FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 6, 2014

# JORDI SAVALL AND HESPÈRION XXI JOIN WITH MEXICO'S TEMBEMBE ENSAMBLE CONTINUO TO PERFORM BAROQUE MUSIC OF EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ON MARCH 1

BERKELEY, February 6, 2014—Returning to Cal Performances for a sold out performance, Jordi Savall and his historical music ensemble, Hespèrion XXI, join Tembembe Ensamble Continuo, a Mexican group dedicated to ancient music of the New World, on March 1 at 8:00 p.m. in First Congregational Church. A perennial presence at Cal Performances and always a Berkeley favorite, Savall and his ensemble will perform "Folías Antiquas & Criollas: From the Ancient World to the New World"—a program that explores links between the early music of Europe and music created in the Western Hemisphere. "Instinct and scholarship, impeccable musicality, and a true sense of theater merge as Savall brings to life sounds that are half a millennium old," raves the San Francisco Chronicle. "And how modern they seem, how thrilling and how new is all this music first heard so long ago."

The composers highlighted in *Folías Antiquas & Criollas* include Diego Ortiz, Pedro Guerrero Moresca, Código Trujillo, Antonio de Cabezón, Juan del Enzina, Santiago de Murcia, Antonio Martín y Coll, Juan Pérez de Bocanegra, Francisco Correa de Arauxo, and Antonio Valente. The works that cannot be identified with specific authors—in particular, the folk songs and dance music—hail from throughout Latin America. Although these composers' names are lost to history, their works—many of which include improvisatory sections created by the performers—resonate through the centuries.

Jordi Savall is a tireless performer, enthusiastic educator, and thoughtful scholar on early music. He has rediscovered and restored countless works of music from the 18th century and before, and has performed them around the world. Barcelona-born Savall is widely credited with reviving modern interest in the *viola da gamba*, a stringed instrument that was popular in the Renaissance and Baroque eras. In addition to leading Hespèrion XXI, Savall has created a record label, Alia Vox, and founded and directed *La Capella Reial* and *Le Concert des Nations*,

two groups dedicated to historical music performance. Hespèrion XXI was founded (as Hespèrion XX) in 1974 by Savall. Taking its name from *hesperia*, the ancient name for the Italian and Iberian peninsulas, the 21st-century musicians of the ensemble are dedicated to reconstructing the rich music from other ages—specifically, music from the 10th to the 18th century—and thereby breathing new life into current musical thinking. Members of Hespèrion XXI include Xavier Díaz-Latorre, theorbo and guitar; Andrew Lawrence-King, arpa cruzada; Xavier Puertas, violone; and David Mayoral, percussion.

Tembembe Ensamble Continuo was founded in 1995 to research and perform traditional baroque music from throughout Mexico and Latin America on historically accurate New World instruments. Members of Tembembe Ensamble Continuo are Enrique Barona, playing huapanguera, leona, jarana jarocha 3a, mosquito, maracas, and pandero; Ulises Martínez, violin and guitarra de son; and Leopoldo Novoa, marimbol, guitarra de son 3a, jarana huasteca, quijada de caballo, and arpa llanera. Barona and Novoa co-founded the ensemble with Eloy Cruz.

### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for Jordi Savall with Hespèrion XXI and Tembembe Ensamble Continuo on Saturday, March 1, at 8:00 p.m. in First Congregational Church is sold out. Tickets may become available; check with Cal Performances' Ticket Office at (510) 642-9988. Tickets are priced at \$68.00 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 <a href="http://www.calperformances.org">http://www.calperformances.org</a>, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to <a href="http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php">http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php</a>.

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

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# **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

### **CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

Saturday, March 1, at 8:00 p.m. First Congregational Church Dana St. and Durant Ave., Berkeley

### Early Music

Jordi Savall Hespèrion XXI Tembembe Ensamble Continuo

## Program:

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