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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **TICKETS ON SALE NOW FOR BERKELEY SYMPHONY'S HISTORIC 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SEASON**

2021-22 Season Features Nine Performances,  
including a Special Chamber Event.

**BERKELEY, CA (October 28, 2021)** – Tickets are on sale now for **Berkeley Symphony's historic 50th Anniversary Season**. Under the direction of **Joseph Young**, the nine performances of the 2021-22 season start on **November 21, 2021** with a special Chamber Concert: ***Stuart Canin & Friends*** at Piedmont Center for the Arts. The season continues with three **Symphonic Series performances**, five **Chamber Series** performances. As celebration of the **return to joy**, the milestone season showcases diverse programming from familiar, reimaged classics to the music of today with two World Premiere commissions. Tickets and subscription packages may be purchased by visiting [berkeleysymphony.org](http://berkeleysymphony.org) or by calling the box office at 510.841.2800.

In February 2022, the **Symphonic Series** will begin with **Renew**, featuring selections from Stravinsky, Sibelius, Adams, and a world-premiere from Derrick Skye (formerly Derrick Spiva). In March, Berkeley Symphony will invite audiences to **Reimagine**, which features selections from Ravel, Prokofiev, and Esmail. The Symphony Series will close in June with **Rejoice** which includes Beethoven's 9th featuring a libretto by former U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith. The final performance will also feature a world premiere by Jimmy López entitled *Rise* which pays tribute to Berkeley Symphony's 50th Anniversary celebration.

Berkeley Symphony's **Chamber Series** will return to the Piedmont Center for the Arts in December 2021. Ahead of the series, the Symphony will present a special performance by **Stuart Canin** on November 21, 2021. The Chamber Series continues through May 2022 with highlights from Vivaldi, Nabors, Ravel, Dvořák, and more.

"The journey of reconnecting and rejoicing with our community is at the forefront of this season," Music Director Joseph Young said. "While each program is full of intrinsic depth and complexity, each also features an element that is reconceptualized. A uniquely Berkeley reimagining of *Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf* and a new libretto to Beethoven's joyous *Ninth Symphony* set by former U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith are just two examples of our exciting reemergence to the stage. I can't wait for you to join us as we celebrate five decades of adventurous music-making and look toward a vibrant future."

## **ABOUT THE 2021-22 SEASON**

### **SYMPHONIC SERIES**

#### **RENEW**

Featuring selections from Stravinsky, Sibelius, Adams, and a world premiere from Skye (formerly Spiva), and Gould

*Sunday, February 6, 2022, 4 p.m. at Zellerbach Hall*

From Morton Gould's *Protest*, and a World Premiere Commission of *As Water, Freedom* by Derrick Skye (Spiva); to Sibelius and John Adams at 75; our opening night concert tells a story of rebirth and communal renewal. The evening concludes with Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite*, a timeless work celebrating collective reemergence and renewal.

#### **REIMAGINE**

Featuring selections from Ravel, Prokofiev, and Esmail

*Friday, March 25, 2022, 7:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Berkeley*

Let your inner child come out to play with Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite* and a reimagined, uniquely Berkeley retelling of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, featuring the remarkable illustrator and graphic journalist Wendy MacNaughton as narrator. We're also delighted to feature Reena Esmail's *Meri Sakhi Ki Avaaz* (My Sister's Voice) for Hindustani singer, soprano, and orchestra, which takes listeners on a cross-cultural journey that explores family and community across the globe.

#### **REJOICE**

Featuring Beethoven's 9th and *Rise*, a Berkeley Symphony commission by Jimmy López.

*Sunday, June 12, 2022, 4 p.m. at Zellerbach Hall*

To conclude Berkeley Symphony's historic 50th Anniversary season, we join in a communal celebration with Beethoven's epic Ninth Symphony with a new libretto written by former U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith, commissioned by Carnegie Hall. Also highlighted is the world premiere commission of *Rise*, a celebratory new work written in honor of Berkeley Symphony's 50th Anniversary season by Berkeley-based composer Jimmy López. The world premiere of *Rise* is made possible through the generous support of Kathleen G. Henschel and John W Dewes, and New Music USA.

### **CHAMBER SERIES**

All of the Chamber Series concerts will be performed at the Piedmont Center for the Arts.

#### **CHAMBER I**

*Sunday, December 12, 2021, 4 p.m.*

Featuring selections from: Jessie Montgomery: *Voodoo Dolls* for string quartet; Brian Nabors\*: Theme and Variations for Solo Violin; Antonio Vivaldi: Winter from Four Seasons; Claude Debussy: String Quartet in G minor with Nigel Armstrong, violin; Emanuela Nikiforova, violin; Ivo Bokulic, viola; and Isaac Pastor-Chermak, cello.

#### **CHAMBER II**

*Sunday, January 16, 2022, 4 p.m.*

Featuring selections from: Heinrich Biber: Passacaglia in G Minor for solo violin; Caroline Shaw: *Limestone and Felt* for viola and cello; Brian Nabors\*: *Caged* for string quintet; Maurice Ravel: String Quartet in F Major with Noah Strick, violin, Stephanie Bibbo, violin/viola, Darcy Rindt, viola, Carol Rice, cello, Chloé Mendola, cello.

#### **CHAMBER III**

*Sunday, March 6, 2022, 4 p.m.*

Featuring selections from: Brian Nabors\*: *Zephyr* for 2 flutes and string quartet; Darcy Rindt: *A Tribute to the Granite Mountain Hotshots* for string quartet; Antonin Dvořák: String Quartet in F Major, Op. 96 "American Quartet" with Matthew Szemela, violin, Stephanie Bibbo, violin, Darcy Rindt, viola, Isaac Pastor-Chermak, cello, Emma Moon, flute, Stacey Pelinka, flute.

#### **CHAMBER IV**

*Sunday, April 10, 2022, 4 p.m.*

Featuring selections from: Dan Flanagan: Works for Solo Violin and Art; Libby Larsen: *4 on the Floor*; Bela Bartók: *Contrasts*; Johannes Brahms: Horn Trio in C Major with Dan Flanagan, violin; Roman Fukshansky, clarinet; Alex Camphouse, french horn; Carol Rice, cello; Michel Taddei, bass; and Britton Day, piano. The program will feature works of art from Dan Flanagan's personal collection.

## **CHAMBER V**

Sunday, *May 15, 2022, 4 p.m.*

Featuring selections from: Reena Esmail: *Saans*, David Garner: *Vilna Poems*, and Felix Mendelssohn: Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 49 with Lisa Delan, soprano, René Mandel, violin, Evan Kahn, cello, Roman Fukshansky, clarinet, and Kevin Korth, piano.

\*New Music USA Amplifying Voices Composer-in-Residence

## **ADDITIONAL CHAMBER PERFORMANCE**

### **STUART CANIN & FRIENDS**

*Sunday, November 21, 2021, 4 p.m.*

Featuring selections from: Shostakovich, Stravinsky, and Beethoven with Stuart Canin, violin, Helene Wickett, piano.

## **TICKETS AND SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES**

**Symphonic Series** subscription packages begin at \$12 per concert, a savings of up to 20% compared to individual tickets, and subscribers enjoy exclusive benefits such as first access to special performances, guaranteed same-seat reservations for Zellerbach Symphonic performances, and discounts on additional tickets to performances. Tickets for individual performances begin at \$15.

**Chamber Series** subscription packages are priced at \$160 each for five concerts with the option of adding the Stuart Canin & Friends performance for an additional \$30. Tickets for individual performances begin at \$35.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

At all Berkeley Symphony indoor concerts and events, proof of vaccination is required for entry and masks are to be worn at all times. For more information, visit [berkeleysymphony.org/healthsafety](https://berkeleysymphony.org/healthsafety).

## **ABOUT BERKELEY SYMPHONY**

Berkeley Symphony is unique among Bay Area and American orchestras for its commitment to innovation, community, and excellence. Founded in 1971 in the intellectual and artistic nexus of Berkeley, California, the Orchestra is committed to performing, premiering, and commissioning new music that reflects the culturally diverse people and the heady creative climate of its home city.

In the 2019-2020 season, Berkeley Symphony entered a new era under the leadership of Joseph Young, the Orchestra's fourth Music Director in its 50-year history, following a highly successful February 2019 debut that was acclaimed by critics and audiences alike. In addition to building on the Orchestra's artistic innovation, creativity and adventurous programming, Maestro Young is committed to amplifying the voices of underrepresented composers and artists as well as continuing to tell diverse stories that reflect the local Berkeley community.

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