



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ST. PETERSBURG STRING QUARTET CONCLUDES MUSIC AT KOHL MANSION'S
26th SEASON WITH GUEST PIANIST MACK MCCRAY - SUNDAY, MAY 3rd at 7 PM**

PROGRAM:

Borodin, String Quartet No. 2 in D Major
Tsintsadze, Five Miniatures on Jewish Folk Tunes
Dvořák, Piano Quintet No. 2 in A Major, Op. 81

Pre-Concert Talk at 6 PM with Kai Christiansen.

Post-Concert Reception: Meet the artists at complimentary post-concert reception.

Adopt-an-Instrument: Bring your used instruments to donate to children in public schools.

TICKETS:

\$42 Adult; \$39 Senior; \$20 Student.

Seating is by **general admission**. It is recommended that patrons arrive early for best seating.
(Call 650.762.1130 for information on priority reserved seating and other member benefits.)

PURCHASE TICKETS:

Mail: Music at Kohl Mansion, 2750 Adeline Drive, Burlingame, CA 94010.

Phone: 650.762.1130 / Fax: 650.343.8464.

Online: www.musicatkohl.org/tickets. Full Season Subscription still available.

LOCATION:

Great Hall, Kohl Mansion, 2750 Adeline Drive, Burlingame, CA.

Directions: 650.762.1130 / www.musicatkohl.org/guide

Parking is convenient and complimentary. Music at Kohl Mansion is wheelchair accessible.

Burlingame, CA, April 13, 2009 – **Music at Kohl Mansion's** 26th season concludes on Sunday, May 3, 2009 at 7 pm with the distinguished **St. Petersburg String Quartet** featuring guest artist **Mack McCray**, noted Bay Area pianist. Founded in 1985, the St. Petersburg String Quartet (**Alla Aranovskaya**, violin; **Alla Krolevich**, violin; **Boris Vayner**, viola; and **Leonid Shukayev**, cello) is unquestionably one of the world's great chamber ensembles. The Quartet's rise to fame has included a Grammy nomination, "Best Record" honors in both Stereo Review and Gramophone, an opening night performance at Mostly Mozart at Lincoln Center, a five-year residency at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and hundreds of concerts on many of North America, Europe and Asia's most prestigious series and festivals.

The Washington Post hailed the Quartet's "impassioned performance...unassailable technique and intonation...an astonishingly calibrated range of voicings and dynamics...luscious tonal blend and phrasing that surged with ardor...breathhtaking assurance and laugh-out-loud wit." Strings Magazine wrote: "At every turn, the quartet seems to find something illuminating. Nothing is routine, nothing taken for granted, and yet it all sounds magically spontaneous." The Toronto Globe and Mail wrote, "String quartets don't get much better than the St. Petersburg Quartet. And bliss, for this

listener, doesn't get much more unequivocal than the St. Petersburg Quartet's performance...incredible technical facility...seemingly effortless precision.”

The St. Petersburg Quartet blazed a trail through chamber music circles, winning a number of prestigious international competitions including 1st Prize at the All-Soviet Union String Quartet Competition; Silver Medal and a Special Prize at the Tokyo International Chamber Music Competition, 1st Prize and both Special Prizes at the Vittorio Gui International Competition for Chamber Ensembles in Florence, Italy, and First Prize and the "Grand Prix Musica Viva" at the Melbourne, Australia International Chamber Music Competition.

At this concert, the Quartet will be joined by its long-time friend and collaborator, pianist Mack McCray. McCray has been soloist with numerous national and international orchestras including the San Francisco Symphony, and with such conductors as Michael Tilson Thomas, Edo de Waart, Leon Fleisher and Arthur Fiedler. He has been artist-in-residence at Yale University and performed at the American Liszt Society Conference, the New Orleans International Piano Festival and Competition, the Atlanta Festival of the Arts, Harvard University's Fromm Foundation Concerts, San Francisco's Chamber Music West, and U.C. Berkeley's "Artists and Lectures" Series. He gave the U.S. premiere of John Adams' *Eros Piano* for piano and orchestra, and his recording of Adams' solo piano work, *Phrygian Gates*, made the "Best Recordings of the Year" lists of both the New York Times & High Fidelity. Founder and director of the Zephyr International Chamber Music Festival in Courmayeur, Italy, he has taught at the San Francisco Conservatory since 1971.

Adopt an Instrument: For the third consecutive season, Music at Kohl Mansion is collaborating with Bay Area nonprofit **Music in Schools Today** (MuST) to collect musical instruments for public school children. Audience members are invited to support tomorrow's artists today by donating or pledging musical instruments they no longer use. A collection booth will be set up at all Chamber and Family Concerts this season. The instrument's value is tax-deductible. More information at www.mustcreate.org.

About Music at Kohl Mansion: Located just 15 miles south of San Francisco, Music at Kohl's Chamber Music Series has been a favorite of music lovers from as far away as San Jose, Marin County and East Bay communities for over a quarter-century. Housed in a beautiful 1912 Tudor-style estate in Burlingame, Music at Kohl has earned a solid reputation among musicians as a favorite place to perform, both for its splendid acoustics and warm, enthusiastic audiences. Since 1993, Music at Kohl has reached out to provide quality music education programs in local schools. Family and Children's Concerts have also become an essential part of Music at Kohl, integrating a consistently outstanding series of artists and repertoire for audiences of all ages. Programs are made possible by generous contributions from individuals, business and foundations. Major in-kind support is provided by the San Mateo Daily Journal. The Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport is the Official Hotel of Music at Kohl Mansion.

Information: www.musicatkohl.org or 650.762.1130. **High resolution photos:** www.musicatkohl.org/press.
All programs, artists and repertoire are subject to change.