

For Immediate Release: February 29, 2024

[Cal Performances Press Room](#)



Photos of Mitsuko Uchida and Mark Padmore (left) are available for download from Cal Performances' [Press Room](#). Photos of Uchida and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra (right) are also available for download from Cal Performances' [Press Room](#).

A video of Uchida in conversation with Executive and Artistic Director Jeremy Geffen is available on [YouTube](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS  
ARTIST IN RESIDENCE  
MITSUKO UCHIDA  
IN TWO PERFORMANCES AND A PUBLIC CONVERSATION**

**IN RECITAL WITH TENOR  
MARK PADMORE  
PERFORMING SCHUBERT'S *WINTERREISE*  
SUNDAY MARCH 17 AT HERTZ HALL**

**LEADING THE  
MAHLER CHAMBER ORCHESTRA  
IN TWO MOZART PIANO CONCERTOS  
AND THE US PREMIERE OF A CHAMBER ORCHESTRA  
ARRANGEMENT OF JÖRG WIDMANN'S STRING QUARTET NO. 2  
SUNDAY, MARCH 24 AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

**UCHIDA TO APPEAR IN CONVERSATION WITH JEREMY GEFFEN,  
CAL PERFORMANCES' EXECUTIVE AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR,  
TUESDAY, MARCH 19 AT ZELLERBACH HALL,  
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Berkeley, CA, February 29, 2024**—Cal Performances at UC Berkeley welcomes internationally renowned pianist **Mitsuko Uchida** as its Artist in Residence for two performances with all-star collaborators and an opportunity to hear her speak in conversation with Cal Performances

Executive and Artistic Director Jeremy Geffen. Uchida is joined by tenor **Mark Padmore** for a sold-out recital of Schubert's *Winterreise* on Sunday, March 17 at 3pm at Hertz Hall. The following week, Uchida and the **Mahler Chamber Orchestra** offer the latest installment in their continuing series featuring Mozart's piano concertos on Sunday, March 24 at 3pm at Zellerbach Hall. Leading the ensemble from the keyboard, Uchida performs the composer's Concerto No. 17 in G major and Concerto No. 22 in E-flat major, emotionally complex works where gaiety coexists with melancholy, and the profound mingles with the carefree. The ensemble also performs the US premiere of a chamber orchestra arrangement of Jörg Widmann's atmospheric String Quartet No. 2. Mitsuko Uchida's residency provides the Berkeley campus and Bay Area audiences multiple touchpoints for enjoying and appreciating this remarkable artist.

Among the most venerated pianists and musical thinkers of our time, Uchida is acclaimed as a peerless interpreter of composers including Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Schumann. *Musical America's* 2022 Artist of the Year, the multiple Grammy winner has enjoyed close relationships with the world's finest orchestras and conductors over a career that spans decades. Cal Performances Executive and Artistic Director Jeremy Geffen has collaborated with Uchida as an arts presenter for much of his career, and says, "What an extraordinary honor it is to have Mitsuko Uchida as our Artist in Residence. Those who were in the audience for her recital back in 2014, as well as her performance with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra in 2022, will be thrilled at this return, as will those of our patrons who have yet to experience her artistry. Uchida has been on a lifelong search for truth and beauty—one that has enriched audiences around the world. This cherished artist's extensive experience and abundant artistic vision will undoubtedly catalyze moments of profound learning, understanding, and enjoyment on our campus and throughout our community." Schubert's *Winterreise*, a setting of Wilhelm Müller's poems about love and loss against the backdrop of a barren winter landscape, stands as a towering work in the repertoire. Renowned Schubertians, Padmore and Uchida together tread a path of existential discovery in Schubert's setting of Wilhelm Müller's poems about love and loss, inviting listeners into the anguished inner world of the poem's protagonist and bringing to vivid life the barren winter landscape of his solitary wanderings. "Of all the great piano soloists turned accompanists in this music, [Uchida] remains the most interesting. Padmore meanwhile [makes] this a vocal journey of existential discovery alongside a textbook lesson in dynamics and the treatment of words" (*The Guardian*).

The Mahler Chamber Orchestra is an international ensemble with flexible membership, praised for playing even the most substantial orchestral repertoire with the intimacy and subtlety of chamber music. Since its creation in 1997 and with inspiration from its founding mentor, Claudio Abbado, and Conductor Laureate Daniel Harding the Mahler Chamber Orchestra is governed by its musicians and has performed in over 40 countries across five continents. The orchestra's sound is characterized by the chamber music style of its ensemble members in close partnership with a network of Artistic Partners who inspire and shape the orchestra in long-term collaborations. Current Artistic Partners include Mitsuko Uchida and Yuja Wang, as well as violinist Pekka Kuusisto. Concertmasters Matthew Truscott and José Maria Blumenschein lead and direct the orchestra regularly in chamber orchestra repertoire.

As part of her residency, Mitsuko Uchida joins Cal Performances Executive and Artistic Director Jeremy Geffen on Tuesday, March 19 at 7:30pm at Zellerbach Hall for a conversation about her history with classical music, her unparalleled artistry, and the motivation and inspiration for her residency within the context of the UC Berkeley campus and broader Bay Area. Attendees will have an opportunity to submit questions for consideration in advance. Admission is free and available to the general public with advanced registration on the [Artist in Residence Mitsuko Uchida](#) web page.

Last spring Uchida and Geffen recorded a conversation over Zoom in which they previewed her residency this season. A video of that conversation is available for streaming on Cal Performances' [Beyond the Stage](#) blog.

UC Berkeley students can access exclusive discounts, including half-price tickets for all performances in every section of the theater, and are also eligible to purchase a limited number of \$10 tickets for the best seats in the house for Mitsuko Uchida and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra's concert on March 24 beginning at 12pm on Friday, March 8 through the [Golden Bear Circle](#) seating program.

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CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**[Sunday, March 17, 3pm](#)**

**Hertz Hall**  
Bancroft Way at College Avenue  
UC Berkeley campus

*Classical Recital*

**Mark Padmore**, *tenor*

**Mitsuko Uchida**, *piano*

**Program:**

Schubert/*Winterreise*

Renowned Schubertians, tenor Mark Padmore and pianist Mitsuko Uchida together tread a path of existential discovery in Schubert's setting of Wilhelm Müller's poems about love and loss, inviting listeners into the anguished inner world of the poem's protagonist and bringing to vivid life the barren winter landscape of his solitary wanderings.

**Tickets:** \$132 (prices subject to change). Half price for UC Berkeley students. Tickets for all performances are available at [calperformances.org](#), by phone at (510) 642-9988, or in person at the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, Tuesday–Friday, 12–5:30pm and Saturday–Sunday, 1–5pm.

Information about student tickets and discounts is available at [calperformances.org/ucb-students](#).

For information about other discounts, visit [calperformances.org/discounts](#).

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**[Sunday, March 24, 3pm](#)**

**Zellerbach Hall**  
Bancroft Way at Dana Street  
UC Berkeley campus

*Orchestra*

**Mahler Chamber Orchestra**

**Mitsuko Uchida**, *piano and director*

**José Maria Blumenschein**, *concertmaster and leader*

**Program:**

Mozart/Piano Concerto No. 17 in G major, K. 453

Jörg Widmann/String Quartet No. 2, *Chorale Quartet* (Version for flute, oboe, bassoon, celesta (ad lib.) and string orchestra) (US Premiere)  
Mozart/Piano Concerto No. 22 in E-flat major, K. 482

Mitsuko Uchida and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra return to Berkeley following their March 2022 performance together for another concert featuring Mozart piano concertos, led by Uchida from the keyboard. In both the Concerto No. 17 in G major and No. 22 in E-flat major, gaiety coexists with melancholy, and the profound tangles with the carefree. An international ensemble with flexible membership, the Mahler Chamber Orchestra has earned a reputation for playing even the most substantial repertoire with the intimacy and subtlety of chamber music—and in this concert also performs the US premiere of a chamber orchestra arrangement of Jörg Widmann’s atmospheric String Quartet No. 2.

**Tickets:** \$73–\$210 (prices subject to change). UC Berkeley students can access exclusive discounts, including half-price tickets in all sections of the theater and \$10 tickets to this performance for a limited number of prime seats (starting at 12pm on Friday, March 8) as part of Cal Performances’ [Golden Bear Circle program](#). More information about student tickets and discounts is available at [calperformances.org/ucb-students](#).

Tickets for all performances are available at [calperformances.org](#), by phone at (510) 642-9988, or in person at the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, Tuesday–Friday, 12–5:30pm and Saturday–Sunday, 1–5pm. For information about discounts, visit [calperformances.org/discounts](#).

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**Tuesday, March 19, 7:30pm**

**Zellerbach Hall**  
Bancroft Way at Dana Street  
UC Berkeley campus

*Speakers*

**Mitsuko Uchida in Conversation with Jeremy Geffen**

As part of her residency at Cal Performances Mitsuko Uchida joins Cal Performances Executive and Artistic Director Jeremy Geffen for a conversation about her history with classical music, her unparalleled artistry, and the motivation and inspiration for her residency within the context of the UC Berkeley campus and broader Bay Area. Attendees will have an opportunity to submit questions for consideration in advance.

**Tickets:** Admission is free and available to the general public with advanced registration on the [Artist in Residence Mitsuko Uchida](#) web page.

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