



PRESS CONTACTS:

Lisa Petrie 415.503.6265

lep@sfc.edu

Terry Fiala 415.503.6211

tfiala@sfc.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**SAN FRANCISCO CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC ANNOUNCES ITS
2008-09 PERFORMANCE SEASON**

SAN FRANCISCO, July 28, 2008: The San Francisco Conservatory of Music today announced an extensive schedule of public concerts by students, faculty and visiting artists for the academic year 2008-09. Says Conservatory President Colin Murdoch: "We're delighted to present a full range of musical offerings to the Bay Area public, mostly free of charge. What could be more extraordinary than the next generation of classical musicians pouring their hearts and minds into music they feel passionately about? We invite you to enjoy this glimpse into tomorrow's talents, as well as concerts by our exceptional faculty and guest artists."

The **Conservatory Orchestra**, with Music Director **Andrew Mogrelia** and guest conductor **Alasdair Neale**, opens the season with a special tribute to the senior members of our composition faculty, **Elinor Armer and Conrad Susa**. Both are revered composers in the Bay Area and internationally. Featured are Armer's *Call of the West* and the *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*, with **Lois Brandwynne**, piano, and Susa's *The Blue Hour* and selections from *The Dangerous Liaisons*, originally commissioned and performed by San Francisco Opera in 1994. The season continues with a rich selection from the orchestral repertoire.

The **Faculty Artist Series** includes special thematic programming this season. Highlights include three concerts of chamber music by pianist **Paul Hersh** and friends, dedicated respectively to Beethoven (with special guest **Bonnie Hampton**), Dvořák, and Schubert's "Music for Piano Four-Hands." **William Wellborn** and the **Ives Quartet** present the music of Amy Beach, **Corey**

Jamason performs the Goldberg Variations on harpsichord, trumpeter **Mario Guarneri** and the **Jazz faculty** offer two concerts, and more.

Violinist **Anthony Marwood** is a new face on the **Chamber Music Masters** series; returning favorites include violist **Kim Kashkashian**, cellist **Norman Fischer**, pianist **Menahem Pressler**, and violinist **Robert Mann**. The series includes free master classes with these artists—a glimpse into the creative process as they coach student chamber music ensembles. When the “master” joins faculty and students in concert, the result is spontaneous and magical. New **master classes** this year include three sessions co-presented by the **American Bach Soloists: Jeffrey Thomas**, conductor; **William Sharp**, baritone; and **Debra Nagy**, oboe—all free of charge.

In a timely fashion, the **New Music Ensemble** conducted by **Nicole Paiement** presents **The Urgency of Now**, a BluePrint season devoted to music that explores the social issues of our day. Audiences can attend pre-concert talks, often by the composers themselves, to get an in-depth understanding of this powerful new music. **Conservatory Opera Theatre** led by Director **Richard Harrell** recaps Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* for family audiences this December. Guest conductor **Bruno Ferrandis** conducts the spring opera, *Orpheus in the Underworld* by Jacques Offenbach, a delightful spoof on Gluck’s *Orphée et Eurydice*. Other exciting concerts are planned, featuring String and Piano Chamber Music, Brass and Woodwind Chamber Music, Brass Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Conservatory Chorus, Baroque Ensemble, Musical Theater, Guitar Ensemble, Piano Accompanying, and many solo recitals.

In total, the San Francisco Conservatory of Music will present over 400 public concerts during the 2008-09 school year, many free of charge. For more information and complete, up-to-date concert listings please visit www.sfcm.edu. Call the Box Office for tickets at 415.503.6275 or purchase online at www.sfcm.edu starting August 18. Ticketed concerts are \$20 general admission, \$15 for students, seniors and *Friends of the Conservatory*. Concerts are held at 50 Oak Street, between Van Ness and Franklin, one block north of Market, in San Francisco.

About the Conservatory

Founded in 1917, the San Francisco Conservatory of Music is one of the leading music schools in the world. Each year, the Conservatory serves more than 1,300 students through its Collegiate, Preparatory, and Adult Extension divisions and summer programs. Including outreach concerts, its students and faculty present more than 1,600 public performances to more than 100,000 Bay Area residents and visitors annually.

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCES BY DATE:

Tickets are on sale August 18.

(Summary of Performances by Program follows)

Not inclusive. Please check the Web site for additional concerts and changes www.sfc.edu

September 6, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Orchestra, Andrew Mogrelia, conductor*
September 29, 8:00 p.m.	Paul Hersh, piano*
October 4, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Orchestra, Andrew Mogrelia, conductor*
October 5, 2:00 p.m.	Corey Jamason, harpsichord*
October 6, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Orchestra, Andrew Mogrelia, conductor*
October 12, 2:00 p.m.	Conservatory Baroque Ensemble
October 14, 7:30 p.m.	Master Class – Kim Kashkashian, chamber music (free)
October 16, 8:00 p.m.	Kim Kashkashian, chamber music concert*
October 18, 8:00 p.m.	BluePrint – The Urgency of Now: Coming Together*
October 19, 2:00 p.m.	Wei He, violin*
October 27, 8:00 p.m.	William Wellborn, piano with the Ives Quartet*
November 2, 8:00 p.m.	Jazz Faculty: Mario Guarneri, trumpet; Mary Fettig, saxophone; Mark Levine, piano* Paul Hersh, piano*
November 3, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Baroque Ensemble
November 5, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Orchestra, Andrew Mogrelia, conductor*
November 8, 8:00 p.m.	Master Class – Anthony Marwood, chamber music (free)
November 11, 7:30 p.m.	Anthony Marwood, chamber music concert*
November 13, 8:00 p.m.	BluePrint – The Urgency of Now: Transparent Walls*
November 15, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Baroque Ensemble
November 16, 2:00 p.m.	Jean-Michel Fonteneau, cello*
November 17, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Opera - Mozart's <i>The Magic Flute</i> , \$5
December 6, 1:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.	Conservatory Opera - Mozart's <i>The Magic Flute</i> , \$5
December 7, 1:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.	Conservatory Chorus—Holiday concert (free)
December 12, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Orchestra, Alasdair Neale, guest conductor*
December 13, 8:00 p.m.	Elisabeth Reed, gamba, Corey Jamason, harpsichord*
February 2, 8:00 p.m.	Master Class – Stephen Hough, piano*
February 3, 7:30 p.m.	Jeffrey Thomas, Baroque Master Class
February 4, 8:00 p.m.	David Conte, composition and Catherine Cook, mezzo-soprano*
February 8, 2:00 p.m.	Mack McCray and Yoshikazu Nagai, piano*
February 9, 8:00 p.m.	Master Class – Menahem Pressler, chamber music (free)
February 17, 7:30 p.m.	Menahem Pressler, chamber music concert*
February 19, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Orchestra, Alasdair Neale, guest conductor*
February 27, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Baroque Ensemble: Handel's <i>Rinaldo</i>
February 28, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Baroque Ensemble: Handel's <i>Rinaldo</i>
March 1, 2:00 p.m.	Master Class – Timothy Cobb, double bass*
March 2, 12:00 p.m.	Master Class – Margarita Escarpa, guitar*
March 2, 7:30 p.m.	Master Class – Norman Fischer, chamber music (free)
March 3, 7:30 p.m.	Norman Fischer, chamber music concert*
March 5, 8:00 p.m.	BluePrint – The Urgency of Now: The Light Within*
March 7, 8:00 p.m.	Mario Guarneri and the Guarneri Jazz Quartet*
March 8, 2:00 p.m.	Paul Hersh, piano*
March 9, 8:00 p.m.	William Sharp, Baroque Master Class
March 11, 7:30 p.m.	Master Class – Misha Armory, viola (free)
March 12, 7:30 p.m.	Jodi Levitz, viola, with Keisuke Nakagoshi, piano
March 16, 8:00 p.m.	Master Class – David Russell, guitar*
March 29, 7:30 p.m.	William Bennett, oboe*
March 30, 8:00 p.m.	Master Class – Robert Mann, chamber music (free)
March 31, 7:30 p.m.	Robert Mann, chamber music concert*
April 1, 8:00 p.m.	

April 2, 7:30 p.m.	Conservatory Opera - Offenbach's <i>Orpheus in the Underworld</i> (@ Fort Mason)**
April 3, 7:30 p.m.	Conservatory Opera - Offenbach's <i>Orpheus in the Underworld</i> (@ Fort Mason)**
April 4, 7:30 p.m.	Conservatory Opera - Offenbach's <i>Orpheus in the Underworld</i> (@ Fort Mason)**
April 5, 2:00 p.m.	Conservatory Opera - Offenbach's <i>Orpheus in the Underworld</i> (@ Fort Mason)**
April 7, 7:30 p.m.	Master Class – Jacqueline Ross, violin
April 8, 8:00 p.m.	Jacqueline Ross, violin and Corey Jamason, harpsichord
April 19, 2:00 p.m.	Conservatory Baroque Ensemble
April 24, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Baroque Ensemble
April 25, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Orchestra, Andrew Mogrelia, conductor*
May 2, 8:00 p.m.	Conservatory Chorus with SF Girls Chorus (free)
May 4, 7:30 p.m.	Debra Nagy, Baroque Master Class (free)

*Indicates ticketed event. Ticket cost is \$20 general public/\$15 students and Friends of the Conservatory for events held at the Conservatory.

**These performances will be held at Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center. Cost is \$20 general public/\$15 students, seniors and Friends. Call 415.345.7575 for tickets

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCES BY PROGRAM:

Not inclusive. Please check the Web site for additional concerts and changes www.sfcm.edu

Tickets are on sale August 18.

SFCM FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Cost: \$20 general public/\$15 students, seniors and Friends.

September 29, 8:00 p.m.	Paul Hersh , piano
October 5, 2:00 p.m.	Corey Jamason , harpsichord
October 19, 2:00 p.m.	Wei He , violin
October 27, 8:00 p.m.	William Wellborn , piano, with the Ives Quartet
November 2, 8:00 p.m.	Jazz Faculty--Mario Guarneri , trumpet; Mary Fettig , saxophone; Mark Levine , piano
November 3, 8:00 p.m.	Paul Hersh , piano
November 17, 8:00 p.m.	Jean-Michel Fonteneau , cello
February 2, 8:00 p.m.	Elisabeth Reed , gamba, Corey Jamason , harpsichord
February 8, 2:00 p.m.	David Conte , composition and Catherine Cook , mezzo-soprano
February 9, 8:00 p.m.	Mack McCray and Yoshikazu Nagai , piano
March 8, 2:00 p.m.	Mario Guarneri and the Guarneri Jazz Quartet
March 9, 8:00 p.m.	Paul Hersh , piano
March 16, 8:00 p.m.	Jodi Levitz , viola, with Keisuke Nakagoshi , piano
March 30, 8:00 p.m.	William Bennett , oboe

CHAMBER MUSIC MASTERS

Concerts: \$20 general public/\$15 students, seniors and Friends. Master Classes: Free of charge

October 14, 7:30 p.m.	Master Class – Kim Kashkashian , viola
October 16, 8:00 p.m.	Concert – Kim Kashkashian , viola
November 11, 7:30 p.m.	Master Class – Anthony Marwood , violin
November 13, 8:00 p.m.	Concert – Anthony Marwood , violin
February 17, 7:30 p.m.	Master Class – Menahem Pressler , piano
February 19, 8:00 p.m.	Concert – Menahem Pressler , piano
March 3, 7:30 p.m.	Master Class – Norman Fischer , cello
March 5, 8:00 p.m.	Concert – Norman Fischer , cello
March 31, 7:30 p.m.	Master Class – Robert Mann , violin
April 1, 8:00 p.m.	Concert – Robert Mann , violin

MASTER CLASSES WITH VISITING ARTISTS

Cost: \$20 general public/\$15 students, seniors and Friends unless otherwise noted.

February 3, 7:30 p.m. **Stephen Hough**, piano
February 4, 8:00 p.m. **Jeffrey Thomas**, baroque performance practice* (free)
March 2, 12:00 p.m. **Timothy Cobb**, double bass
March 2, 7:30 p.m. **Margarita Escarpa**, guitar
March 11, 7:30 p.m. **William Sharp**, baritone* (free)
March 12, 7:30 p.m. **Misha Amory**, viola (free)
March 29, 7:30 p.m. **David Russell**, guitar
April 7, 7:30 p.m. **Jacqueline Ross**, violin (free)
May 4, 7:30 p.m. **Debra Nagy**, baroque oboe* (free)

*In conjunction with the American Bach Soloists

CONSERVATORY ORCHESTRA

Cost: \$20 general public/\$15 students, seniors and Friends.

September 6, 8:00 p.m. **Andrew Mogrelia**, conductor, music of Elinor Armer and Conrad Susa
October 4, 8:00 p.m. **Andrew Mogrelia**, conductor, music of Verdi, Steve Reich and Shostakovich
October 6, 8:00 p.m. **Andrew Mogrelia**, conductor, music of Verdi, Steve Reich and Shostakovich
November 8, 8:00 p.m. **Andrew Mogrelia**, conductor, music of Beethoven, Brahms and Webern
December 13, 8:00 p.m. **Alasdair Neale**, guest conductor, music of Jacques Ibert and Rachmaninoff
February 27, 8:00 p.m. **Alasdair Neale**, guest conductor, music of Ernest Bloch and Aaron Copland
April 25, 8:00 p.m. **Andrew Mogrelia**, conductor, music of André Previn and Berlioz

CONSERVATORY OPERA THEATRE

December 6, 1:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m. W.A. Mozart, *The Magic Flute*

December 7, 1:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m. W.A. Mozart, *The Magic Flute*

Cost: \$5 general admission. Tickets go on sale November 3, 2008.

*April 2, 3 & 4, 7:30 p.m. **Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld***

*April 5, 2:00 p.m. **Bruno Ferrandis**, guest conductor

**These performances will be held at the Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center. Cost is \$20 General Admission/\$15 seniors, students and Friends of the Conservatory. Call 415.345.7575 for tickets.*

BLUEPRINT NEW MUSIC PROJECT 2008-2009: THE URGENCY OF NOW

Nicole Paiement, artistic director

Cost: \$20 general public/\$15 student, seniors and Friends.

October 18, 8:00 p.m. **Coming Together**

November 15, 8:00 p.m. **Transparent Walls**

March 7, 8:00 p.m. **The Light Within**

Pre-concert talks at 7:15

COMPOSERS TALK SHOP— free of charge

John Halle, October 17, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., Room 207

Alexandra Vrebalov, Phil Collins, November 14, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Recital Hall

David Garner, March 6, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Recital Hall

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