FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 15, 2014

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CAL PERFORMANCES AND THE SAN FRANCISCO CONTEMPORARY MUSIC PLAYERS PRESENT <u>PROJECT TENFOURTEEN,</u> A NEW SERIES FEATURING TWELVE WORLD PREMIERES BY TEN COMPOSERS IN FOUR CONCERTS

Pre-performance talks with participating artists are planned prior to each concert

BERKELEY, October 15, 2014—Cal Performances and the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players (SFCMP) present *Project TenFourteen*, a new music series with a simple name. "It comes from exactly what we are trying to do," says SFCMP Artistic Director and conductor **Steven Schick** in an <u>exclusive video interview with Cal Performances</u>. "Ten new pieces to be premiered in the season that starts in 2014, so *Project TenFourteen*." The ten composers—**Chou Wen-chung, George Crumb, Lei Liang, Koji Nakano, Gabriela Ortiz, Elena Ruehr, Laurie San Martin, Ken Ueno, Du Yun**, and **Agata Zubel**—hail from China, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand, Mexico, Poland, and the United States, and represent a kaleidoscope of cultural and musical approaches. Schick asked each composer to "reflect upon and address the human condition, common to us all." The new works—now numbering twelve since Crumb made a gift of two additional new compositions—will be performed across four concerts and are interspersed with modern masterpieces by Varèse, Berio, Birtwistle, Crumb, and Aperghis on November 16, January 25, February 22, and March 29. All programs begin at 7:00 p.m. and are located in Hertz Hall. Soprano **Tony Arnold** and pianist **Nicolas Hodges** will perform on the November 16 and January 25 concerts, respectively.

<u>Pre-performance talks</u> are planned for each *Project TenFourteen* concert, beginning one hour before each performance at 6:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall. Talks are free to event ticketholders.

The opening concert on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>November 16 at 7:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall</u>, showcases the world premieres of four newly-commissioned works, including two by iconoclast American

composer George Crumb, *Yesteryear* and *The Yellow Moon of Andalusia*, both featuring guest soprano Tony Arnold; *Corpórea* by Mexican composer Gabriela Ortiz; and Elena Ruehr's *It's About Time*. The program also includes Crumb's influential *Five Pieces for Piano* (1962), and Georges Aperghis's *Récitations 9 and 10* for solo voice, also sung by Arnold.

The <u>Sunday</u>, <u>January 25 concert</u> at 7:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall features pianist Nicolas Hodges and includes two world premieres: Polish composer Agata Zubel's *where to*, and *Slow Portraits 3* by Chinese composer Du Yun. Also on the program are two works by British composer Harrison Birtwistle: *The Axe Manual* and *Gigue Machine* (co-commissioned by Cal Performances).

The series continues on <u>Sunday</u>, February 22 at 7:00 p.m. in <u>Hertz Hall</u>, with the world premiere of *we turn in the night in a circle of fire* by Laurie San Martin, and a new work by UC Berkeley Associate Professor of Music, Ken Ueno, called *Zetsu*, alongside two iconic 20th century masterworks, Luciano Berio's *Linea* and Luigi Nono's *Hay Que Caminar Soñando*.

The *Project TenFourteen* series concludes on <u>Sunday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m. in Hertz</u> <u>Hall</u>, with four more world premieres, including Japanese composer Koji Nakano's *Time Song V: Mandala*; Chinese composer Lei Liang's *Luminous*, featuring guest contrabassist Mark Dresser; a new work by famed Chinese composer Chou Wen-chung; and George Crumb's third composition for *Project TenFourteen*, called *Xylophony*. The series concludes with a special performance of Edgard Varèse's seminal *Ionisation*, by an all-star percussion ensemble compiled by Steven Schick.

Now in its 44th season, the <u>San Francisco Contemporary Music Players</u> (SFCMP), led by Artistic Director Steven Schick, is an ensemble devoted to 20th and 21st Century repertoire, combining programmatic innovation with artistic virtuosity and robust community engagement. As the second oldest new music ensemble in the United States, SFCMP has performed more than 1,200 new works by more than 550 composers, including John Adams, Chaya Czernowin, George Lewis, Olly Wilson, Julia Wolfe, and Zhou Long, among others. Percussionist and conductor <u>Steven Schick</u> is among the most active, energetic and imaginative artists working in American contemporary music, as founder and Artistic Director of the percussion group red fish blue fish; Artist-in-Residence with the International Contemporary Ensemble (2012); Music Director of the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus; faculty at the Banff Centre for the Arts; and Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of California, San Diego. Schick was named Artistic Director of SFCMP in 2011, and maintains an active touring schedule as a soloist and conductor. "What's most striking about Schick's playing ... is the narrative momentum he elicits from even the most abstract schemes: he is always telling stories with sounds" (*The New Yorker*).

Steven Schick who serves as the Music Director for the 2015 Ojai Music Festival will return to Cal Performances with Ojai at Berkeley June 18-20, 2015

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players: *Project TenFourteen* on Sunday, November 16, January 25, February 22, and March 29 at 7:00 p.m. in Hertz Hall, are priced at \$32.00 and 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 <u>www.calperformances.org</u>, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to http://calperformances.org/buy/discounts.php.

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Cal Performances' 2014—2015 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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Envisioned by Robert Amory and dedicated to Lee Hyla, *Project TenFourteen* was spearheaded by major funding from the Jebediah Foundation.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, November 16 at 6:00 p.m. Pre-performance Talk Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at College Avenue

A pre-performance talk with San Francisco Contemporary Music Players Artistic Director Steven Schick and *Project TenFourteen* composers Gabriela Ortiz and Elena Ruehr. Tickets are free to event ticketholders.

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Sunday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at College Avenue

New Music Project TenFourteen San Francisco Contemporary Music Players Steven Schick, artistic director, conductor Tony Arnold, soprano

Program:

George Crumb*/Yesteryear (World Premiere); The Yellow Moon of Andalusia (World Premiere); Five Pieces for Piano
Gabriela Ortiz*/Corpórea (World Premiere)
Elena Ruehr*/it's about time (World Premiere)
Georges Aperghis/Récitations 9 and 10

*Project TenFourteen composer

Tickets: Priced at \$32.00 and subject to change. They 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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Sunday, January 25 at 6:00 p.m.	Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Pre-performance Talk	Bancroft Way at College Avenue

A pre-performance talk will be held in the venue. Talks are free to event ticketholders.

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Sunday, January 25 at 7:00 p.m.		Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
		Bancroft Way at College Avenue

New Music Project TenFourteen San Francisco Contemporary Music Players Steven Schick, artistic director, conductor

Nicolas Hodges, piano

Program:

Agata Zubel*/*where to* (World Premiere) Harrison Birtwistle/*The Axe Manual; Gigue Machine* (Cal Performances co-commission) Du Yun*/Slow Portraits 3 (World Premiere)

*Project TenFourteen composer

Tickets: Priced at \$32.00 and subject to change. They 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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Sunday, February 22 at 6:00 p.m. Pre-performance Talk

A pre-performance talk will be held in the venue. Talks are free to event ticketholders.

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Sunday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at College Avenue

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus

Bancroft Way at College Avenue

New Music Project TenFourteen San Francisco Contemporary Music Players Steven Schick, artistic director, conductor

Program:

Laurie San Martin*/we turn in the night in a circle of fire (World Premiere) Luigi Nono/Hay Que Caminar Soñando Luciano Berio/Linea Ken Ueno*/Zetsu

*Project TenFourteen composer

Tickets: Priced at \$32.00 and subject to change. They 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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Sunday, March 29 at 6:00 p.m. Pre-performance Talk

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at College Avenue A pre-performance talk will be held in the venue. Talks are free to event ticketholders.

Sunday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus Bancroft Way at College Avenue

New Music *Project TenFourteen* San Francisco Contemporary Music Players Steven Schick, artistic director, conductor

Program:

Koji Nakano*/*Time Song V: Mandala* (World Premiere) Lei Liang*/*Luminous* (World Premiere) *George Crumb*/Xylophony* (World Premiere) Edgard Varèse/*Ionisation* Chou Wen-chung*/New Work (World Premiere)

*Project TenFourteen composer

Tickets: Priced at \$32.00 and subject to change. They 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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