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SPHINX ORGANIZATION PARTNERS WITH CALIFORNIA ARTIST MANAGEMENT

Will Present Sphinx Virtuosi and Catalyst Quartet on Expanded National Tour In Fall 2011

(February 10, 2011) In fall of 2011, the [Sphinx Virtuosi](#), formerly known as the Sphinx Chamber Orchestra, will offer diverse repertoire and feature soloists during its fourth annual tour along with featured guest artists Catalyst Quartet, a Sphinx ensemble through a new partnership with [California Artist Management \(CAM\)](#). Inspired by Sphinx's overarching mission, the Sphinx Virtuosi and Catalyst Quartet will continue to advance diversity in classical music while engaging young and new audiences through performances of varied repertoire.

More than just a traditional chamber orchestra, the Sphinx Virtuosi is a conductorless ensemble of accomplished soloists of color, each a virtuoso. The Sphinx Virtuosi will be lead by the principal players of the ensemble. Members of the **Sphinx Virtuosi** have attended the top music schools in country, including the Juilliard School, Curtis Institute of Music, New England Conservatory of Music, among many others. Several members also hold professional orchestral positions, including the Oregon, Grand Rapids and San Antonio symphonies.

Founded by the [Sphinx Organization](#), members of the **Catalyst Quartet** combine a serious commitment to diversity, excellence and education with a passion for accessible modern works. The members are violinists **Bryan Hernandez-Luch** and **Karla Donehew Perez**, violist **Christopher Jenkins**, and cellist **Karlos Rodriguez**.

The Sphinx Virtuosi have received rave reviews from *The New York Times* and as Allan Kozinn [described](#): "All the hallmarks of a first-rate string ensemble were in place: its tone was warm and varied, it moved with unity and fluidity, and its textures were appealingly transparent." Of **Catalyst Quartet**, Kozinn praised their "earthy vigor" which left the audience wanting more.

Afa Sadykhly Dworkin, Vice President of Programs and Artistic Director states that the new name for the [seasoned ensemble](#) reflects "the masterful level of performance and accomplishment the orchestra has achieved in the past three years."

[CAM](#) will partner with Sphinx to manage the tour, which has planned performances across North America. **XXXX XXXXX** Managing Director of [CAM](#) will oversee the tour.

"Building on the phenomenal successes we've had in recent years, including onstage at Carnegie Hall, the **Sphinx Virtuosi** Tour featuring the **Catalyst Quartet** will continue to build diversity in the concert

halls across the country. We could not be more proud and honored to work with California Artist Management; their unmatched expertise will be truly invaluable,” said Aaron P. Dworkin, the [Sphinx Organization](#)’s Founder and President. “The tour allows us to share not only the incredible talent of our Competition alumni, but also the underperformed masterpieces of Black and Latino composers,” Dworkin added.

The **Sphinx Virtuosi** performs masterpieces by Bach, Tchaikovsky, Vivaldi and Mozart, alongside the more seldom presented works by composers of color, including Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson, George Walker, Michael Abels and Astor Piazzolla.

The annual tour of the Sphinx Virtuosi is made possible by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Support for youth and community programs through Musical Encounters-The Tour! provided by Target.

For booking information, please call XXX-XXX-XXXX or visit www.calartists.com

For additional information on Sphinx, please visit www.SphinxMusic.org

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