BARITONE <u>GERALD FINLEY</u> AND PIANIST <u>JULIUS DRAKE</u> PERFORM SCHUBERT'S EPIC SONG CYCLE *WINTERREISE* ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, AT 3:00 P.M. IN HERTZ HALL

BERKELEY, January 14, 2014—Canadian baritone Gerald Finley and his longtime musical collaborator, pianist Julius Drake, come to <u>Cal Performances</u> on Sunday, February 2, at 3:00 p.m. to perform Franz Schubert's intensely emotional 24-song cycle, *Winterreise*, in Hertz Hall. Though Finley is perhaps best known to Bay Area audiences for the role of J. Robert Oppenheimer in the 2005 world premiere of John Adams' *Doctor Atomic* with San Francisco Opera, "he has proved that he is also a master of the more intimate art of song" (*The New York Times*) while Drake "is no shrinking violet of an accompanist: without being aggressive or domineering, his style is robust and forthright" (*The Telegraph*).

In *Winterreise*, Schubert sets music to poetry by Wilhelm Müller (1794–1827). Müller's two dozen texts present episodes and vignettes describing the wintertime wanderings of a rejected lover. Schubert's music for *Winterreise*—widely considered the apotheosis of his work composing art songs—exhibits startling beauty in spite of the brooding subject matter. The piano and voice are partners in the storytelling, complementing, exposing, and answering one another as the performers take the audience on a psychological journey through the dark metaphorical depths of a tortured soul.

Baritone <u>Gerald Finley</u> has performed on the most prestigious opera stages, concert halls, and recital venues worldwide, with top-flight orchestras and renowned conductors. Finley has won widespread acclaim for his expressive, nuanced singing and broad musical range, and earned multiple awards, including the 2012 Grammy Award for Best Opera Recording for *Doctor Atomic* with the Metropolitan Opera. In addition to a busy performance and recording career, Finley is Visiting Professor and Fellow of the Royal College of Music in London.

British pianist Julius Drake has performed and recorded with many of the world's finest vocal artists over his 30-year career. He is also Professor at Graz University for Music and the Performing Arts in Austria, presents master classes worldwide, has devised and performed song series and recitals for audiences in the UK and the Netherlands, and has directed music festivals in Australia and Wales. Drake's discography includes more than a dozen recordings of chamber music, song, and solo piano works. Finley and Drake's tour of *Winterreise* will begin on January 15 in London and will visit eight other cities in Europe and North America.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for Gerald Finley, baritone, and Julius Drake, piano on Sunday, February 2, at 3:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall are \$32.00 and are subject to change. Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at <u>http://www.calperformances.org</u>, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to <u>http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php</u>.

#

Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their major support of the 2013—2014 Season.

#

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, February 2, at 3:00 p.m.

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

Recital Gerald Finley, baritone Julius Drake, piano

Program: Schubert/Winterreise, D. 911 Op. 89

Tickets are \$32.00 and are 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.

- Cal Performances -