement of *Oh Mother, the Handsome Man Tortures Me*, based on a transcription for Kronos by violist/composer/arranger Ljova of an Iraqi piece, all of these were composed for Kronos Quartet.

The better part of the concert will be devoted to the most recent string quartet by Polish composer **Henryk M. Górecki**. Kronos gave the world premiere of **Górecki's** *Piesni Spiewaja* (“...songs are sung”), **String Quartet No. 3, Op. 67**, in Bielsko-Biala, Poland in October 2005, a full decade after the

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composer had finished the work. In the score, Górecki writes, “In the intervening years there were several dates set for the work's premiere by the Kronos Quartet, who also commissioned this quartet, but I continued to hold back from releasing it to the world. I don't know why.” This Berkeley performance will be the Bay Area premiere.

### **KRONOS QUARTET**

Adventure and eclecticism have been at the heart of the **Kronos Quartet's** performances and commissions since the ensemble's inception. David Harrington formed Kronos in 1973, after hearing a performance of George Crumb's *Black Angels*, a work for amplified string quartet and featuring spoken word passages, bowed drinking glasses and electronic effects. Kronos themselves released a recording of *Black Angels* in 1990, a year after their ground-breaking recording of Steve Reich's *Different Trains*, a work written for, and dedicated to, the Kronos Quartet.

Kronos recognizes no boundaries. In addition to bringing exceptional technical and interpretive skills to 20th century masterworks by Bartók, Shostakovich, Debussy and Berg, Kronos went on to expand the repertoire for string quartet by performing and recording works from a wide range of artists, including jazz greats such as Ornette Coleman, Charles Mingus and Thelonious Monk, Icelandic experimental art-rockers Sigur Ros and Azerbaijani composer Franghiz Ali Zadeh. Kronos's collaborations have “widened the world of sound” (*The New Yorker*) with works that evoke “awe, ferocity and terror” (*San Francisco Chronicle*). In all, Kronos has given over 400 premieres, including all three of Górecki's string quartets, which were written for, and dedicated to, Kronos. Their search for the new continues. For the last four years, Kronos Quartet and collaborators have sponsored Kronos: Under 30 Project, a program through which musicians under 30 years of age are selected to create new music for the Kronos Quartet.

The ensemble has received 10 Grammy Award nominations, a Grammy Award for Best Chamber Music Performance, for their 2003 recording of Alban Berg's *Lyric Suite* with soprano Dawn Upshaw, and The Recording Academy President's Merit Award in honor of their professional achievements.

### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Kronos Quartet** on **Sunday, April 15 at 3:00 p.m.** in Hertz Hall are priced at **\$48.00**. 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).

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Cal Performances' 2006/07 Season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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### CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

#### CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

**Sunday, April 15 at 3:00 p.m.**

**Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**  
Bancroft Way at College Avenue, Berkeley

*20<sup>th</sup> Century Music & Beyond*  
**Kronos Quartet**

#### **Program:**

Anon. (Iraq)/*Oh Mother, the Handsome Man Tortures Me*, arr. Kronos, transc. Ljova  
John Zorn/Selections from *The Dead Man*  
Hamza El Din (realized by Tohru Ueda)/*Escalay (Water Wheel)*  
Stephen Prutsman/*Particle 423* (West Coast premiere)  
Henryk M. Górecki/String Quartet No. 3, *Piesni Spiewaja* ("...songs are sung"), Op. 67  
(Bay Area premiere)

**Tickets: \$48.00**, available at the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [Tickets.com](http://Tickets.com); and at the door.

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