

CONTACT:  
Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714  
ckellogg@calperformances.org  
Joe Yang 510.642.9121  
scyang@calperformances.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 30, 2012

**GRAMMY-WINNING BARITONE WOLFGANG HOLZMAIR SINGS  
SCHUBERT'S *WINTERREISE* WITH PIANIST RUSSELL RYAN ON  
SUNDAY, MARCH 4 AT 3:00 P.M. IN HERTZ HALL**

**BERKELEY, January 30, 2012**—Cal Performances presents Austrian baritone **Wolfgang Holzmair** singing **Franz Schubert's** groundbreaking song cycle *Winterreise* (“Winter Journey”) on **Sunday, March 4 at 3:00 p.m.** in **Hertz Hall**. Accompanied by American-born pianist **Russell Ryan**, Holzmair’s Berkeley recital consists of Schubert’s 24-songs, written in 1827. It tells the dreamlike story of a somber, solitary man who walks out of his village on a snowy day. The narrative of *Winterreise*, based on texts by German lyric poet **Wilhelm Müller** (1794–1827), finds the wanderer encountering objects and signs along his desolate path—such as a spinning weathervane, cawing ravens, a miserable cemetery, and his own aching feet—that cause him to reflect with misery on his broken heart. Holzmair is one of the finest interpreters of *Lieder* (German song) performing today, and is an ideal singer to present *Winterreise*; reviewing a 2010 recital, the *Financial Times* raved, “[No] other singer of German song at the moment communicates so intently the rhythm and meaning of the poems.”

**Wolfgang Holzmair** was born in 1952 in Vöcklabruck, Austria and studied at Vienna’s University of Music and Performing Arts. His breakthrough as a singer came in the early 1980s, with strong showings at several European music competitions, including first prize in Vienna’s Musikverein International Lieder Competition. Since then Holzmair’s high baritone voice has been in demand for opera, concert, and recital appearances. He has appeared with opera companies the world over in productions ranging from Mozart’s *Magic Flute*, to Britten’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, to Nigel Osborne’s *The Electrification of the Soviet Union*. In concert appearances, he has shared the stage with top European and American orchestras under noted conductors including Herbert Blomstedt, Seiji Ozawa, and Ivan Fischer. Holzmair’s recital appearances are marked by careful music selection and intense collaboration with noted accompanists including Imogen Cooper and Andreas Haefliger; he has also appeared with chamber groups including the Nash Ensemble and Rachmaninoff Trio. Holzmair’s extensive

-MORE-

discography includes opera, recital and concert recordings; his recording of Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem* with Herbert Blomstedt won a Grammy Award in 1996, and his recordings of works by composers who suffered under the Nazi regime have received critical and cultural acclaim. In addition to performing, Holzmaier has taught *lied* and oratorio at the Mozarteum in Salzburg since 1998, and also serves as visiting professor at London's Royal College of Music. Holzmaier made his Cal Performances debut in the 1994/95 season. To learn more about Wolfgang Holzmaier, go to [wolfgangholzmaier.com](http://wolfgangholzmaier.com).

**Russell Ryan** was born in North Dakota, but his performances in the Bay Area are a homecoming of sorts: he won prizes for four consecutive years at the San Francisco Junior Bach Festival as a youth, and studied piano at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music under Paul Hersh. He also studied at the Juilliard School and at Vienna's University of Music and Performing Arts, where he graduated with honors. In 1985 Ryan joined the vocal department staff at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna, and spent many years performing, accompanying, and giving master classes throughout Europe. In 2008 Ryan became professor of practice for collaborative piano at Arizona State University, but he keeps his connection with Austria through collaborations with singers such as Wolfgang Holzmaier and as guest instructor at the Institute for the International Education of Students (IES) in Vienna.

### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Wolfgang Holzmaier**, baritone, with **Russell Ryan**, piano, on **Sunday, March 4**, at **3:00 p.m.**, in **Hertz Hall** are priced at **\$48.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://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](http://www.calperformances.org).

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 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 on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, three hours prior to a performance only.

# # #

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

KDFC is media sponsor of the 2011/12 Season

# # #

**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Sunday, March 4 at 3:00 p.m.**

**Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**  
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

*Koret Recital Series*

**Wolfgang Holzmaier**, baritone

**Russell Ryan**, piano

**Program:**

Schubert/*Winterreise* D.911

**Tickets:** \$48.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door.

---

– Cal Performances –