FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 6, 2013

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIERE OF ANGEL HEART, A FAMILY-FRIENDLY MUSICAL STORYBOOK, ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, AT 5:00 P.M. IN HERTZ HALL

New multimedia children's work features music by Luna Pearl Woolf and an original story by Cornelia Funke with vocalists Frederica von Stade and Lisa Delan and cellist Matt Haimovitz

BERKELEY, September 6, 2013—The world premiere of *Angel Heart*, a haunting and heady multimedia amalgam of storytelling, music, and design created for children and families, will be presented by Cal Performances on Sunday, October 6, at 5:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall. *Angel Heart* blends original music by award-winning composer Luna Pearl Woolf with familiar tunes and original text by bestselling children's fantasy writer Cornelia Funke. The production brings together celebrated artists from multiple disciplines, including cellist Matt Haimovitz (Woolf's husband) and his all-cello ensemble Uccello, soprano Lisa Delan, and mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade, along with the Oakland-based Children's Choir of St. Martin de Porres School, a vocal ensemble founded by von Stade. Two staged performances, one at Berkeley and one at Carnegie Hall, are scheduled in conjunction with the release of an *Angel Heart* book, CD, and iPad app.

The production was conceived by Delan and Woolf, who discovered they shared a "dream of lullabies." As Woolf explains, "Each of us, unbeknown to the other, imagined creating the kind of recording we wanted to hear as we tucked our children in at night." Both artists had also independently envisioned Haimovitz and Uccello as musical collaborators. Delan and Woolf compiled traditional folk songs and lullabies, added works by composers **Lewis Spratlan**, **Jake Heggie**, **Gordon Getty**, and **David Sanford**, and used popular songs by **Engelbert Humperdinck** and **John Lennon** and **Paul McCartney** to tell their tale. Woolf composed a score linking these disparate works, and she and Delan collaborated with German-born children's author Funke to write a narrative.

The *Angel Heart* book and CD package will be released on September 24. Renowned actor Jeremy Irons recorded the narration for the CD and iPad app. The same artists on the CD will perform in Berkeley, with the exception of the narrator (to be announced) and the Bay Area's beloved mezzo-soprano **Zheng Cao**, who died in February 2013; the production is dedicated to Cao.

More about *Angel Heart*, including audio clips and information about the artists, can be found at angelheartmusicstorybook.com.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for *Angel Heart* on Sunday, October 6, at 5:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall are \$36.00 and are subject to change; ages 16 and under are half price. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door. For more information about tickets and discounts, go to http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php or call (510) 642-9988.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their major support of the Season.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, October 6, at 5:00 p.m.

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

For Families
Angel Heart, A music storybook
Story by Cornelia Funke
Music by Luna Pearl Woolf
Created by Lisa Delan and Luna Pearl Woolf
Matt Haimovitz and Uccello, cellos
Lisa Delan, soprano

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Frederica von Stade, mezzo-soprano
Daniel Taylor, countertenor
Bruce Rameker, baritone
Dana Rath, mandolin
Children's Choir of St. Martin de Porres School, Oakland
Narrator to be announced
Brian Staufenbiel, stage director

Tickets: \$36.00, subject to change; they are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at calperformances.org; and at the door.

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