

FOR IMMEDIATE
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ACCLAIMED ENSEMBLES
PRAGUE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA AND THE EROICA TRIO
PERFORM BEETHOVEN'S TRIPLE CONCERTO
OCTOBER 24, 2003 IN ZELLERBACH HALL

**SIGHTLINES: PRE-CONCERT TALK BY UC BERKELEY MUSICOLOGIST
ARMAN SCHWARTZ AT 7:00 P.M.**

BERKELEY, September 18, 2003 – Opening Cal Performances' 2003/04 Chamber Music and Orchestra series, the **Prague Chamber Orchestra** and **Eroica Trio** perform an all-Beethoven program **Friday, October 24 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall. The Eroica Trio's **Erika Nickrenz** (piano), **Adela Peña** (violin), and **Sara Sant'Ambrogio** (cello) join the renowned conductorless ensemble from Prague in a spirited performance of Beethoven's **Concerto in C major for Piano, Violin, Cello and Orchestra, Op. 56 (Triple Concerto)**. The program also features the Prague Chamber Orchestra performing Beethoven's **Overture to *The Creatures of Prometheus***, and **Symphony No. 4 in B flat major, Op. 60**. UC Berkeley musicologist Arman Schwartz will give a free *Sightlines* talk for ticketholders before the Friday evening performance, from **7:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

PRAGUE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

"A superlative ensemble...their playing was a marvel of virtuosity," says *The New York Times* of the **Prague Chamber Orchestra**. Returning for the first time since their 1998 appearance at Cal Performances, the Prague Chamber Orchestra is renowned for the expert musicianship of its individual 36 members, who perform without a conductor under the stewardship of concertmaster and artistic leader **Antonín Hradil**. Founded in Prague in 1951, the ensemble had its beginnings in the Czechoslovak Radio Symphony Orchestra, when a chamber group was formed from the Symphony's members to record works that did not require the full orchestra. By 1965, the group became a state-funded independent body, and following the collapse of the Communist system the members took over the management of the chamber

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ensemble. Recently celebrating 50 years of performance, the 2003/04 tour with the Eroica Trio marks the Prague Chamber Orchestra's 15th tour to North America. Awards include the Supraphon's Golden Record, Wiener Flotenuhr, and the Grand Pris du Disque Akademie Charles Cros. They have recorded for Supraphon, Denon, BMG, Decca, and Telarc, and have made over 500 radio and television appearances in Prague and other European cities. Currently the ensemble records for its own PKO label, recently releasing a series of Mozart symphonies under Sir Charles Mackerras.

EROICA TRIO

The musicians who make up the **Eroica Trio** are top-ranked, award-winning soloists who have performed on many of the world's great stages. **Erika Nickrenz** (piano), **Adela Peña** (violin), and **Sara Sant'Ambrogio** (cello) share a unique history, having known each other since childhood. All three were admitted to The Juilliard School, where they studied chamber music with Felix Galimir. There they founded their ensemble, taking the name Eroica (Italian for "heroic") from the title of Beethoven's Third Symphony. In 1991, the Trio won the prestigious Naumberg Award, resulting in a Lincoln Center Debut performance and subsequent engagements in Europe and Asia. The Trio played Carnegie Hall for the first time in 1997, and secured an exclusive recording contract with EMI Classics. Recent recordings for EMI include *Pasión* (2000), a disc of compositions by Argentinean, Brazilian and Spanish composers, as well as an album dedicated to Brahms (2002). A recording of the Beethoven Triple concerto with the Prague Chamber Orchestra is scheduled for release in October 2003. Highlights of recent Eroica Trio concert seasons include the world premiere of Kevin Kaska's Triple Concerto, written expressly for the Trio and performed with the St. Louis Symphony under conductor Hans Vonk; and the premiere of Raimundo Penaforte's *Tango for Seven* with the St. Lawrence String Quartet.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for the **Prague Chamber Orchestra** and the **Eroica Trio** on **Friday, October 24 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$30.00, \$40.00** and **\$52.00**. 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, 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 the Cal Performances Ticket Office 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.

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CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, October 24, 7:00 – 7:30 p.m.
SIGHTLINES

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

Pre-concert talk by UC Berkeley musicologist **Arman Schwartz**. *Sightlines* is a continuing program of pre- and post-performance discussions with Cal Performances' guest artists and scholars, designed to enrich the audience's experience. These events are free to ticketholders.

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Friday, October 24 at 8:00 p.m.

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

Chamber Music & Orchestra
Prague Chamber Orchestra
Eroica Trio

Program:

Beethoven/Overture to *The Creatures of Prometheus*;

Concerto in C major for Piano, Violin, Cello and Orchestra, Op. 56 (Triple Concerto); and
Symphony No. 4 in B-flat major, Op. 60

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