FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 15, 2014

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# CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS THE ONLY UNITED STATES APPEARANCE OF <u>SASHA WALTZ & GUESTS</u> IN 2014 FRIDAY–SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24–25 IN ZELLERBACH HALL

Residency activities are planned on campus and in the community, including a pre-performance talk on Saturday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall.

BERKELEY, September 15, 2014—Sasha Waltz & Guests, the Berlin-based dance company known for its expansive works within the tradition of *tanztheater* (German expressionist dance), returns to Cal Performances for the first time since February 2001 with *Impromptus* (2004). As the first work Waltz choreographed to classical music, the work features seven dancers and is set to five pieces from Schubert's 1827 piano cycle and four *lieders*. *Impromptus* will be performed live by pianist Cristina Marton and mezzo-soprano Ruth Sandhoff on Friday and Saturday, October 24 and 25 at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall. Waltz's choreography has been praised for its uncommon sensitivity to Schubert's music by creating "a telling parallel universe of motion and music ... nearly all the movement is evocative and unselfconsciously original" (*The New York Times*). *Impromptus*, "never less than absorbing" (*Financial Times*), showcases the vulnerability and beauty of the human body through choreography that explores the emotional states between floating and being off balance. Waltz collaborated with set designer Thomas Schenk to construct a set, the scale of which "projects an unmistakable undercurrent of theatricality" (*The New York Times*), including a gold parallelogram that swings back and forth above the stage.

A pre-performance talk will be held on Saturday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall. This event is free and open to event ticket holders. Other residency activities are planned on campus and in the community. Further details will be announced at calperformances.org.

<u>Sasha Waltz & Guests</u> was founded in Berlin by Sasha Waltz and Jochen Sandig in 1993. To date, more than 250 artists and ensembles, including architects, visual artists, choreographers, filmmakers, designers, musicians, singers, and dancers, have collaborated as "guests" on more than 80 productions. A "bracing, questing [and] imaginative talent" (*San Francisco Examiner*), Sasha Waltz has created a large body of dramatic dance works in her more than 20-year career, collaborating with the Berliner Philharmoniker, Mariinsky Ballet, Staatsoper, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, and Opéra de Paris.

#### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Sasha Waltz & Guests** on Friday and Saturday, October 24 and 25, at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall range from \$40.00-\$96.00 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="www.calperformances.org">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' 2014—2015 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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#### **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

### **CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

Saturday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. Pre-performance Talk

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

A pre-performance talk will be held in the venue. Free and open to event ticket holders.

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Friday, October 24 at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, October 25 at 8:00 p.m.

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

Dance

Impromptus
Sasha Waltz & Guests
Sasha Waltz, choreographer
Cristina Marton, piano
Ruth Sandhoff, mezzo-soprano

## Program:

Impromptus (2004); music by Schubert; choreography by Sasha Waltz

**Tickets:** Prices range from \$40.00-\$96.00 and are subject to change.

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