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CELEBRATING ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY, <u>MUSICA ANTIQUA KÖLN</u> RETURNS TO CAL PERFORMANCES NOVEMBER 22 IN FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Concert Features Soprano Nancy Argenta and Contralto Nathalie Stutzmann in Pergolesi's Most Famous Work, *Stabat Mater* 

**BERKELEY, October 20, 2003** – **Musica Antiqua Köln**, led by conductor and violinist **Reinhard Goebel**, is renowned for lively, virtuoso interpretations of 17<sup>th-</sup> and 18<sup>th-</sup> century music and for its inspired and imaginative historical performance practice. "Audacious and irresistible," says *The Independent* (London), the ensemble performs **Saturday, November 22** at **8:00 p.m.** in First Congregational Church in Berkeley. The program features **Giovanni Battista Pergolesi's** masterwork, *Stabat Mater*, sung by soprano **Nancy Argenta** and contralto **Nathalie Stutzmann**. Also on the program is Pergolesi's Salve Regina in F minor; **Antonio Caldara's** Sinfonia Concertata in C major; **Tommaso Albinoni's** Sinfonia in C major and Sinfonia in G minor; and **Antonio Vivladi's** In furore giutissimae irae. The performance of Musica Antiqua Köln is presented in cooperation with the Goethe Institut, San Francisco.

# MUSICA ANTIQUA KÖLN

In 1973, together with fellow students at the Cologne Musikhochschule, **Reinhard** Goebel founded the Musica Antiqua Köln to perform Baroque chamber music, and 10 years later, expanded the ensemble to form a Baroque orchestra. The ensemble's international breakthrough came in 1979 with their debut performances at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall and at the Holland Festival. Since then the ensemble has been a regular guest of the major European musical centers and has undertaken numerous concert tours to the United States, Australia, South America, and the People's Republic of China. Their exciting, milestone interpretations of both unknown works and familiar repertoire have unfailingly brought them wide recognition, documented by numerous prizes and awards.

Musica Antiqua Köln has built up a wide discography since signing an exclusive recording contract with Deutsche Grammophon's Archiv Produktion in 1978. Among its many releases,

Johann David Heinichen's *Dresden Concerti*; Handel's *Marian Cantatas and Arias* with mezzosoprano Anne Sofie von Otter; works by Johann Adolf Hasse under the title *Salve Regina*; a disc of "*Tafelmusik*" by various composers entitled *Pro tabula*; and the *Missa Salisburgensis* attributed to Heinrich Ignaz Franz Biber (together with the Gabrieli Consort & Players under Paul McCreesh) have been particularly successful. Recent releases include J.S. Bach's *Wedding Cantatas* with soprano Christine Schäfer; an award-winning anthology of French Baroque music comprising the soundtrack to the film *Le Roi danse*; two discs with concertos for strings by Telemann; and *Bachian*, a collection of instrumental works by the Bach family.

## REINHARD GOEBEL

Born in Siegen in Westphalia, Germany, in 1952, **Reinhard Goebel** studied the modern and Baroque violin with Eduard Melkus, Marie Leonhardt and Franzjosef Maier, and musicology at the University of Cologne. He soon developed a deep historical interest in German music composed in the Baroque era and has since acquired a wealth of knowledge in this area. Goebel is known to study—sometimes for many years—the circumstances surrounding a composition to attain a deep knowledge of the music's complexities. In 1997 he was awarded North Rhine-Westphalia's state prize, for his exemplary performances and his research into the music of the Baroque, Rococo and Early Classical eras. In March 2002, in acknowledgment of his worldwide activity on behalf of the dissemination of Telemann's works, Goebel was awarded the Georg Philipp Telemann Prize of the City of Magdeburg.

## **NANCY ARGENTA**

With a repertoire spanning three centuries, **Nancy Argenta** has been hailed not only as one of the supreme Handel soprano's of the day, but is also praised for her performances of works by composers as diverse as Mahler, Mozart, Schubert, and Schoenberg. In opera, concert and recital she has appeared at many leading festivals including Aix-en-Provence, Salzburg, Mostly Mozart, and the BBC Proms. Her discography of over 50 recordings includes Bach's *St John Passion*, B minor mass, *Magnificat* and *Christmas Oratorio* with John Eliot Gardiner; Purcell's *King Arthur* and Haydn masses with Trevor Pinnock and Richard Hickox; and Mozart's *Requiem, Magic Flute* and *Don Giovanni* with Roger Norrington. As an EMI/Virgin Solo Artist she has recorded Schubert lieder, Scarlatti cantatas and two discs of Bach solo cantatas as well as

two albums of Purcell songs. Recent CD releases include Handel's *Saul* with Paul McCreesh and Handel's *Resurrezione* with the Combattimento Consort.

#### NATHALIE STUTZMANN

Contralto **Nathalie Stutzmann** studied singing with her mother, soprano Christiane Stutzmann, and continued at the Ecole d'Art Lyrique de l'Opéra de Paris where she studied German lieder with Hans Hotter. On the operatic stage, her work includes: *Ombra felice*, the title role in *Radamisto*, *Orfeo*, and the title role *Giulio Cesare*. As a concert singer and recitalist, Stutzmann has appeared at the Théâtre de Champs Élysées, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Royal Festival Hall, the BBC Proms, Carnegie Hall, the Musikverein, the Salzburg Mozarteum, the Concertgebouw, La Monnaie, Tokyo's Suntory Hall, La Scala, Geneva Opera and the Berlin Philharmonie. Her repertoire spans the major works of the Baroque, romantic and contemporary genres. She has made more the 50 recordings for labels including Erato, Philips, EMI, Harmonia Mundi, Sony, and Virgin and is now signed exclusively to RCA Victor. Since 1994 Stutzmann has performed and recorded with the Swedish pianist Inger Södergren.

## TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Musica Antiqua Köln** on **Saturday, November 22** at **8:00 p.m.** in First Congregational Church are priced at **\$46.00**. 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; 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.

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Musica Antiqua Köln is presented in cooperation with the Goethe Institut, Ulrich Everding, Director.

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

## CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, November 22 at 8:00 p.m.

**First Congregational Church** 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley

Music Before 1850

Musica Antiqua Köln

Richard Goebel, conductor and violin

Nancy Argenta, soprano

Nathalie Stutzmann, contralto

## **Program:**

Caldara/Sinfonia Concertata in C major Pergolesi/Salve Regina in F minor; and *Stabat Mater* Albinoni/Sinfonia in C major; and Sinfonia in G minor Vivaldi/In furore giutissimae irae

**Tickets:** \$46.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door.

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