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**HUNGARIAN PIANIST ANDRÁS SCHIFF MAKES A RARE  
RECITAL APPEARANCE AT CAL PERFORMANCES  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23 AT 3:00 P.M.**

**BERKELEY, September 13, 2005** – Acclaimed pianist and conductor András Schiff will perform a solo recital as part of Cal Performances' Centennial Season on **Sunday, October 23 at 3:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall. Schiff, who “stands with perhaps only a handful of other pianists in his total achievement of the most severe beauty,” (*Philadelphia Inquirer*) will present a recital of works by two giants of classical piano, **Haydn** (1732–1809) and **Beethoven** (1770–1827), that were composed after Bach’s death. Schiff will play Haydn’s Capriccio in G major, *Acht Sauschneider müssen sein*, based on a folk song; Sonata No. 53 in E minor, one of only seven Haydn sonatas written in minor key; and the mournful yet comforting Variations in F minor. From Beethoven’s repertoire, Schiff will play the charming, witty Sonata No. 16 in G major, and the Sonata No. 21 in C major, known as *Waldstein*. The latter sonata takes its name from Beethoven’s early patron, Count Waldstein of Bonn, and was written at the height of Beethoven’s “heroic” period (roughly 1803–1815).

Born in Hungary in 1953, András Schiff began studying piano at age five with Elisabeth Vadász and studied music at the Ferenc Liszt Academy with Pál Kadosa, György Kurtág, and Ferenc Rados; he also worked with George Malcolm in London. Recitals and special projects took him around the world and included keyboard performances of works by Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Chopin, and Bartók. In 1999, Schiff created the Cappella Andrea Barca, a chamber orchestra, for a seven-year series performing the complete Mozart piano concertos in Salzburg.

Schiff last performed at Cal Performances in March 2002. The recital was “a reminder of what a wealth and variety of sound one piano can produce in the right hands” (*San Francisco*

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*Chronicle*). Schiff's North American recital tour this season will take him through New York, Ann Arbor, Boston, Chicago, Fort Worth, Kansas City, Vancouver, Seattle, and Carmel in addition to Berkeley. He also performs as conductor and soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic in a program of Mendelssohn, Schumann, and Haydn. He has annual engagements with the Philharmonia Orchestra in London and the Chamber Orchestra of Europe as conductor and soloist, and is a regular visiting conductor/soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the National Symphony Orchestra, the Staatskapelle Dresden, the Budapest Festival Orchestra, and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. In the next few seasons, Schiff plans a series of orchestral concerts, conducting programs of Bach, Beethoven, and Mozart from the keyboard.

Schiff, whose performances balance the emotional, intellectual, and physical aspects of music-making, is in the midst of exploring the 32 Beethoven piano sonatas in chronological order. This project, which began in 2004, is being recorded live for ECM New Series; the first two-CD set is scheduled for release on September 27, 2005. Schiff's prolific discography includes recordings for Teldec (1994–1997), London/Decca (1981–1994) and, since 1997, ECM New Series. Recordings for ECM include the complete solo piano music of Janáček, a solo disc of Schumann piano pieces, and his second recording of the Bach Goldberg Variations. He has received two Grammy Awards for “Best Classical Instrumental Soloist (Without Orchestra)” for the Bach English Suites, and “Best Vocal Recording” for Schubert's *Schwanengesang* with tenor Peter Schreier.

Schiff was awarded the Bartók Prize in 1991 and the Claudio Arrau Memorial medal from the Robert Schumann Society in Düsseldorf in 1994. In March 1996, he received the Kossuth Prize (the highest Hungarian distinction), and in May 1997 he received the Leonie Sonnings Music Prize in Copenhagen. Schiff was awarded the *Palladio d'Oro* by the city of Vicenza, and the *Musikfest-Preis Bremen* for “outstanding international artistic work” in 2003.

### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **András Schiff** on **Sunday, October 23 at 3:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$34.00, \$46.00, and \$58.00**. 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](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). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at [www.calperfs.berkeley.edu](http://www.calperfs.berkeley.edu).

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Cal Performances' 2005/2006 Centennial Season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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### CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

#### CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

**Sunday, October 23 at 3:00 p.m.**

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

#### Concert

**András Schiff**, piano

#### Program includes excerpts from

Haydn/Capriccio in G major "Acht Sauschneider müssen sein," Hob. XVII:1; Sonata No. 53 in E minor, Hob. XVI:34; and Variations in F minor, Hob. XVII:6

Beethoven/Sonata No. 16 in G major, Op. 31, No. 1; and Sonata No. 21 in C major Op. 53,  
*Waldstein*

**Tickets:** \$34.00, \$46.00, and \$58.00, 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.

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