FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 13, 2012

ADDED EVENT

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS THE SECOND ANNUAL OJAI NORTH! WITH PIANIST & 2012 MUSIC DIRECTOR LEIF OVE ANDSNES MONDAY-THURSDAY, JUNE 11–14, AT HERTZ HALL

Seven distinct concerts featuring Andsnes plus the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra, pianist Marc-André Hamelin, conductor/composer Reinbert de Leeuw, mezzo-soprano Christianne Stotijn and actress Barbara Sukowa

Three Bay Area premieres: Newly added John Luther Adams' *Inuksuit* for 24 percussionists joins Bent Sørensen's Piano Concerto No. 2, "La Mattina" and a new rendition of De Leeuw's song cycle *Im wunderschönen Monat Mai*

BERKELEY, February 13, 2012—Cal Performances' second annual *Ojai North!*, a multi-year partnership with the esteemed **Ojai Music Festival**, gets underway in Berkeley on Monday, June 11 with the newly-added Bay Area premiere of John Luther Adams' Inuksuit (2009) conducted by **Steven Schick**. This event, which features 24 percussionists and piccolo players, will take place on the lawn outside Hertz Hall and is free and open to the public. Ojai North! continues Tuesday—Thursday, June 12–14, with a series of daily concerts at 7:00 and 9:30 p.m. at Hertz Hall. Each summer, Ojai Music Festival explores the musical interests and collaborations of its Music Director, an annual position this year held by Leif Ove Andsnes, "a pianist of magisterial elegance, power and insight" (The New York Times). Joining him will be a number of his favorite collaborators, including the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra, pianist Marc-André Hamelin, conductor/composer Reinbert de Leeuw, mezzo soprano Christianne Stotijn and actress Barbara Sukowa. The festival includes a total of three Bay Area premieres: composer Bent Sørensen's Piano Concerto No. 2, "La Mattina," a reworking of De Leeuw's song cycle *Im wunderschönen Monat Mai* and Adams' percussion extravaganza. Other highlights of this rich and diverse line-up include works by Charles Ives, William Bolcom, Leoš Janáček and Edvard Grieg. "The Berkeley program is especially curated from the Ojai Music Festival," said Cal Performances Director Matías Tarnopolsky. "The series gives us the

essence of the brilliance and creativity of this celebrated group of artists gathered together by Leif Ove Andsnes."

This season's *Ojai North!* marks the second year of a residency partnership between Cal Performances and the Ojai Music Festival; the Festival will continue in Berkeley at the end of every annual music festival in Ojai Valley. The collaboration includes joint commissions and coproductions as it did in 2011 when then Music Director soprano **Dawn Upshaw** and theater director **Peter Sellars** created a new production of George Crumb's *The Winds of Destiny*.

A series of Education & Community Programs is being planned to accompany *Ojai North!* and will be announced at a later date.

THE PROGRAM

Ojai North! kicks off on Monday, June 11 (time to be announced) with **John Luther Adams'** *Inuksuit*, an expansive spatial work for nine to ninety-nine percussion and piccolo players. It will be placed on the lawns near Hertz Hall; **Steven Schick**, founder and artistic director of red fish, blue fish, will conduct. Audience members will move among the musicians to hear Adams' composition from a variety of positions. This work is free and open to the public.

On <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>June 12</u>, at 7:00 p.m. Leif Ove Andsnes performs **Alfred Schnittke**'s Piano Quintet with members of the **Norwegian Chamber Orchestra**; Andsnes will accompany rising star mezzo-soprano **Christianne Stotijn** in **Dmitri Shostakovich**'s late song cycle *Six Poems of Marina Tsvetaeva*, Op. 143; and longtime collaborator **Marc-André Hamelin** will join Andsnes for **Igor Stravinsky**'s own two-piano arrangement of his prodigious *Le Sacre du Printemps*.

On <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>June 12</u>, at 9:30 p.m. the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra will perform **Leoš Janáček**'s String Quartet No. 1, "*The Kreutzer Sonata*," featuring actor **Theodore Jansen** in readings from Tolstoy arranged for string orchestra and narrator.

Reinbert de Leeuw's cycle of 21 songs *Im wunderschönen Monat Mai* ("In the Merry Month of May") was inspired by works by Robert Schumann and Franz Schubert and is the -MORE-

centerpiece of the concert on Wednesday, June 13, at 7:00 p.m. This Bay Area premiere was written for actress **Barbara Sukowa**, best known for her work in films by Rainer Werner Fassbinder, and is arranged for ensemble and singing actress. The composer joins 15 musicians from the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra at the piano; the work will debut at the Ojai Music Festival. Opening Wednesday's program is the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra's arrangement of Janáček's Quartet No. 2, "Intimate Letters."

On <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>June 13</u>, at 9:30 p.m., Marc-André Hamelin will perform Charles Ives's *Concord Sonata*, a work Hamelin has loved and performed since he was 15 years old.

Thursday, June 14, at 7:00 p.m. On Thursday evening, Norwegian composer Bent Sørensen's Piano Concerto No. 2, "La Mattina," will have its Bay Area premiere with the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra and Andsnes as soloist; the American premiere will take place at Ojai Music Festival. The program also includes Icelandic composer Haflidi Hallgrímsson's *Poemi*, Op. 7, with the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra and violinist Terje Tønneson, and Alban Berg's early Four Songs, Op. 2, sung by mezzo-soprano Christianne Stotijn with Hamelin at the piano. Concluding the program, Andsnes will perform Ludwig van Beethoven's Piano Sonata No. 21 in C major, Op. 53, "Waldstein."

Selections from **György Kurtag**'s *Jatekok* open the <u>Thursday, June 14, at 9:30 p.m.</u> concert. **Claude Debussy**'s *Danses Sacre et Profane* for strings and solo harp will follow. A selection of spirited cabaret songs by **William Bolcom** will be sung by mezzo-soprano Christianne Stotijn and accompanied by Hamelin on the piano. Capping off the concert and *Ojai North!* will be the Nowegian Chamber Orchestra's interpretation of their countryman **Edvard Grieg**'s *Holberg Suite*.

LEIF OVE ANDSNES

With his commanding technique and searching interpretations, the Norwegian pianist **Leif Ove Andsnes** has won worldwide acclaim, prompting *The Wall Street Journal* to call him "one of the most gifted musicians of his generation." He gives recitals and plays concertos each season in the world's leading concert halls and with the foremost orchestras. Andsnes is also an -MORE-

active recording artist, as well as an avid chamber musician who has joined select colleagues each summer at Norway's Risør Festival of Chamber Music. For further information, go to http://www.kammermusikkfest.no/risor/.

Andsnes was born in Karmøy, Norway, in 1970, and studied at the Bergen Music Conservatory under the renowned Czech professor Jiří Hlinka. Over the past decade, he has also received invaluable advice from the Belgian piano teacher Jacques de Tiège, who, like Hlinka, has greatly influenced his style and philosophy of playing. Andsnes cites Dinu Lipatti, Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli, Sviatoslav Richter and Géza Anda among the pianists who have most inspired him. Andsnes currently lives in Copenhagen and Bergen and is a Professor at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo, a Visiting Professor at the Royal Music Conservatory of Copenhagen and a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Music. For a full biography, go to imgartists.com.

OJAI MUSIC FESTIVAL

The **Ojai Music Festival** is an annual four-day immersion experience of concerts, symposia and auxiliary events set in the picturesque Ojai Valley, just north of Los Angeles. Founded in 1947 by John Bauer, the Festival receives a constant stream of innovative programming and fresh ideas as the music director changes each year. Administratively, **Thomas W. Morris** celebrates his ninth year with the Festival that turns 66 this season. Acclaimed conductors, composers and artists who have led the Festival in the past include Aaron Copland, Igor Stravinsky, Ingolf Dahl, Pierre Boulez, Robert Craft, Michael Tilson Thomas, Calvin Simmons, Kent Nagano and John Adams, among many others. The 2013 Festival will be headed up by Mark Morris. For further information go to ojaifestival.org.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for *Ojai North!* Monday, June 11 concert are free; the event is open to the public and will be located on the lawn outside Hertz Hall. The concerts on **Tuesday–Thursday**, **June 12–14**, at **Hertz Hall** at 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. are priced at \$60.00 and \$20.00 respectively; if a ticket for the 7:00 p.m. concert is purchased, the ticket for the 9:30 p.m. concert on the same day is complimentary. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket -MORE-

Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; 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 select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior, and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three hours prior to a performance on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988 and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit www.calperformances.org.

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CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Monday, June 11 (time to be announced)

Hertz Hall lawn, UC Berkeley CampusBancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Ojai North!
Leif Ove Andsnes, music director
Steven Schick, percussion and conductor
Percussionists, TBA

Program:

John Luther Adams/*Inuksuit* for percussion and piccolos (Bay Area premiere)

Tickets: Free; the event is open to the public.

Tuesday, June 12, at 7:00 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley CampusBancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Ojai North!
Leif Ove Andsnes, music director and piano
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Christianne Stotijn, mezzo-soprano Marc-André Hamelin, piano Members of the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra

Program:

Schnittke/Piano Quintet Shostakovich/Six Poems of Marina Tsvetaeva, Op. 143a Stravinsky/Le Sacre du Printemps

Tickets: \$60.00, 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.

Tuesday, June 12, at 9:30 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Ojai North!
Theodore Jansen, actor
Norwegian Chamber Orchestra

Program:

Janáček/String Quartet No. 1, "The Kreutzer Sonata"

Tickets: \$20.00, 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.

Wednesday, June 13, at 7:00 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley CampusBancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Ojai North!
Reinbert de Leeuw, piano
Barbara Sukowa, speaker
Norwegian Chamber Orchestra

Program:

Janáček/String Quartet No. 2, "Intimate Letters"

De Leeuw/*Im wunderschönen Monat Mai* (Bay Area premiere)

Tickets: \$60.00, 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.

Wednesday, June 13, at 9:30 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley CampusBancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Ojai North!
Marc-André Hamelin, piano
Program:
Ives/Concord Sonata

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Tickets: \$20.00, 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.

Thursday, June 14, at 7:00 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Ojai North!
Leif Ove Andsnes, music director and piano
Terje Tønneson, violin
Christianne Stotijn, mezzo soprano
Marc-André Hamelin, piano
Norwegian Chamber Orchestra

Program:

Hallgrimsson/*Poemi*, Op. 7 Sørensen/Piano Concerto No. 2, "La Mattina" (Bay Area premiere) Berg/Four Songs, Op. 2 Beethoven/Piano Sonata No. 21 in C major, Op. 53, "Waldstein"

Tickets: \$60.00, 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.

Thursday, June 14, at 9:30 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley CampusBancroft Way at College Ave., Berkeley

Ojai North!
Leif Ove Andsnes, music director and piano
Christianne Stotijn, mezzo soprano
Marc-André Hamelin, piano
Norwegian Chamber Orchestra

Program:

Kurtag/Jatekok (selections) Debussy/Danses Sacre et Profane Bolcom/Cabaret Songs Grieg/Holberg Suite

Tickets: \$20.00, 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.

— Cal Performances —