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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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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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DECEMBER 2015 GREEN MUSIC CENTER EVENT SCHEDULE

For tickets call 1.866.955.6040 or visit gmc.sonoma.edu

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 duverné*) (*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

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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