FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 10, 2012

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS MUSICAL AMERICA'S "MUSICIANS OF THE YEAR" CELLIST <u>DAVID FINCKEL</u> AND PIANIST <u>WU HAN</u> IN RECITAL SATURDAY, MARCH 24 AT 8:00 P.M. AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

BERKELEY, February 10, 2012—"America's power couple of chamber music" (*The Wall Street Journal*), cellist **David Finckel** and pianist **Wu Han**, will explore the piano and cello's 19th century repertory in a concert titled *Schubert through Brahms: The Romantic Legacy*, **Saturday, March 24**, at **8:00 p.m.** in **First Congregational Church**. An opportunity to experience the evolution of the modern cello, the concert that will feature **Franz Schubert**, Sonata in A minor (*Arpeggione*), **Johannes Brahms**, Sonata in E minor, Op. 38 and F major, Op. 99 and **Robert Schumann**, Adagio and Allegro, Op. 70. As the 2012 winners of Musical America's "Musicians of the Year," the inspired playing of the husband-and-wife duo will highlight the growth of the cello from quiet song spinner to center-stage virtuoso powerhouse.

Cellist **David Finckel** and pianist **Wu Han** are among the most esteemed and influential classical musicians in the world today. Their multifaceted endeavors include performing, recording, teaching and cultural leadership. "When a pair of genuine artists explodes on the stage, exuding not only glamour and theatrical flair but also superb musical insight, the audience's thrill is twofold" (*Chicago Sun-Times*). Finckel and Han are founding artistic directors of the Silicon Valley–based chamber music festival Music@Menlo and are tenured as artistic directors of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York City. Finckel and Han have nurtured the careers of countless young artists through an array of education initiatives, including teaching stints at Carnegie Hall and the Jerusalem Music Center with the late Isaac Stern. This season, under the auspices of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the duo welcomes young artists from Korea and Taiwan to intensive residency programs with an elite faculty of musicians.

As performers, the duo has appeared at top chamber music venues throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia, and recieved raves from audiences and critics alike. In addition to

appearing together, the couple has teamed with violinist Philip Setzer for an acclaimed series of performances of Schubert trios. Finckel is also a member of the renowned Emerson String Quartet, an ensemble that has won eight Grammy Awards and received the first Avery Fisher Prize awarded to a chamber ensemble.

Finckel and Han are also innovative recording artists. Their collective discography includes some 60 recordings, including a dozen that they have produced on their own ArtistLed label. ArtistLed was formed by Finckel and Han in 1997 to create recordings in an environment free from artistic, commercial, technical and procedural constraints. The musicians control every aspect of the recording process, from repertoire selection through final mix and distribution. The latest ArtistLed recording, *For David and Wu Han*, was released in January 2010 and features four contemporary cello-piano compositions commissioned for and premiered by the duo.

The couple lives in New York with their daughter, Lilian. Their official website is davidfinckelandwuhan.com.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **David Finckel**, **cello** and **Wu Han**, **piano**, playing *Schubert through Brahms: The Romantic Legacy* on **Saturday**, **March 24 at 8:00 p.m.**, in **First Congregational Church** are \$42.00. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at

Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5.00 discount (Special Events excluded). For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior, and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three hours prior to a performance on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988 and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit www.calperformances.org.

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

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

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

First Congregational Church 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley

Chamber Music

Schubert through Brahms: The Romantic Legacy

David Finckel, cello **Wu Han**, piano

Program:

Schubert/Sonata in A minor (*Arpeggione*)

Brahms/Sonata for Cello No. 1 in E minor, Op. 38, and Sonata for Cello No. 2 in F major, Op. 99 Schumann/Adagio and Allegro for Cello and Piano, Op. 70

Tickets: Are \$42.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door.

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