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**PIANO GREAT EMANUEL AX JOINS ORPHEUS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA FOR AN
ALL-MOZART PROGRAM SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 AT 3:00 P.M.
IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, September 8, 2006 – “One of the great marvels of the musical world,” (*San Francisco Chronicle*) the Grammy Award-winning **Orpheus Chamber Orchestra**, a leader in the exploration of classical and contemporary repertoire is joined by guest pianist—and Grammy Award-winning—**Emanuel Ax**, **Sunday, October 22 at 3:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall. The program includes the overture to **Mozart’s** *Così fan tutte*; Piano Concerto No. 25 in C major, the last of Mozart’s four C major piano concertos; Piano Concerto No. 17 in G major; and Symphony No. 35, *Haffner*, considered one of the finest works by the composer in the beginning of his career. Ax, a longtime Cal Performances favorite, is highly regarded through out the world for his concert, chamber and recital performances. Similarly, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra has been thrilling music lovers worldwide for 34 years “with its accustomed blend of elegance and sprightliness” (*Washington Post*).

ORPHEUS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Orpheus Chamber Orchestra was founded in 1972 by a group of musicians who aspired to perform orchestral repertoire without a conductor, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra is a self-governing organization. Central to its distinctive personality is its unique practice of sharing and rotating leadership roles. For each work, the members of the orchestra select the concertmaster and the principle players.

Orpheus Chamber Orchestra has collaborated with many of the great artists including Isaac Stern, Gidon Kremer, Itzhak Perlman, Gil Shaham, Yo-Yo Ma, Mischa Maisky, Emanuel Ax, Richard Goode, Radu Lupu, Martha Argerich, Frederica von Stade, Anne Sophie von Otter, Dawn Upshaw, Renée Fleming and Vadim Repin – many of whom have visited Cal Performances. Reflecting its commitment to expanding the chamber orchestra repertoire, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra has premiered works by Elliott Carter, Jacob Druckman, Mario
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Davidovsky, William Bolcom, Osvaldo Golijov, Fred Lerdahl, Gunther Schuller, Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, Peter Lieberson and Joan Tower.

The ensemble's recording legacy consists of more than 70 albums and a 2001 Grammy Award for *Shadow Dances: Stravinsky Ministures*. Their extensive catalog for Deutsche Grammophon includes the Baroque classics, works by Haydn, Mozart, Dvorák, Grieg and Tchaikovsky, as well as a number of 20th century masterpieces. Releases include *Creation*, a collection of jazz inspired music from 1920s Paris with saxophonist Branford Marsalis and a critically-acclaimed series of Mozart piano concertos with Richard Goode, which earned the group a 1998 Grammy nomination.

In 2005, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra expanded its celebrated professional training initiative, the Orpheus Institute, by adding a new partnership with the Juilliard School while continuing its collaboration with the Manhattan School of Music. Members of the orchestra have designed a comprehensive curriculum that addresses both artistic and administrative areas in an effort to help aspiring young artists acquire broader skill sets that will more easily link their conservatory training to the professional music world of the 21st century.

EMANUEL AX

Pianist **Emanuel Ax** is known through out the music world for his poetic temperament and exceptional range. He was born in Lvov, Poland, and moved with his family to Winnipeg, Canada at a young age. He attended the pre-college division at Juilliard, and studied French at Columbia University. He first entered the public spotlight in 1974 at age 25, when he won the first Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Competition in Tel Aviv. In 1975, he received the Michaels Award of Young Concert Artists. He won the coveted Avery Fisher Prize in 1979. Since that time, he has become one of the most prominent pianists in the world. His career includes appearances with major symphony orchestras worldwide, recitals in the most celebrated concert halls, and a variety of chamber music collaborations with such artists as Young Uck Kim, Cho-Liang Lin, Yo-Yo Ma, Peter Serkin and Jaime Laredo; he was a frequent collaborator with the late Isaac Stern.

An active commissioner and performer of new music, Ax gave the world premiere of John Adams' *Century Rolls* with the Cleveland Orchestra in 1997, the European premiere with the Concertgebouw Orchestra in 1998, and the New York premiere with the Cleveland Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in 2000. In recent years Ax has turned his attention toward the music of 20th-century composers, performing works by such diverse figures as Sir Michael Tippett, Hans Werner Henze, Paul Hindemith, Ezra Laderman, Peter Lieberman, Joseph Schwantner, William Bolcom, André Previn and Aaron Copland. He is a much loved musician by Cal Performances audiences having performed a number of times in recent seasons with artists that include Yo-Yo Ma and Yefim Bronfman.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Orpheus Chamber Orchestra & Emanuel Ax** on **Sunday, October 22 at 3:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$34.00, \$42.00** and **\$58.00**. 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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CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, October 22 at 3:00 p.m.

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

Chamber

Orpheus Chamber Orchestra

Emanuel Ax, piano

Program:

Mozart/Overture to *Così fan tutte*; Piano Concerto in C major, K. 503; Piano Concerto in G major, K. 453; Symphony No. 35, *Haffner*

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