



**CHAMBER MUSIC SAN FRANCISCO PRESENTS
ACCLAIMED TENOR MICHAEL SCHADE
WITH VIOLINIST LIVIA SOHN AND PIANIST KEVIN MURPHY,
PERFORMING ARRANGEMENTS CREATED BY FRITZ KREISLER
February 24 in San Francisco
February 25 in Walnut Creek
February 26 in Palo Alto**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (9 January 2018) — **Chamber Music San Francisco** presents internationally acclaimed tenor **Michael Schade** in an evening of lieder and operatic selections, performed with violinist **Livia Sohn** and pianist **Kevin Murphy**. In an inventive program featuring arrangements that famed violinist Fritz Kreisler created for his own performances with legendary Irish tenor John McCormack, this evening of voice, violin, and piano will be presented at 8pm, Saturday February 24 in San Francisco; 2:30pm, Sunday February 25 in Walnut Creek; and 7:30pm, Monday February 26 in Palo Alto (venues/addresses listed below). For tickets, visit www.chambermusicSF.org. San Francisco and Palo Alto tickets are also available by calling 415-392-4400, while Walnut Creek tickets are available by calling 925-943-7469.

Hailed as one of the world's leading tenors, German-Canadian **Michael Schade** returns to San Francisco where he participated in the Merola program in 1990, and won acclaim as "David" in San Francisco Opera's production of Wagner's "Die Meistersinger" in 2001. He was last seen here in 2009, presented by Cal Performances in a recital given high praise by *San Francisco Classical Voice* which noted, "His singing flows effortlessly from ringing, heroic declaration to exceedingly soft, intimate passages. Superbly supported and achingly expressive." Schade performs on every major opera stage and in the most prestigious concert halls of the world, including frequent appearances at the Metropolitan Opera, the Munich Opera, and the Canadian Opera Company, among others. He has also earned a stellar reputation as a concert and recital soloist, frequently invited to perform with leading orchestras under such conductors as Boulez, Bychkov, Chailly, von Dohnányi, Gergiev, Jansons, Levine, Luisi, Mehta, Muti, and Rattle. Schade's undisputed charm as a recitalist has inspired

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audiences at every major international venue, including the Teatro alla Scala di Milano, the Musikverein, Konzerthaus, and State Opera in Vienna, and New York's Alice Tully and Carnegie Halls, among many others. Also a prolific recording artist, Schade was featured in Harnoncourt's Grammy Award winning Bach's *St. Matthew's Passion*.

Schade will be joined by violinist **Livia Sohn**, hailed by Opus Magazine as "a stunning musician." Sohn performs widely on the international stage as a concerto soloist, recitalist, and festival guest artist in North American, Europe, and Asia. Sohn has also performed chamber music and recitals throughout the world, playing repertoire ranging from Telemann to Sean Shepherd. Sohn gave her first public performance at age eight. In 1989, at the age of 13, she won First Prize in the Yehudi Menuhin International Violin Competition, where she was also awarded the Audience Prize. Since 2005, she has been on faculty at the Music Department of Stanford University, and currently resides in the Bay Area.

Pianist **Kevin Murphy**, well regarded in classical vocal music, was an assistant conductor at the Met from 1993 to 2006. Murphy was the first pianist and vocal coach invited to join the prestigious Lindemann Young Artist Program at the Metropolitan Opera. He has performed in Carnegie Hall with the Met Chamber Ensemble and Met Orchestra and has frequently played chamber music with members of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra.

The program will feature works for voice/violin/piano including: Kramer's *The Last Hour*; Godard's *Jocelyn's Lullaby*; DeCurtis' *Carmé*; Schubert's *Serenade (Leise fliehen)*; selections from Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*; and Strauss' *Morgen*. These works, with the exception of the final two, were arranged by Austrian-born violinist and composer **Fritz Kreisler** (1875-1962), regarded as one of the greatest violin masters of all time, for his collaboration with world-famous Irish tenor **John McCormack** (1884-1945). Two of the best-loved artists of the early 20th century, the pair met in 1912 and went on to join forces for 26 wildly popular recordings between 1914 and 1924, some of which sold over a million copies. They ceased recording when the electrical recording process was introduced in 1925, as both felt the acoustic process was the only way to provide a faithful representation. But this performing partnership continued with public appearances until McCormack's retirement in 1943.

This concert will also include the classic Irish ballad *Danny Boy*, in a voice/violin arrangement by Daniel Levenstein. Voice/piano selections will include Handel's *Sound an Alarm, Wher'er you walk*;

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Schubert's *Der Musensohn*, *Der Blumenbrief*, *Ganymed*, *Serenade*; Strauss' *Allerseelen*, *Nichts*, *Befreit*; Mozart's *Das Veilchen*, *Komm liebe Zither komm*; and Wagner's *In fernem Land*. In addition, the concert will include works for violin/ piano including: Tchaikovsky's *Lensky's Aria*; Gluck's *Melody*; Verdi's *I Lombardi* (selection); Bizet's *Carmen Suite*; and Lalo/Szigeti's *Roi d'Ys* (selection).

Chamber Music San Francisco, which debuted in Spring 2004, was founded by **Daniel Levenstein** and has since established itself as one of the premier purveyors of classical music in Northern California, every year earning critical acclaim and enthusiastic audience response. "We have been enormously gratified by the warm welcome given to us by the public during our first fourteen seasons in San Francisco, our eleven seasons in Walnut Creek, and our nine seasons on the Peninsula," Levenstein states. "The economies of scale generated by integrating three concert series mean that everybody wins: the artists, our organization, and (especially) the audiences. We are delighted to present this season which features both established stars and new faces."

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: **Chamber Music San Francisco** presents internationally acclaimed tenor **Michael Schade** in a program of lieder and operatic selections, performed with violinist **Livia Sohn** and pianist **Kevin Murphy**. This evening of voice, violin, and piano features arrangements that famed violinist Fritz Kreisler created for his own performances with legendary Irish tenor John McCormack.

SHOWS: **8pm, Saturday, February 24**
Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

2:30pm, Sunday, February 25
Leshner Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek

7:30pm, Monday, February 26
Schultz Theatre at the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, 3921 Fabian Way,
Palo Alto

TICKETS: For general information, visit www.chambermusicSF.org. Contact information for each venue is below.

San Francisco and Palo Alto: For tickets (\$42-\$60) or more information, call 415-392-4400

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Walnut Creek: For tickets (\$55) or more information, call 925-943-7469. Discount tickets are available for Seniors 62 and over, and Youth 17 and under.

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MEDIA: High resolution photos of **Michael Schade**, **Livia Sohn**, and **Kevin Murphy** can be downloaded from: <http://www.cb-pr.com/press/chambersf.html>

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