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**BARITONE NATHAN GUNN COMES TO CAL PERFORMANCES
SATURDAY, MARCH 9 AT 8:00 P.M.
AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

BERKELEY, February 12, 2013—After receiving rave reviews as Papageno in the San Francisco Opera’s recent production of *The Magic Flute*, Nathan Gunn fans have a chance to hear him perform in the intimate setting of First Congregational Church in Berkeley on Saturday, March 9 at 8:00 p.m. With his compelling stage presence and musical versatility, Gunn will give a program that blends classical and contemporary songs. The first half of the concert will consist of Franz Schubert and Robert Schumann lieder, while the second half will feature works by Samuel Barber, Charles Ives and William Bolcom. Gunn will be accompanied on piano by Julie Gunn, his collaborator and wife. “He brings all kinds of excellence to his work: musical intelligence, crisp rhythmic delivery and sensitivity to the text, impressive acting skills, and daring physicality” (*The New York Times*).

Nathan Gunn was born in 1970 in South Bend, Indiana. After graduating from the University of Illinois he participated in the Metropolitan Opera’s Lindemann Young Artists Program and, at 24, won the Met’s National Council Audition. He has since won accolades and awards, including the 2006 Beverly Sills Career Grant and in 2008 was included in People magazine’s “The Sexiest Men Alive” list.

Known for his dramatic talents, Gunn recently played the titular role in *Billy Budd*, a recording of which won the 2010 Grammy for Best Opera Recording. This season, Gunn will return to the Metropolitan Opera as Raimbaud in *Le Comte d’Ory* before heading to the Dallas Opera to play the Lodger in Dominick Argento’s *The Aspern Papers*. In addition to his opera roles, Gunn maintains a busy recital and concert schedule. He has appeared with the New York Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, and the Chicago, Boston and London symphony orchestras. Recital appearances have been given at Alice Tully Hall and Carnegie Hall.

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Julie Gunn, who sits on the faculty at University of Illinois, is a pianist and arranger of songs from the classical repertoire to Broadway show tunes. She has appeared at Carnegie Hall Pure Voice Series, Lincoln Center Great Performers, and Manhattan's Carlyle Cafe. Abroad, she has performed at Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, Theatre de la Monnaie in Brussels, and Roy Thompson Hall in Toronto. Her opera credits include Metropolitan Opera Young Artist Program, Wolf Trap Opera, Saint Louis Opera Theatre, Opera North, Chicago Opera Theater, and Cincinnati Opera. Julie and Nathan Gunn live in Champaign, Illinois, with their five children.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for Nathan Gunn on March 9 at 8:00 p.m. at First Congregational Church are \$56.00, and are subject to change. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for 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 select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB students, faculty and staff, senior, and community rush tickets. For more information about discounts, call (510) 642-9988 or 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 Season.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, March 9 at 8:00 p.m.

First Congregational Church
2345 Channing Way, Berkeley

Koret Recital Series

Nathan Gunn, baritone
with **Julie Gunn**, piano

Program: Schubert/Die Taubenpost, D 965a; Das Rosenband, D 280; Im Walde, D 708;
Nachtviolen, D 752; Auf der Bruck, D 853

Schumann/Dichterliebe, Op. 48

Barber/ "With rue my heart is laden," Nocturne, "Sure in this Shining Night," "I hear an army"

Ives/Circus Band, Down East, Tom Sails Away, An Old Flame, General William Booth enters into Heaven

Bolcom/Black Max, George, Fur (Murray the Furrier), Over the Piano

Tickets: \$56.00 subject to change, 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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