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**DANÚ BRINGS TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC AND SONG
TO ZELLERBACH HALL THURSDAY, MARCH 8 AT 8:00 P.M.**

**Schoolltime: A one-hour performance will be given for Bay Area students on
Friday, March 9 at 11:00 a.m.**

BERKELEY, February 2, 2012—Named after a Celtic goddess and charged with spreading Irish music worldwide, **Danú** makes its Cal Performances debut **Thursday, March 8 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall. With “a vibrant mix of virtuosity, energy and empathy” (*The Washington Post*), the six-member ensemble features virtuoso players on flute, tin whistle, fiddle, button accordion, *bouzouki* (a lute), *bodhran* (Irish drum) and vocals. The spirited evening will include a mix of songs ranging from ancient Irish ballads, lullabies, macaronic songs (songs that includes lyrics in two languages), original compositions and sets of instrumental tunes. The band includes two founding members **Donal Clancy** (guitar, vocals) and **Benny McCarthy** (button accordion) plus **Muireann Nic Amhlaoi** (vocals, flute and whistles), **Oisín McAuley** (fiddle, vocals), **Eamon Doorley** (*bouzouki*), and **Martin O’Neill** (*bodhran*). “Danú stirs the blood and lifts the heart” (*Irish Music Magazine*).

Founded in Dungarvan, County Waterford in 1994, Danú first performed at the famed *Lorient Inter-celtic Festival* in France. After the instant success of its debut performance, the group was asked to return in 1996 and won the *La Boulee Des Korrigan* award for the best new band of the festival. The band began recording and released its debut album to coincide with its first US tour in 1997. Danú soon signed with the US-based Shanachi record label and released six additional albums over the next decade. The ensemble has gathered dozens of awards and performed on over 1,000 stages internationally. The finishing touches are being put on a new album scheduled for release in May 2012. Danú’s official website is danu.net.

A special one-hour SchoolTime performance will be given for Bay Area students and their chaperones on Friday, March 9 at 11:00 a.m at Zellerbach Hall. Tickets are \$5.00 and must be purchased in advance.

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TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Danú** on **Thursday, March 8** in Zellerbach Hall range from **\$20.00-\$46.00** and are subject to change. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; 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 select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior, and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three hours prior to a performance on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988 and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit www.calperformances.org.

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

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Thursday, March 8 at 8:00 p.m.

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

World Stage

Danú

Muireann Nic Amhlaóibh, lead vocals, flute and whistles

Benny McCarthy, button accordion

Oisín McAuley, fiddle, vocals

Eamon Doorley, *bouzouki*

Donal Clancy, guitar, lead and vocals

Martin O'Neill, *bodhran*

Program: Hailing from historic County Waterford, Danú celebrates traditional Irish music in their Zellerbach Hall debut.

Tickets: Range from \$20.00-\$46 and are subject to change; available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door.

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Friday, March 9, at 11:00 a.m.
SCHOOLTIME PERFORMANCE

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

World Stage
Danú

Program: Danú brings a special one-hour performance of traditional Irish music to Bay Area school children.

Tickets: \$5.00 per student or adult chaperone, available in advance only through Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988. SchoolTime performances are open to students in kindergarten through grade 12 in Bay Area public and private schools. Supplemental study guides for the classroom are provided. For more information about the SchoolTime program, contact the SchoolTime coordinator at Cal Performances by email at eduprograms@calperfs.berkeley.edu or by phone at (510) 642-0212.

– Cal Performances