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Musae presents *The Great American Songbook*

Saturday, May 19, 2007 8pm

Noe Valley Ministry
1021 Sanchez Street, San Francisco

Sunday, May 20, 2007 4pm

Berkeley City Club
2315 Durant Avenue, Berkeley

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—April 6, 2007—Musae, the groundbreaking fifteen-voice women's vocal ensemble, continues its third season with two May performances of *The Great American Songbook*. Accompanied by a fabulous jazz band, the women of Musae will swing their way through lively interpretations of classic show tunes from the 1930s to the 1960s. The program includes beloved Gershwin hits "I've Got a Crush on You," "Someone to Watch over Me," and "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off." The evening will also honor music not traditionally included in the Songbook with a moving set of American spirituals.

This upbeat performance is sure to please everyone from the casual music lover to the most discerning Broadway aficionado. Beginning with Cole Porter's rousing "Another Op'nin', Another Show" from his musical *Kiss Me Kate*, Musae's *The Great American Songbook* will continue with Dwight Okamura's cutting-edge musical emulsion "Take Five/My Favorite Things," in which the worlds of jazz and Broadway collide.

Musae's second set will feature traditional American spirituals, including a stirring arrangement of "Wade in the Watah" from Ysaye M. Barnwell of Sweet Honey In The Rock, the anti-war classic "Down by the Riverside," and the African-American lullaby "All Night All Day."

The evening will conclude with Musae and band guiding the audience through a nostalgic tour of songs from the 1940s: "Somewhere over the Rainbow," "You Are My Sunshine," "People Will Say We're in Love," and many more!

ABOUT MUSAE

Founded in 2004, Musae is a 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 fifteen talented singers whose excellence, innovation, and imagination inspire a wide range of audiences throughout the Bay Area.

In its first two 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 *Fall for Us*, its first annual fundraising soirée. Musae also established the Te Quiero 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.

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