

FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE

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**GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING PIANIST YEFIM BRONFMAN PERFORMS  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22 IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

**PIANIST PLAYS MUSIC BY BEETHOVEN, TCHAIKOVSKY, AND PROKOFIEV**

**BERKELEY, January 13, 2004** – Widely regarded as one of the most talented virtuoso pianists performing today, **Yefim Bronfman** performs at Cal Performances **Sunday, February 22 at 3:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall. His commanding technique and exceptional lyrical gifts have won him consistent critical acclaim and enthusiastic audiences worldwide, whether for his solo recitals, his prestigious orchestral engagements or his rapidly growing catalogue of recordings. Bronfman's Berkeley program includes **Ludwig van Beethoven's** Sonata No. 17 in D minor, Op. 31, No. 2 and Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Op. 111; **Pyotr Il'yich Tchaikovsky's** *Dumka* (Russian Rustic Scene), Op. 59; and **Sergey Prokofiev's** Sonata No. 2 in D Minor, Op. 14.

**Yefim Bronfman** immigrated to Israel with his family in 1973 from Tashkent, in the Soviet Union. He made his international debut two years later with Zubin Mehta and the Montreal Symphony. He made his New York Philharmonic debut in May 1978, his Washington recital debut in March 1981 at the Kennedy Center and his New York recital debut in January 1982 at the 92nd Street Y. Bronfman studied with pianist Arie Vardi, head of the Rubin Academy of Music at Tel Aviv University. In the United States he studied at The Juilliard School, Marlboro and the Curtis Institute, and with Rudolf Firkusny, Leon Fleisher and Rudolf Serkin. He became a citizen of the United States in 1989.

During the 2003/04 season Bronfman performs with the symphony orchestras of Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Detroit, Montreal and San Francisco, as well as with the Vienna Philharmonic, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam and the Lucerne Festival, the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Philharmonia Orchestra, and the Pittsburgh Symphony (at Heinz Hall and Carnegie Hall). He will make two appearances at Carnegie's new Zankel Hall, in October with Elena Bashkirova

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and the Jerusalem International Chamber Music Festival, and in April with Emanuel Ax and artists of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Additionally, he will perform as guest soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic in the closing week of their inaugural season at Walt Disney Concert Hall.

In previous seasons, Bronfman has appeared with such celebrated ensembles as the Berlin Philharmonic, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Dresden Staatskapelle, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, the London Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the New York Philharmonic, the Orchestre de Paris and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. He has worked with an equally illustrious group of conductors, including Daniel Barenboim, Herbert Blomstedt, Christoph von Dohnányi, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Valery Gergiev, Mariss Jansons, Lorin Maazel, Kurt Masur, Zubin Mehta, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Yuri Temirkanov, Franz Welser-Möst and David Zinman. Summer engagements have regularly taken him to the Aspen, Bad Kissingen, Blossom, Hollywood Bowl, Lucerne, Mann Music Center, Mostly Mozart, Ravinia, Salzburg, Saratoga, Tanglewood and Verbier festivals.

Bronfman has also given numerous solo recitals in the leading halls of North America, Europe and the Far East, including acclaimed debuts at Carnegie Hall in 1989 and Avery Fisher Hall in 1993. In 1991 he gave a series of joint recitals with Isaac Stern in Russia, marking Bronfman's first public performances there since his relocation to Israel at age 15. That same year he was awarded the prestigious Avery Fisher Prize.

A devoted chamber music performer, Bronfman has collaborated with the Emerson, Cleveland, Guarneri and Juilliard quartets, as well as the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. He has also played chamber music with Yo-Yo Ma, Joshua Bell, Lynn Harrell, Shlomo Mintz, Jean-Pierre Rampal, Pinchas Zukerman and many other artists.

An exclusive Sony Classical recording artist, Yefim Bronfman has won widespread praise for his solo, chamber and orchestral recordings. He won a Grammy Award in 1997 for his recording of the three Bartók Piano Concertos with Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. His discography also includes the complete Prokofiev Piano Sonatas; all five of

the Prokofiev Piano Concertos, nominated for both Grammy and *Gramophone* awards; Rachmaninoff's Piano Concertos Nos. 2 and 3; recital albums featuring Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* and Stravinsky's *Three Scenes from Petrouchka*, and Tchaikovsky's *The Seasons* paired with Balakirev's *Islamey*; and the Tchaikovsky and Arensky Piano Trios with Cho-Liang Lin and Gary Hoffman.

His recordings with Isaac Stern include the Brahms Violin Sonatas from their aforementioned Russian tour, a cycle of the Mozart Sonatas for Violin and Piano and the Bartok Violin Sonatas. Coinciding with the release of the *Fantasia 2000* soundtrack, Bronfman was featured on his own Shostakovich album, performing the two Piano Concertos and the Piano Quintet. In 2002 Sony Classical released his two-piano recital (with Emanuel Ax) of works by Rachmaninoff.

#### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for pianist **Yefim Bronfman** in recital on **Sunday, February 22, 2004 at 3:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$32.00, \$42.00** and **\$56.00**. 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](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' presentation of Yefim Bronfman is sponsored by Sherman Clay & Co.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

**Sunday, February 22, 2004 at 3:00 p.m.**

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

*Recital*

**Yefim Bronfman**, piano

**Program:**

Beethoven/Sonata No. 17 in D minor, Op. 31, No. 2 and Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Op. 111

Tchaikovsky/*Dumka* (Russian Rustic Scene), Op. 59

Prokofiev/Sonata No. 2 in D minor, Op. 14

**Tickets:** \$32.00, \$42.00 and \$56.00 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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