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**PHILHARMONIA BAROQUE ORCHESTRA LAUNCHES SIGNIFICANT NEW
ACTIVITIES TO MARK 30TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON**

**2011 Summer Festival Tour
First-Ever Chamber Music Series
New Master Class and Lecture Series
Launch of Radio Broadcast Series on 102.1 KDFC
Opening Night Celebration Kicks Off 30th Anniversary Season September 24 with
Fortepianist Robert Levin and Music Director Nicholas McGegan**

San Francisco, CA – September 14, 2010 – Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra launches its 30th Anniversary Season on September 24, 2010 with a festive Opening Night Celebration and an all-Mozart concert conducted by Music Director Nicholas McGegan, OBE, with fortepianist Robert Levin. Throughout the season, Philharmonia Baroque will undertake a number of significant new initiatives including a Summer Festival Tour, a radio broadcast series on 102.1 KDFC, expanded education activities, and a new partnership with San Francisco Conservatory of Music that includes a master class and lecture series featuring prominent artists like David Daniels and Robert Levin and a new series of chamber music concerts.

30th Anniversary Opening Night Celebration: On Friday, September 24, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Green Room at the San Francisco War Memorial Veterans Building, Philharmonia Baroque hosts “*Intrada*,” a festive opening night celebration to mark the beginning of the orchestra’s 30th Anniversary Season. The event features a strolling supper and a selection of fine wines provided by Randall Grahm, Philharmonia Baroque board member and founder/owner of Bonny Doon Vineyard.

Radio Broadcasts: Music Director Nicholas McGegan and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra present their first-ever Radio Broadcast Series on 102.1 KDFC and kdfc.com in honor of the 30th Anniversary Season. Hosted by Nicholas McGegan, the series began September 12 and will air every Sunday, except the first Sunday of each month at 8:00 p.m. Featuring full works recorded live at Philharmonia Baroque concerts, each hour-long program will be presented commercial-free and arranged thematically. Broadcasts feature the music of Mozart, Telemann, Rameau, Bach, Beethoven and Vivaldi. The program is produced and engineered by David v.R. Bowles of Swineshead Productions. Full details are available on the Philharmonia Baroque website.

Summer Festival Tour: In August of 2011, Music Director Nicholas McGegan and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra perform Handel’s *Orlando* at three prestigious summer festivals, featuring soprano Dominique Labelle and the rest of the renowned cast that performed the opera in the Bay Area in April of 2010. Full details on the tour to be announced at a later date.

Chamber Music Series: For the first time, Philharmonia Baroque presents a series of three Sunday matinee chamber music concerts at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music beginning on January 23 and continuing on March 13 and May 22. Frederica von Stade will perform in a special all-Mozart concert and programming also includes rarely performed quartets of Quantz and Telemann and a concert devoted to the music of Vivaldi. Repertoire and details to be announced at a later date.

Master Class and Lecture Series: Expanding its community outreach, Philharmonia Baroque announces a new series of master classes and lectures in partnership with the Conservatory. Fortepianist Robert Levin is scheduled to discuss Mozart on September 27 at 7:30 p.m. and countertenor David Daniels leads a master class on January 19. These events are free and open to the public.

Education Programs: Education Director and Philharmonia Baroque violinist Lisa Grodin has augmented the ensemble's education programs to include the new "Mobile Mentor" program, which supports young performing musicians with coaching by specialists from the orchestra. The orchestra performs two student concerts this season in November and January for over 1,500 middle and high school students. On Saturday, November 6, at 4:00 p.m., Philharmonia Baroque performs a Family Concert at First Congregational Church, Berkeley, featuring violinist Elizabeth Blumenstock playing "Winter" and "Spring" from Vivaldi's Four Seasons, accompanied by historical background information and engaging anecdotes. After the performance, Philharmonia Baroque musicians will be available to answer questions and demonstrate their historical instruments.

More Concerts/New Venues: Philharmonia Baroque presents eight concerts during the 2010-2011 Season, up from seven in prior years due to increased audience demand. Also this season, Philharmonia Baroque changes two of its regional performance venues: the ensemble makes its debut appearances at the new Center for Performing Arts in Atherton for its Peninsula concerts and returns to the Leshner Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek, where it performed from 1990 to 2003, for its Contra Costa series. In addition, the season schedule has been re-configured so that all concerts are on the same night in each venue: Tuesdays at the Center for Performing Arts in Atherton; Wednesdays at the Leshner Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek; Fridays at the Herbst Theatre in San Francisco; and Saturdays and Sundays at First Congregational Church in Berkeley.

30th Anniversary Season Artistic Highlights: Philharmonia Baroque's expanded 30th Season features many of the Baroque and Classical masterworks with which the orchestra is most associated – Vivaldi's "Four Seasons," Mozart's "Jupiter" Symphony, Bach's "Wedding Cantata," Haydn's *Creation*, and Handel's *Messiah*. In addition to the two U.S. premieres, twelve of the season's 28 programmed works are first Philharmonia Baroque performances including Telemann's Alster Overture, Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 1, and Hummel's Concerto for Keyed Trumpet.

Philharmonia Baroque is honored to present Frederica von Stade during her farewell season in performances of Gluck arias in addition to the U.S. premiere of Nathaniel Stookey's "Into the Bright Lights," a musical setting of Ms. von Stade's own poetry. Two of the world's most well-known countertenors also make appearances. David Daniels joins the ensemble performing

Vivaldi's *Stabat Mater* and Handel arias. Daniel Taylor will be heard in Handel's *Messiah*. Maestro McGegan, acclaimed throughout the world as one of the foremost interpreters of *Messiah*, conducts the work here in the Bay Area for the first time in more than ten years. Performed with the acclaimed Philharmonia Chorale led by Bruce Lamott, Handel's *Messiah* also features soloists Mary Wilson, John McVeigh and Tyler Duncan. Among other highlights of the season is a return of fortepianist Robert Levin in an all-Mozart program including the U.S. premiere of Concerto Movement in G major from *Nannerl's Music Book*, NMA No. 51, a work recently attributed to Mozart that has been orchestrated by Mr. Levin.

About Philharmonia Baroque: As the first ensemble of its kind on the West Coast, San Francisco's Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and Chorale has been dedicated to historically informed performance of Baroque, Classical and early-Romantic music on original instruments for nearly 30 years. Led by Music Director Nicholas McGegan, OBE, who celebrates his 25th season of artistic leadership in the 2010-2011 season, the ensemble has made many U.S. and international tours; released 32 acclaimed recordings for labels such as harmonia mundi, BMG, Reference Recordings and Avie; and commissioned a new work for period instruments – Jake Heggie's one act opera, *To Hell and Back*. Among the ensemble's most successful artistic collaborations has been one with the Mark Morris Dance Group – with performances at Berkeley's Cal Performances, New York's Lincoln Center and Brooklyn's Academy of Music. The two ensembles partnered in performances of Purcell's *King Arthur*, Handel's *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato* and Rameau's *Platée*, among others. Philharmonia Baroque regularly features the world's most distinguished musicians in its Bay Area series, including such eminent guest conductors as William Christie, Andrew Parrott, Jordi Savall, and Trevor Pinnock. As part of the ensemble's community outreach, Philharmonia Baroque regularly sends chamber ensembles into local middle and high schools, performs free concerts for students, and presents inexpensive family concerts. Philharmonia Baroque's concerts, recordings and education programs are sponsored in part by National Endowment for the Arts and Grants for the Arts/San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund.

About Nicholas McGegan: Nicholas McGegan is known internationally for performances that match authority with enthusiasm and scholarship with exuberance. In addition to his 25 years with Philharmonia Baroque, he has been a pioneer in the process of exporting historically informed practice beyond the world of period instruments to the one of conventional symphonic forces, working with renowned American symphony orchestras in Chicago, Cleveland, Philadelphia, New York and Los Angeles, and international orchestras such as Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, and the Sydney Symphony. Equally appreciated as an opera conductor, he has appeared at Covent Garden, San Francisco Opera, Scottish Opera, the Edinburgh Festival, Washington National Opera, Santa Fe Opera and the International Handel Festival, Göttingen where he has been artistic director since 1991. Born in England and educated at Cambridge and Oxford, Maestro McGegan's many awards include the Halle Handel Prize, an honorary professorship at Göttingen University, and Officer of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II.

Ticket Sales Information: Single tickets range in price from \$25 to \$95 and are on sale now through City Box Office – www.cityboxoffice.com, (415) 392-4400 – for concerts in San Francisco, Berkeley and Atherton and through Lesh Center for the Arts – www.lesherartscenter.org, (925) 943-7469 – for concerts in Walnut Creek.

Tickets for *Intrada*, the 30th Anniversary Opening Night Celebration, are \$85 per person (the event only) or \$110 per person (includes balcony seating for the all-Mozart performance at 8:00 p.m.). To purchase tickets, visit www.philharmonia.org or call (415)-252-1288.

Subscriptions are still on sale. Packages include 3 to 8 concerts and range from \$75 to \$595. Visit www.philharmonia.org call (415)-252-1288 to learn more, or email brochure@philharmonia.org to request a season brochure.

For more information, call Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra at (415) 252-1288.

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra 2010-2011 Season Calendar

Additions and changes since the press release dated February 9 are highlighted by underline.

Concert Preludes: Free to ticket holders, Philharmonia Baroque offers pre-concert lectures 45-minutes before the start of each concert. This season, the Preludes feature musicologists John Prescott and Scott Foglesong, as well as Philharmonia Baroque musicians.

Friday 24 September, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Green Room, Veterans Building, San Francisco
Intrada Opening Night Celebration

A pre-concert event featuring supper and a selection of fine wines provided by Randall Grahm, Philharmonia Baroque board member and founder/owner of [Bonny Doon Vineyard](http://www.bonnydoonvineyard.com). To purchase tickets, visit www.philharmonia.org or call (415)-252-1288.

Friday 24 September, 8:00 p.m.	Herbst Theatre, San Francisco
Saturday 25 September, 8:00 p.m.	First Congregational Church, Berkeley
Sunday 26 September, 7:30 p.m.	First Congregational Church, Berkeley
Tuesday 28 September, 8:00 p.m.	The Center for Performing Arts, Atherton
Wednesday 29 September, 8:00 p.m.	Leshner Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek

Nicholas McGegan, conductor
Robert Levin, fortepiano

MOZART Incidental Music from *Thamos, King of Egypt*, K. 345 *
MOZART Concerto for Fortepiano No. 20 in D minor, K. 466 *

LEVIN Improvisations on Themes from the Audience

MOZART Concerto Movement in G major from *Nannerl's Music Book*, NMA No. 51, orchestrated by Robert D. Levin (**Newly attributed to the composer** – U.S. Premiere)

MOZART Symphony No. 41 in C major, KV 551 "Jupiter"
(Last performed by Philharmonia Baroque on March 2001)

Friday 15 October, 8:00 p.m. Herbst Theatre, San Francisco

Saturday 16 October, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday 17 October, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday 19 October, 8:00 p.m.

First Congregational Church, Berkeley
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
The Center for Performing Arts, Atherton

Lars Ulrik Mortensen, conductor and harpsichord †
Maria Keohane, soprano †

BACH Orchestral Suite No. 1 in C major, BWV 1066
BACH Concerto for Harpsichord in D minor, BWV 1052

BACH “*Weichet nur, betrübte Schatten*,” Cantata BWV 202
(last performed February 1982 – Philharmonia Baroque’s first public concert)
BACH Concerto for Harpsichord in D major, BWV 1054

Friday 5 November, 8:00 p.m.
Saturday 6 November, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday 7 November, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday 9 November, 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday 10 November, 8:00 p.m.

Herbst Theatre, San Francisco
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
The Center for Performing Arts, Atherton
Leshner Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek

Nicholas McGegan, conductor
Elizabeth Blumenstock, violin

CORELLI *Concerto Grosso* Op. 6, No. 11 in B-flat major
PERGOLESI *Sinfonia* in F major *
DURANTE Concerto No. 5 in A major *
ZAVATERI *Concerto decimo a Pastorale*, Op. 1 *

VIVALDI *Le quattro stagioni* (The Four Seasons), Op. 8, Nos. 1-4 (March 1991)

Friday 3 December, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday 4 December, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday 5 December, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday 7 December, 7:30 p.m.

Herbst Theatre, San Francisco
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
The Center for Performing Arts, Atherton

Nicholas McGegan, conductor
Mary Wilson, soprano †
Daniel Taylor, countertenor
John McVeigh, tenor †
Tyler Duncan, bass †
Philharmonia Chorale, Bruce Lamott, director

HANDEL *Messiah*, HWV 56 (December 2002)

Saturday 15 January, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday 16 January, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday 18 January, 8:00 p.m.
Friday 21 January, 8:00 p.m.

First Congregational Church, Berkeley
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
The Center for Performing Arts, Atherton
Herbst Theatre, San Francisco

Nicholas McGegan, conductor
David Daniels, countertenor

TELEMANN Concerto for Three Horns and Violin in D major, TWV 54:D2 *

VIVALDI *Stabat mater*, RV 621 *

TELEMANN Sonata for Strings in D major, TWV 44:1 *

HANDEL Opera Arias TBA

TELEMANN Suite in F major, TWV 55:F11 "Alster Overture" *

Friday 11 February, 8:00 p.m.
Saturday 12 February, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday 13 February, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday 15 February, 8:00 p.m.

Herbst Theatre, San Francisco
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
The Center for Performing Arts, Atherton

Nicholas McGegan, conductor
Gabriele Cassone, keyed trumpet †

SPOHR Symphony No. 2 in D minor, Op. 49 *

HUMMEL Concerto for Keyed Trumpet in E major, S49, WoO 1 *

MENDELSSOHN Symphony No. 1 in C minor, Op. 11 *

Friday 4 March, 8:00 p.m.
Saturday 5 March, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday 6 March, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday 8 March, 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9 March, 8:00 p.m.

Herbst Theatre, San Francisco
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
The Center for Performing Arts, Atherton
Leshner Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek

Nicholas McGegan, conductor
Frederica von Stade, mezzo-soprano †

REBEL *Les Caractères de la danse* *

GLUCK Selections from *Orfeo ed Euridice*

Nathaniel **STOOKEY** Into the Bright Lights (poetry by Frederica van Stade) (U.S. Premiere)

RAMEAU *Les Indes galantes* suite d'orchestre

Friday 8 April, 8:00 p.m.
Saturday 9 April, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday 10 April, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday 12 April, 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday 13 April, 8:00 p.m.

Herbst Theatre, San Francisco
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
First Congregational Church, Berkeley
The Center for Performing Arts, Atherton
Leshner Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek

Nicholas McGegan, conductor
Dominique Labelle, soprano
Thomas Cooley, tenor
Philip Cutlip, baritone
Philharmonia Chorale, Bruce Lamott, director

HAYDN *The Creation*, H. XXI:2 (April 1994) _

* – Philharmonia Baroque premiere
† – Philharmonia Baroque debut

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For a complete biography, visit www.philharmonia.org/about/history/. Press photos are available at www.philharmonia.org/press-room/resources/ or by contacting Sasha Hnatkovich, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, at sasha@philharmonia.org or (415) 252-1288, ext. 315.