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TOMÁŠ KUBÍNEK BRINGS HIS DARING AND UTTER FOOLISHNESS TO ZELLERBACH PLAYHOUSE THANKSGIVING WEEKEND FRIDAY-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25-27

BERKELEY, November 3, 2011—A "certified lunatic and master of the impossible," Tomáš Kubínek brings his unique, mesmerizing and up-lifting one-man show to Zellerbach Playhouse during the Thanksgiving holiday for five very family-friendly matinee and evening performances Friday & Saturday, November 25 & 26 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 27 at 3:00 p.m. In a spectacular parade of comedy, magic, acting, aerobics and music, Kubínek is wholly unique and always amusing. His performance often includes original props, such as a wheel of shoes, and a sophisticated use of stagecraft, lighting and sound. His mixture of talents has landed him an international career as a solo artist and praise as "absolutely expert and consistently charming" (*The New York Times*).

Tomáš Kubínek was born in 1961 into a politically turbulent Eastern Europe. At five years old, his parents immigrated to Canada where he became entranced by travelling circuses and magicians. At nine, he performed his first show as the bottom half of a horse and soon climbed his way up t the entertainment ladder. Kubínek has studied with some of the world's best theater professors, including Monika Pagneaux, Pierre Byland, Jaque Lecoq, and Colesvlev Polivka and has done so on some of the most prestigious world stages including the Royal Festival Hall (London), Broadway's New Victory Theatre (New York), International Festival of Hong Kong, and The Dublin Theatre Festival. His talent is widely applauded and is the recipient of numerous international awards including The Moer Comedy Prize from the International Comedy Arts Festival in Germany, The Schneestern Award from the International Festival of Humor in Switzerland and the Samuel Beckett Theatre Award in Ireland, among others. One of his favorite awards is "The Gold Fly-Swatter" which he won representing Canada in the International Grand Champion of Housefly. "Flies had to be caught in the hand and then released unharmed, then you would hit a button on a chess clock and your opponent would go,"

explained Kubínek. "I caught the most amount of flies in the least amount of time and brought home the Gold Fly-Swatter."

Being actor, director and author, Kubínek draws inspiration from "rediscovering what a miracle it is that we exist and how beautiful and fragile it all is." The variety show features the flexible man soaring through the air, doing somersaults while balancing a wineglass on his head, playing a ukulele while clucking like a chicken, recounting funny stories, as well as improvisation where he directly interacts with the audience. "Hilarious and enormously talented," Kubínek is the epitome of an entertainer" (*Santa Fe Reporter*). For more information on Kubínek, visit kubinek.com.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for Tomáš Kubínek, on Friday & Saturday, November 25 & 26 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 27 at 3:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Playhouse are priced at \$32.00. Tickets are 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. The Family Fare series offers 50% off single ticket prices for children 16 and younger. The Saturday, November 26th at 2:00 p.m. performance is a Family Fare performance. 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 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.org.

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 and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20.00 for all other community members. Information is available on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988; press 2 for the rush hotline, three hours prior to a performance only.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bank of America for their major support of the Season.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE: CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, November 25, 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. Zellerbach Playhouse, UC Berkeley Campus Saturday, November 26, 2:00 p.m. [FF] & 7:00 p.m. Bancroft Way at Dana Court, Berkeley Sunday, November 27, 3:00 p.m.

World Stage Tomáš Kubínek Certified Lunatic and Master of the Impossible

Program: The one-and-only Dr. Professor Kubínek is a comic genius, virtuoso vaudevillian and all-around charmer who gives audiences a joyous experience. A perfect Thanksgiving weekend outing.

Tickets: \$32.00, 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 -