

FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE

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FLAMENCO/JAZZ GUITAR VIRTUOSO
PACO DE LUCÍA
RETURNS TO CAL PERFORMANCES FOR
TWO SHOWS AT ZELLERBACH HALL, SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JANUARY 24 & 25, 2004

BERKELEY, December 16, 2003 – Since his Carnegie Hall debut in 1970, when he was crowned the reigning monarch of flamenco guitar, **Paco de Lucía** has performed internationally to “standing room only” crowds and is considered a virtuoso musical talent of the highest rank. With his quintet and a new CD on the boil, de Lucía returns to **Cal Performances** for two evenings **Saturday, January 24 at 8:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, January 25 at 7:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall. Unarguably one of the world’s greatest living guitarists of any genre, Paco de Lucía is a hero of modern flamenco, having created a fusion style influenced by jazz, stretching and embellishing flamenco’s strict structure, but remaining true to the soul of its Gypsy, Muslim and Jewish roots. His phenomenal technique—diamond sharp with lightening velocity—has astounded audiences for decades.

The performances on January 24 and 25 will feature selections from de Lucía’s original flamenco guitar canon and jazz repertoire, and include new works from his upcoming CD, *Cositas Buenas*, his first release in nearly five years. Joining him onstage will be percussionist **Israel Suarez Escobar**, bassist **Alain Perez Rodríguez**, cantore player **Enrique Heredia Carbonell**, and vocalists **Herminia Borjas Gabarra** and **Victoria Santiago Borja**.

A virtuoso performer of superb technical skill and unlimited artistry, de Lucía’s birthplace—Cadiz, on the southernmost tip of Spain—is synonymous with the roots of flamenco music. There he began performing classical guitar professionally at the age of 11, and as a teenager, toured with José Greco’s troupe. After meeting the flamenco hero Sabicas in the United States he was encouraged to pursue his own individual style. In doing so, de Lucía embarked on creative jazz collaborations with

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pianist Chick Corea, and guitarists John McLaughlin, Larry Coryell and Al DiMeola, among many others.

Paco de Lucía has made over 30 recordings and soundtracks, with his most recent *Cositas Buenas* due for release in late January 2004. His 1999 recording, *Luzia*, is an intimate recording featuring de Lucía on guitar, brother Pepe de Lucía and Carlos Benavent on mandola and bass, and Tino de Geraldo on percussion. The album, dedicated to de Lucía's mother, Lucia Gomez, is a return to more traditional forms of flamenco. His long list of recordings has established de Lucía as the leader of his field for over three decades. The gifted guitarist continues to introduce new elements for playing and composing that powerfully redefine and propel the flamenco art form in new directions, while never losing sight of the genre's celebrated past.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for flamenco/jazz guitar virtuoso **Paco de Lucía** on **Saturday, January 24** at **8:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, January 25** at **7:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$24.00**, **\$36.00** and **\$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; 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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San Francisco Chronicle, *San Francisco* magazine, and KDFC Classical 102.1 FM are season media sponsors of Cal Performances' 2003/04 performing arts season.

All Cal Performances programs are supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the California Arts Council and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, January 24 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus

Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

World Stage

Paco de Lucía, Spanish guitar

Israel Suarez Escobar, percussion

Alain Perez Rodríguez, bass

Enrique Heredia Carbonell, cantore

Herminia Borjas Gabarra, vocals

Victoria Santiago Borja, vocals

Program:

Flamenco guitar great Paco de Lucía performs original flamenco guitar and jazz repertoire, including selections from his upcoming album

Tickets: \$24.00, \$36.00 and \$48.00, 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.