FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 16, 2013

LIVE-ACTION GRAPHIC NOVEL MEETS RADIO PLAY <u>THE INTERGALACTIC NEMESIS: BOOK ONE: TARGET EARTH</u> SWOOPS INTO ZELLERBACH HALL ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

A one-hour SchoolTime performance will be given for Bay Area school children on Wednesday, November 13 at 11:00 a.m.

A symposium titled *Reaching for the Stars* will also be held on Wednesday, November 13 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

BERKELEY, October 16, 2013—The live-action sci-fi graphic novel *The Intergalactic Nemesis: Book One: Target Earth,* a multimedia theater favorite from Austin, Texas, materializes for one night only on Thursday, November 14, at 8:00 p.m. in Cal Performances' Zellerbach Hall. *The Intergalactic Nemesis* is a one-of-a-kind theatrical experience. Three actors standing at vintage microphones will voice dozens of characters while a Foley artist engineers hundreds of sound effects and a keyboardist plays original dramatic music all in service of an original story of interplanetary adventure. As the story unwinds, more than 1,250 full-color, hand-drawn comic book images illustrating the action are projected on a 20-foot screen behind the performers. The result is a production that "melds the retro appeal of radio serials with the cutting-edge cool of the graphic novel" (*Wall Street Journal*). The work is written and directed by <u>Jason Neulander</u>, based on an original idea by Ray Patrick Colgan. The actors are <u>Danu Uribe</u>, Brock England, and Christopher Lee Gibson. Sound effects, created by <u>Buzz Moran</u>, are performed by Cami Alys; original music by <u>Graham Reynolds</u> and performed by Kenneth Redding, Jr.; illustrations by <u>Tim Doyle</u>.

A one-hour <u>SchoolTime performance</u> for Bay Area school children of *The Intergalactic Nemesis* will be presented on Wednesday, November 13 at 11:00 a.m. Tickets are available in advance only. Go to Cal Performances' website to <u>register</u>.

In conjunction with *The Intergalactic Nemesis*, Cal Performances takes a stand for arts in the schools with the second annual, *Reaching for the Stars* symposium. The event runs from

11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 13 in Zellerbach Hall. Designed for arts educators, administrators, and policy makers, the symposium's subtitle is "Turning STEM to STEAM—Enlivening Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Through Arts Integration." Last year's forum was built around the performances of the Simon Bolivar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela with Gustavo Dudamel. Go to Cal Performances's website for further information.

The premise is simple: a period adventure story featuring Pulitzer-winning reporter Molly Sloan, her intrepid assistant Timmy Mendez, and a mysterious librarian named Ben Wilcott as they face the most serious threat Earth has ever known: an impending invasion of sludge monsters from the planet Zygon. Neulander says *The Intergalactic Nemesis* was inspired by *Raiders of the Lost Ark, Star Wars*, and the pulp serials of the 1930s. It premiered as a live-action graphic novel in 2010, but the cult favorite was first performed over several weeks in 1996 as a live-action radio serial in a coffee shop in Austin, Texas. It was then reimagined in 2000 as an evening-length audio-only stage show with live sound effects. In its current multimedia form, the show has been performed in more than 80 venues worldwide, was featured on Conan O'Brien's television program, and has been the subject of a 30-minute feature on KLRU, the PBS affiliate in Austin. It also has spawned a sequel (*Book Two: Robot Planet Rising*), a graphic novel, an audio CD, and legions of fans of all ages. Trailers, performance recordings, the appearance on Conan, and other videos are available on the *Intergalactic Nemesis* YouTube Channel.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for *The Intergalactic Nemesis: Book One: Target Earth* on Thursday, November 14, at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall range from \$18.00 to \$42.00 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 http://www.calperformances.org; and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php.

Tickets for *Reaching for the Stars* symposium on Wednesday November 13, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall are priced at \$30.00 which includes a ticket to the SchoolTime performance (\$25.00 without a ticket).

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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

Wednesday, November 13, at 11:00 a.m. SCHOOLTIME PERFORMANCE

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at Dana Street, Berkeley

Theater

The Intergalactic Nemesis: Book One: Target Earth

Program: A one-hour version of this live-action graphic novel, which combines three actors, live sound effects, original music, and hundreds of projected comic book images in an epic sci-fi adventure.

Tickets: \$8.00 per student or adult chaperone, available in advance only through Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988. SchoolTime performances are open to students in kindergarten through grade 12 in Bay Area public and private schools. Supplemental study guides for the classroom are provided. For more information about the SchoolTime program, contact the SchoolTime coordinator at Cal Performances by emailing eduprograms@calperfs.berkeley.edu or by phone at (510) 642-0212.

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Wednesday, November 13, 11:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. SYMPOSIUM

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at Dana Street, Berkeley

Program: *Reaching for the Stars* is Cal Performances' second annual arts learning forum for educators, administrators, and policy makers.

Tickets: Registration costs \$30.00 which includes a ticket to the 11:00 a.m. SchoolTime performance of *The Intergalactic Nemesis: Book One: Target Earth*. For more information and to register go to <u>Cal</u> <u>Performances</u>.

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Thursday, November 14, at 8:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at Dana Street, Berkeley

Theater

The Intergalactic Nemesis: Book One: Target Earth Jason Neulander, writer and director Graham Reynolds, composer Danu Uribe, actor Brock England, actor Christopher Lee Gibson, actor Cami Alys, Foley artist

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Kenneth Redding, Jr., keyboard Tim Doyle, illustrator

Program: This live-action graphic novel combines three actors, live sound effects, original music, and hundreds of projected comic book images to present an epic sci-fi adventure for ages seven and up.

Tickets: Range from \$18.00 to \$42.00, 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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