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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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BERKELEY SYMPHONY PRESENTS

SPIRITED IMPRESSIONS

Sunday, February 4, 2024, at 4 p.m. at Piedmont Center for the Arts

BERKELEY, CA (January 17, 2024) – **Berkeley Symphony** continues its Chamber Series with ***Spirited Impressions*** on **Sunday, February 4, 2024 at 4 p.m. at Piedmont Center for the Arts**. The vibrant and romantic concert will feature piano trios exploring a wide range of French music, including Gabriel Fauré’s Piano Trio No. 1 in D Minor, Arthur Honegger’s Sonatine for Violin and Cello, Bay Area composer Jean Ahn’s *A Flashback of Ravel*, and Claude Debussy’s Piano Trio in G major.

Musicians **Alison Lee**, piano; **Sarah Elert**, violin; and **Douglas Machiz**, cello, will present Fauré’s marvel of color, energy, and contrast with his Piano Trio in D minor, followed by the vivacity of Honegger’s Sonatine for Violin and Cello. Audiences will find themselves immersed in a Parisian landscape, with the striking melodies of Jean Ahn’s homage to Ravel’s Impressionist works, with a contemporary twist. The musical *Tour de France* will be complete with one of Debussy’s earliest works, the sweet and sentimental Piano Trio in G Major.

“There’s something special about experiencing lush and immersive music when musicians are playing so close that audiences can hear every nuance and breath, and feel every vibration and phrase,” said **Ming Luke, Interim Executive Director of Berkeley Symphony**. “Berkeley Symphony’s next chamber concert, *Spirited Impressions*, brings us to France, perfect for a romantic February, with piano trios of Debussy, Fauré, Honegger, and Berkeley composer Jean Ahn.”

Spirited Impressions provides a perfect pairing with Berkeley Symphony’s next Symphonic Series concert, ***French Reverie***, on Sunday, February 25, 2024, at First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley.

The symphonic concert will feature Dr. Robert Young—Music Director Joseph Young's brother—collaborating on *A Kind of Trane*, a riveting saxophone concerto by Guillaume Connesson, as well as one of the most famous impressionist works, Claude Debussy's *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*.

Tickets for ***Spirited Impressions*** and ***French Reverie*** are available now at [berkeleysymphony.org](https://www.berkeleysymphony.org) or by calling the box office at 510.841.2800.

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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