FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 19, 2012

ADDED EVENT!

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS <u>KEITH JARRETT</u> IN AN IMPROVISED SOLO PIANO CONCERT SUNDAY, APRIL 1, AT 7:00 P.M. AT ZELLERBACH HALL

BERKELEY, January 19, 2012—Pianist extraordinaire Keith Jarrett returns to Cal Performances to perform one of his celebrated improvised solo piano concerts on Sunday, April 1 at 7:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall. This will be his first solo appearance in Zellerbach Hall in nearly 30 years, since he last performed solo at the hall in December 1982. (Jarrett was most recently at Cal Performances October 29, 2011, with Jack DeJonette and Gary Peacock.) The April concert, which will be recorded live for a new album, coincides with the release of *RIO*, his solo piano CD recorded live in concert last year. Considered by Jarrett to be his best solo piano recording since *The Koln Concert*, *RIO* has been hailed "a masterpiece!" by *Jazzwise Magazine*, UK. Over the past five decades, Jarrett has come to be recognized as one of the most creative and unique musicians of our times: a master of jazz piano, a classical keyboardist of great depth and a composer who has written hundreds of pieces for his various jazz groups, plus extended works for orchestra, soloist and chamber ensemble. His solo piano improvisations evoke a broad spectrum of musical languages including jazz, classical, ethnic, gospel, folk, blues and beyond, creating spontaneous music that is both extremely personal and universal.

After a tentative period sitting in at various New York jazz spots, Jarrett toured first in 1965-66 with Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers, then from 1966–68 with the Charles Lloyd Quartet. He soon led his own trio with Charlie Haden and Paul Motian, which in 1972 expanded to a quartet with the addition of tenor saxophonist Dewey Redman. From 1970–71 Jarrett also became a featured member in Miles Davis' electric fusion group, playing electric piano and organ, his last stint as a sideman. Thereafter, Jarrett dedicated himself exclusively to performing acoustic music as a solo artist and as a leader.

For the past 29 years, Keith Jarrett's main context for playing jazz has been in trio with bassist Gary Peacock and drummer Jack DeJohnette. In January 1983 Jarrett invited Peacock and DeJohnette to New York's Power Station studio to record "standards"—the rich body of American Broadway show and jazz tunes from the 1930s, '40s, and '50s. At the time it was considered passé for top players to concentrate on "standards" instead of original material, but Jarrett thought it was important to show that "music wasn't about the material, but what the player brings to the material."

In 1971 Jarrett began his recording collaboration with German producer Manfred Eicher and ECM Records (Editions of Contemporary Music). This fruitful collaboration has produced over 60 recordings to date, unparalleled in their scope, diversity, and quality. The most recent ECM solo piano CD set is *RIO*; later in 2012, ECM will release a new trio recording, *Somewhere*, recorded in July 2009 in Luzern, Switzerland featuring extended versions of "Somewhere" and "Tonight" from *West Side Story*.

Classical CDs released by Keith Jarrett on ECM include recordings of J.S. Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier Book I (piano) and Book II (harpsichord), Goldberg Variations (harpsichord), French Suites (harpsichord), Sonatas for Viola Da Gamba and Cembalo with Kim Kaskashian (viola) and Jarrett (harpsichord); plus piano recordings of the Shostakovich's 24 Preludes and Fugues, Op. 87 and Handel's Suites for Keyboard. He also released two volumes of selected Mozart Piano Concertos with the Stuttgart KammerOrchester.

In 1989 Keith Jarrett was named Officier de L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, and then in 2007 Commandeur de L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, two of the highest honors the French Ministry of Culture can bestow on an artist. In 1996 he was elected a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Music, joining Duke Ellington as only the second foreign jazz artist to ever be so honored. In 2002 he was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, America's oldest honorary society, founded in 1780. In 2003 he was awarded the Polar Music Prize, one of the world's most prestigious music awards, presented by the King of Sweden in a special televised ceremony in Stockholm. In July 2004, he received the Leonie Sonning Prize in

Copenhagen, another of the world's major music awards. He is only the second jazz artist to receive the honor since its founding in 1959, Miles Davis being the first in 1985.

TICKET INFORMATION

\$30.00 and go on sale to the general public on Thursday, January 26. They are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; 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 more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.org.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced two hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20.00 for all other community members. Information is available at 510-642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bank of America for major support of the 2011/12 Season.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, April 1, 7:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at Telegraph, Berkeley

Jazz

Keith Jarrett, piano

Program: Jazz piano great Keith Jarrett performs a solo evening of improvisation.

Tickets: On sale to the general public on January 26, tickets start at \$30.00 and are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door.

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