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**PIANO VIRTUOSO YEFIM BRONFMAN RETURNS TO CAL PERFORMANCES
WITH THE WORKS OF BRAHMS, LISZT AND PROKOFIEV
OCTOBER 11 AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, September 2, 2011—A “sensitive musician and fearless virtuoso” (*Los Angeles Times*), Russian-born pianist **Yefim Bronfman** returns to Cal Performances in recital on **Tuesday, October 11 at 8:00 p.m.**, in Zellerbach Hall. This Grammy Award-winning musician with the power to galvanize a hall with his commanding technique is widely regarded as one of the most talented pianists performing today. His lyrical gifts have won him consistent critical acclaim and enthusiastic audiences worldwide, whether for his prestigious orchestral engagements, solo recitals, chamber music collaborations or rapidly growing catalogue of recordings.

For his engagement in Berkeley, Bronfman will perform works from the Romantic Period: **Johannes Brahms’s Piano Sonata No. 3 in F minor, Op. 5**, and selections from **Franz Liszt’s *Transcendental Etudes***; and one composition from the 20th century, **Sergei Prokofiev’s Piano Sonata No. 8 in B-flat major, Op. 84**. Brahms’s Piano Sonata No. 3 in F minor, Op. 5, was written in 1853 and combines free Romantic spirit with strict classical architecture. Brahms was an avid admirer of Beethoven, and the sonata is infused with motives from Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony. Liszt’s *Transcendental Etudes* are a series of twelve solo piano compositions considered to be some of the composer’s most demanding music. The less well-known and more complex Piano Sonata No. 8 in B-flat major, Op. 84, by fellow countryman Prokofiev was the third of his three War Sonatas written during the Second World War venting his anger and frustration against the Soviet Regime.

YEFIM BRONFMAN

Pianist **Yefim Bronfman** was born in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, and immigrated with his family to Israel in 1973 at age 15. He has appeared with many of the world’s finest orchestras, including the Berlin Philharmonic, the Cleveland Orchestra and the London Philharmonic;

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performed under many great conductors, including Valery Gergiev, Kurt Masur and Zubin Mehta; and taken the stage at popular summer festivals, including Aspen, Ravinia and Tanglewood.

Bronfman has given numerous solo recitals in the leading halls of North America, Europe and the Far East, including acclaimed debuts at Carnegie Hall and Avery Fischer Hall. He was recently honored as the recipient of the Jean Gimbel Lane prize in piano performance from Northwestern University. As a devoted chamber music performer, he has collaborated with the Emerson, Cleveland, Guarneri and Juilliard string quartets and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and played chamber works with Yo-Yo Ma, Joshua Bell, Jean-Pierre Rampal and many others.

Bronfman's recording career is equally illustrious, and includes the complete Prokofiev piano sonatas and concertos, several Rachmaninoff piano concertos, and a 1997 Grammy Award-winning recording of three Bartók piano concertos with Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. He and Emanuel Ax released recordings of their famous two-piano recitals in 2004 and 2005. His most recent releases are Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 with Mariss Jansons and the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, titled *Perspectives*, to complement Bronfman's designation as a Carnegie Hall "Perspective" artist for the 2007–2008 season; and recordings of all the Beethoven piano concertos as well as the Triple Concerto together with violinist Gil Shaham, cellist Truls Mørk and the Tönhalle Orchestra Zürich under David Zinman for the Arte Nova/BMG label. Bronfman was last seen at Cal Performances in 2006 when he performed with Shaham and Mørk. (www.yefimbronfman.com)

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Yefim Bronfman** on **Tuesday, October 11** at Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$30.00, \$40.00, \$48.00, \$56.00, \$64.00** and **\$75.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5.00 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information,

call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.org.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced two hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20.00 for all other community members. Information is available at 510-642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bank of America for major support of the 2011/12 Season.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Tuesday, October 11, at 8:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

Recital

Yefim Bronfman, piano

Program:

Brahms/Piano Sonata No. 3 in F minor, Op. 5

Liszt/*Transcendental Etudes* (selections)

Prokofiev/Piano Sonata No. 8 in B-flat major, Op. 84

Tickets: \$30.00, \$40.00, \$48.00, \$56.00, \$64.00 and \$75.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door.

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