

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 26, 2008

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ALUMNI CHORUS PRESENTS

**VOICES OF LIGHT /
THE PASSION OF JOAN OF ARC**

An Oratorio with Silent Film

**CASTRO THEATER, 429 CASTRO STREET, SAN FRANCISCO
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 7:30 PM**

**HERTZ HALL, UC BERKELEY CAMPUS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 7:30 PM**

September 26, 2008, BERKELEY, CA -- The **University of California Alumni Chorus** presents *Voices of Light/The Passion of Joan of Arc, An Oratorio with Silent Film*. This stunning composition by Richard Einhorn will be performed by choruses, orchestra, and soloists, accompanying the 1928 silent film classic by Carl Theodor Dreyer.

With its striking camerawork and powerful performances, Carl Dreyer's *The Passion of Joan of Arc* is renowned as a masterpiece. New Yorker film critic Pauline Kael said Maria Falconetti's turn as Joan of Arc "may be the finest performance ever recorded on film." Long thought to have been lost to fire, the original film was discovered in perfect condition in 1981, in a Norwegian hospital for the mentally ill.

UC Alumni Chorus is proud to present composer Richard Einhorn's *Voices of Light*, an original oratorio inspired by the film. Set to writings by medieval women mystics, this luminous work echoes and heightens the dramatic arcs of Dreyer's film.

Performances are Monday, November 17, 7:30 p.m. at the Castro Theater, 429 Castro St., San Francisco, and Sunday, November 23, 7:30 p.m., at Hertz Hall on the UC Berkeley Campus. The concert features the University of California Alumni Chorus, UC Men's and Women's Chorales, Perfect Fifth, The Women of UC Berkeley's Perfect Fifth as the Voice of Joan of Arc, and orchestra. Soloists are **David Maier**, tenor, and **Martin Bell**, bass-baritone. The concert will be conducted by Dr. Mark Sumner, director of the UC Choral Ensembles.

Ticket Information:

Castro Theater – Tickets available at the door; General Admission \$15, Seniors \$12.

Hertz Hall – General Admission \$15, Seniors and Disabled Patrons \$12, UC Student \$6.

For more information, call (510) 643-9645 or go to the UC Alumni Chorus website: www.ucac.net.

This event is co-sponsored by the Pacific Film Archive.

***** more *****

U.C. ALUMNI CHORUS
Fall Concert, 2008
September 26, 2008
(continued)

About the UC Alumni Chorus

The University of California Alumni Chorus is a talented group of singers from the San Francisco Bay Area who are graduates, faculty or staff of the University of California. Members of the chorus range in age from current graduate students to senior citizens, all of whom share a common interest in performing choral music.

Touring has become part of the Alumni Chorus tradition, giving members the chance to sing for and meet other music lovers around the globe. In the summer of 2008, the Chorus toured Argentina and Uruguay. This was the sixth Alumni Chorus tour in its 24-year history, with previous tours to Australia, England, the Czech Republic and Hungary, China, and the Baltic States.

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FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

University of California Alumni Chorus
University's Men's and Women's Chorales
Perfect Fifth

Monday, November 17, 7:30 PM
The Castro Theater
429 Castro St., San Francisco

Voices of Light/The Passion of Joan of Arc
An Oratorio with Silent Film

Sunday, November 23, 7:30 PM
Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley Campus

Film by Carl Theodor Dreyer
Oratorio by Richard Einhorn

Tickets: \$15 General, \$12 Seniors/Disabled
Call (510) 643-9645 or purchase at the door

Dr. Mark Sumner, director

Co-sponsored by the Pacific Film Archive.

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