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For Immediate Release
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MUSAE PRESENTS
Home for the Holidays
Music of Comfort and Love

Saturday, December 16, 2006 8pm
St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church
500 DeHaro Street, San Francisco

Sunday, December 17, 2006 4pm
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
1755 Clay Street, San Francisco

Tickets are available at www.musae.org.
\$20 reserved
\$10 general admission
FREE for children under 5
For more information, please contact events@musae.org.

SAN FRANCISCO—October 30, 2006—Musae, the groundbreaking eighteen-voice women's vocal ensemble, continues its fourth season with two December performances of its seasonal program, *Home for the Holidays: Music of Comfort and Love*. The concert includes accompaniment by marimba, guitar, cello, and harp—a musical journey certain to warm the audience on even the coldest of winter nights.

Through a variety of languages, textures, and musical genres, *Home for the Holidays* explores the different places and spaces we call "home." The performance showcases local composer Conrad Susa's "Carols and Lullabies: Christmas in the Southwest"—a collection of traditional Spanish carols arranged to tell the story of a Southwestern piñata party for the baby Jesus.

From the comforting songs of childhood, Musae moves on to Eleanor Daley's "What Sweeter Music," Anton Bruckner's "Ave Maria," American favorite "I'll Be Home for Christmas," and Joan Szymko's haunting setting of Saint Teresa of Ávila's text "Nade Te Turbe." Music from Ghana, Korea, and Israel explores the meaning of home around the globe. To close the program, the group presents the world premiere of Ryan James Brandau's "(There's No Place Like) Home for the Holidays"—a contemporary take on a 1950s Christmas classic commissioned by Musae especially for this concert.

In its first three seasons, Musae released its debut album "From Argentina to Appalachia," collaborated with acclaimed vocal ensembles Kitka and Chanticleer, and produced a full schedule of sold-out concerts. The group's repertoire included sacred chants, baroque masterpieces, women's choral standards, chamber pieces with string quartet, spirituals, folk songs, jazz, and popular music from five continents.

The 2006-2007 season marks Musae's arrival as one of San Francisco's premiere women's vocal ensembles. In the fall, the group performed at the 16th Annual Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Race for the Cure and hosted its 1st Annual Fundraising Soirée. Other season highlights include a public master class with Chanticleer and *The Great American Songbook* program in May. Musae also established a Sustainability Fund for Recording and Outreach this season, which will allow the group to produce its second album, commission new music, and develop an expanded concert series.

ABOUT MUSAE

Founded in 2003, Musae is a professional women's vocal ensemble based in San Francisco. The group performs accessible and diverse music, and aims to stretch the boundaries of traditional repertoire for women's voices. From medieval motets to Broadway ballads, Musae's signature sound brings together eighteen talented singers whose excellence, innovation, and imagination inspire a wide range of audiences throughout the Bay Area.

For more information, please contact press@musae.org or visit www.musae.org.

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