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Presents

MEZZO-SOPRANO CATHERINE COOK RECITAL WITH PIANIST DOUGLAS ASHCRAFT

Concert is Free and Open to the Public

Idyllwild, CA...February 5--Catherine Cook, mezzo-soprano, will perform songs by Scarlatti, Brahms and Ravel plus a new song cycle "Statuesque" by American composer Jake Heggie. She will be accompanied by pianist, Douglas Ashcraft on Saturday, February, 9 at 7:30 p.m. in Stephens Recital Hall on the Idyllwild Arts Campus in Idyllwild, California

American mezzo-soprano Catherine Cook has excelled in a wide range of roles with leading companies throughout the United States. The *Cincinnati Post* wrote that she "more than once recalled the great mezzo Marilyn Horne: her luxurious voice showed remarkable flexibility." Her exciting characterizations garner acclaim as well. A frequent presence at the War Memorial Opera House since her 1991 San Francisco Opera debut, Ms. Cook's roles with the company include Tisbe in *La Cenerentola*, Marcellina in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Berta in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, Emilia in *Otello*, Dorabella in *Così fan tutte*, Suzuki in *Madama Butterfly*, Florence Pike in *Albert Herring*, Lapák in *The Cunning Little Vixen*, Mrs. Sedley in *Peter Grimes*, Naina in *Ruslan and Lyudmila*, Second Norn in *Götterdämmerung*, and Jade Boucher in the world premiere of Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking*.

After making her debut with the Metropolitan Opera in *Kát'a Kabanová*, she returned in the 2002-03 season for performances of Marthe in *Faust*, a role which she has also sung with Los Angeles Opera and Baltimore Opera.

Douglas Ashcraft has performed to acclaim in recitals and concerts throughout the United States, South America and Europe. In addition to his solo work he is in demand as a chamber musician. His debut at Carnegie Hall with Welsh cellist Kathryn Price received lavish praise from the *New York Times*. Some of the highlights of their performances include Lincoln Center, London's Wigmore Hall, and Jacqueline Du Pre Hall at Oxford University in England.

Recently Dr. Ashcraft was asked by members of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center to appear in concert with them at Chamber Music Sedona. Dr. Ashcraft's performing career has included radio broadcasts on New York's WQXR and live chamber music recitals on KKGO, KMZT and KUSC in Los Angeles. A live BBC debut in 2002 is still receiving radio play in the UK.

For more information please email marketing@idyllwildarts.org or call 951 659 2171 x2339. For directions and further information on the Idyllwild Arts Academy and Summer Program please visit our website: www.idyllwildarts.org

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