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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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BERKELEY SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES 2021-22 SEASON

Subscription Packages on Sale August 4

BERKELEY, CA (July 28, 2021) – Berkeley Symphony, under the direction of **Joseph Young**, announced its 2021-22 Season today, which also marks the celebration of the Symphony's historic 50th Anniversary Season. The season features three performances in its **Symphonic Series** and five **Chamber Series** performances. Subscription ticket packages for the Symphonic Series and Chamber Series are on sale now, along with tickets to the Symphony's August 4 Reopening Concert. Ticket packages may be purchased by visiting berkeleysymphony.org or by calling the box office at **510.841.2800**. Individual concert tickets go on sale at a later date.

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

The **Chamber Series** beginning December 2021, features highlights from Vivaldi, Nabors, Ravel, Dvořák, and more, with a special performance by **Stuart Canin** on November 21, 2021.

"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 towards 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)

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*. 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. 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.

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 Matthew Szemela, violin, Emanuela Nikiforova, violin, Darcy Rindt, 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: Trevor Weston/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, Britton Day, piano.

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 Khan, 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. Single tickets will go on sale at a later date.

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.

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.

Subscriptions for the 2021-22 Symphonic Series and the Chamber Series will go on sale August 4, 2021 and can be purchased at www.berkeleysymphony.org or by calling the box office at (510) 841-2800.

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