FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 17, 2015

DECEMBER 2015 HOLIDAY SEASON AT THE GREEN MUSIC CENTER

MASTERCARD PERFORMANCE SERIES IN WEILL HALL
Pacifica Quartet with Pianist Orion Weiss
Soweto Gospel Choir Holiday Concert
Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra Handel’s Messiah

(Sonoma County, CA) — Sonoma State University’s Green Music Center presents performances featuring Pacifica Quartet with Orion Weiss, the Soweto Gospel Choir and Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra throughout the month of December in Weill Hall. These final Green Music Center performances of 2015 celebrate winter and the holiday season and highlight the world-class chamber, world and orchestral offerings featured throughout the 2015–16 Weill Hall season.

The MasterCard Performance Series continues with the Indiana-based string ensemble, Pacifica Quartet in a program including Beethoven’s String Quartet in F major, Janáček’s String Quartet No. 2 and Brahms’ Piano Quintet in F minor featuring pianist Orion Weiss (Dec. 13). Please note that Orion Weiss replaces the previously announced Menahem Pressler in this program.

The sound and spirit of the holidays fill Weill Hall with two special seasonal performances: South Africa’s Grammy Award-winning Soweto Gospel Choir mixes African gospel with traditional hymns, Jamaican reggae and American pop in a program of both holiday favorites and new traditions (Dec. 18). San Francisco’s Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, conducted by Nicholas McGegan, returns to Weill Hall with Handel’s beloved Messiah, also featuring the Philharmonia Chorale (Bruce Lamott, director) and vocal soloists Amanda Forsyth, Meg Bragle, Isaiah Bell and Philip Cutlip (Dec. 20). Please note that the Soweto Gospel Choir concert date has changed to Friday, December 18 from the previously announced December 19.

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MasterCard is the Preferred Card of the Green Music Center.
The Press Democrat is the Media Sponsor of the Green Music Center.

Soweto Gospel Choir’s performance is made possible, in part, by Hansel Auto.
Soweto Gospel Choir’s 2015 Tour is sponsored by South African Airways.

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PACIFICA QUARTET WITH PIANIST ORION WEISS
MasterCard Performance Series
WEILL HALL at the GREEN MUSIC CENTER
Sunday, December 13, 2015, 3:00 p.m.

Simin Ganatra, violin
Sibbi Bernhardsson, violin
Masumi Per Rostad, viola
Brandon Vamos, cello
Orion Weiss, piano

BEETHOVEN: String Quartet in F major, Op. 135
JANÁČEK: String Quartet No. 2 (Listy duverně) (Intimate Letters)
BRAHMS: Piano Quintet in F minor for piano and strings, Op. 34

Tickets: $35 – $85

SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR
Holiday Concert
MasterCard Performance Series

Friday, December 18, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM:
Hayo mathata
Ziyamaz’ umelusi
Kae le Kae
Ngahlulele
Emlanjeni/Yelele
Asimbonanga
Calvary
Higher
Many Rivers to Cross/Swing Low Meadowlands
Put your Hand in Hand/Joy Peace and Happiness Nomalanga
Sabashiy’ Abazali
Lizalis’ idinga lakho?Thina Sizwe
Shosholoza
Khumbaya
I feel good
Mamathembi
Oh! Holy Night
Little Drummer Boy
Mary’s Boy Child
Silent Night
We wish you a Merry Christmas

Tickets: $40 – $85

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PHILHARMONIA BAROQUE ORCHESTRA
Handel’s Messiah
MasterCard Performance Series

Sunday, December 20, 2015, 3:00 p.m.

Nicholas McGegan, conductor
Amanda Forsythe, soprano
Meg Bragle, mezzo-soprano
Isaiah Bell, tenor
Tyler Duncan, baritone
Philharmonia Chorale
  Bruce Lamott, director

HANDEL: Messiah, HWV 56 (Foundling Hospital Version)

Tickets: $55 – $125

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