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CAL PERFORMANCES CELEBRATES THE KRONOS QUARTET'S 40TH BIRTHDAY DECEMBER 7 IN ZELLERBACH HALL

**The ensemble is in residence on UC Berkeley campus, offering a symposium, master classes,
and talks with students and the community.**

BERKELEY, November 15, 2013—Cal Performances presents a celebration of **The Kronos Quartet's** 40th birthday on Saturday, December 7, at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall. For the concert, the Kronos Quartet will offer Berkeley audiences a program spanning more than four decades, including two Bay Area premieres: *Another Secret eQuation*, by California composer and frequent Kronos collaborator Terry Riley, and Philip Glass's *Orion: China*, arranged for Kronos by Michael Riesman and featuring *pipa* player Wu Man. Indie rock guitarist Bryce Dessner joins Kronos to perform his 2009 commission, *Aheym*, just released to critical acclaim. The birthday concert brings audiences full circle, ending at the starting point, with the work that inspired **David Harrington** to found Kronos in 1973 in the Bay Area: George Crumb's composition for electric string quartet, *Black Angels* (1970) composed in response to the Vietnam War. In addition to strings, the 13 movements of *Black Angels* draw upon an arsenal of sounds, including shouting, chanting, whistling, whispering, gongs, maracas, and crystal glasses. The performance will include an appearance by San Francisco writer **Daniel Handler**.

This concert is the first of two Kronos programs in Cal Performances' 2013–2014 season. The group returns on April 6 in a program marking the outbreak of World War I. *World War I Chronicles* (working title), a new work for quartet and film by composer Aleksandra Vrebalov and filmmaker Bill Morrison, will have its world premiere. The Quartet and Cal Performances have enjoyed a long and rich relationship. The ensemble first performed in Zellerbach Hall in 1990 with 17 concerts following, the most recent being a pair of concerts in fall 2012. Over the years, programs have included Bay Area, West Coast and world premieres, including works by Terry Riley, Osvaldo Golijov and Steve Reich, among many others. In addition, this season the ensemble is Cal Performances' Artists in Residence. The residency will include interacting with UC Berkeley students and the larger community through a symposium, musical events, and talks.

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The musicians will engage with UC Berkeley's Department of Music, Berkeley High School, The Crowden School, Oakland School for the Arts, and other youth orchestras. More details will be forthcoming and available on Cal Performances' [website](#).

Terry Riley's *Another Secret eQuation* written for Kronos in 2009, features special guests **Pacific Boychoir Academy** directed by **Kevin Fox** and the **Young Women's Chorus of San Francisco** directed by **Susan McMane**. *Another Secret eQuation* is dedicated to the memory of physicist Hans Siegmann of the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center and the husband of Katrina Krinsky, who played with Riley in his seminal work *In C*.

The Kronos Quartet was founded in 1973 by David Harrington, who remains the Quartet's driving force and first violinist. Credited by *The New York Times* as "reinventing the string quartet as a vehicle of limitless stylistic breadth," Harrington is responsible for development of the Kronos Quartet's repertory, which ranges from string quartet classics to contemporary works by young composers. **Hank Dutt**, who was raised in Illinois and studied music at Indiana University, became the group's violist in 1977. **John Sherba**, violin, grew up in Wisconsin and joined the quartet in 1978. The Quartet's newest member, **Sunny Yang**, was born in South Korea and raised in South Africa. She became Kronos Quartet's cellist in June 2013.

The San Francisco-based Kronos Quartet tours for 22 weeks of the year, has sold more than 2.5 million recordings, has recorded 50 albums in its 40-year run. The Quartet has commissioned some 800 works, many by leading contemporary composers, including Terry Riley, Philip Glass, Henryk Mikolaj Górecki, and Steve Reich, and collaborated with a virtual United Nations of international musicians from Mexico, China, Azerbaijan, Finland, Romania, and other lands. It has recorded or appeared with artists and thinkers ranging from David Bowie to Tom Waits to Noam Chomsky to Howard Zinn. With a staff of ten, the non-profit Kronos Performing Arts Association (KPAA) manages all aspects of Kronos's work, including the commissioning of new works, concert tours, and home-season performances, and education programs.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for the Kronos Quartet 40th birthday concert on Saturday, December 7, at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall range from \$30.00-\$90.00, 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>.

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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, December 7 at 8:00 p.m.

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

Special Event

The Kronos Quartet 40th Birthday Concert

David Harrington, violin

John Sherba, violin

Hank Dutt, viola

Sunny Yang, cello

Wu Man, *pipa*

Bryce Dessner, guitar

Daniel Handler

Pacific Boychoir Academy, director Kevin Fox

Young Women's Chorus of San Francisco, director Susan McMane

Program:

Riley/*Another Secret eQuation* (Bay Area premiere) (with Pacific Boychoir Academy, Young Women's Chorus of San Francisco)

Glass, arr. Riesman/*Orion: China* (Bay Area premiere) (with Wu Man)

Dessner/*Aheym (Homeward)* (with Bryce Dessner)

Crumb/*Black Angels*

Tickets: Prices range from \$30.00-\$90.00 and are subject to change. Tickets 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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