



Music Director Joseph Young
Artistic Director René Mandel
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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BERKELEY SYMPHONY PRESENTS
WINTER OF LOVE
CHAMBER CONCERT AT PIEDMONT CENTER FOR THE ARTS
FEATURING RENÉ MANDEL AND FRIENDS

Sunday, February 5 at 4 p.m.

BERKELEY, CA (January 3, 2023) – **Berkeley Symphony** continues its 51st season with *Winter of Love*, featuring **René Mandel** and friends at **Piedmont Center for the Arts** on **Sunday, February 5, at 4 p.m.** *Winter of Love* is the third chamber concert of the season and will feature pieces from **Amy Beach**, **Elvis Costello** with guest vocalist **Bruce Rameker**, and **Johannes Brahms**. Guests are invited to join a free outdoor reception following the concert. Tickets are \$35 and are available online at berkeleysymphony.org or by calling the box office at (510) 841-2800.

“*Winter of Love* is inspired by the season of romance and love that February represents,” says **René Mandel**, Artistic Director at Berkeley Symphony. “The program stems from Elvis Costello’s *The Juliet Letters*, an extraordinary work for baritone and string quartet, that takes the audience on a rich and passionate journey through the human condition. The concert opens with a rediscovered and utterly gorgeous piece for violin and piano by Amy Beach, which was composed over a hundred years ago for Maud Powell, among the most famous solo violinists of her time. We round out *Winter of Love* with Brahms’ romantically emotive and dazzling G minor Piano Quartet.”

“René is an accomplished violinist and musician, and we are thrilled that he has put together a dynamic program for *Winter of Love*, in which he will also be a featured performer,” adds **Kate Kammeyer**, Executive Director at Berkeley Symphony. “This chamber concert has a uniquely-Berkeley lineup, pairing classic favorites with new and surprising selections.”

Performing with Mandel include special guest vocalist **Bruce Rameker** (Baritone), musicians **Joy Fellows** (Viola), **Stephanie Bibbo** (Violin), **Evan Kahn** (Cello), and **Britt Day** (Piano).

Winter of Love features *Romance* for Violin and Piano, by Amy Beach; selections from *The Juliet Letters* for Baritone and String Quartet by Elvis Costello; and Piano Quartet in G Minor, Op. 25 by Johannes Brahms.

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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