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## Musae presents *Grace: Songs of Hope and Wonder*

### **Saturday, May 17, 2008 8pm**

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley

### **Sunday, May 18, 2008 4pm**

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
1755 Clay Street, San Francisco

### **Encore Performance**

### **Wednesday, May 21, 2008 8pm**

Old St. Hilary's Landmark  
201 Esperanza Street, Tiburon

Sabrina Adler  
Evan Angle  
Haley McNamara Cohn  
Kirstin Cummings  
Amy Hayes  
Natasha Hoehn  
Katie Innes  
Joyce Lin-Conrad  
Colleen O'Hara  
Abby Ramsden  
Katherine Robinson  
Emily Wynbrandt

Tickets are available at [www.musae.org](http://www.musae.org).  
\$25 reserved, \$15 general admission  
Group discounts available  
FREE for children under 5  
For more information, please contact [events@musae.org](mailto:events@musae.org).

SAN FRANCISCO—March 4, 2008—Musae, the groundbreaking twelve-voice women's vocal ensemble, closes its fourth season with three May performances of *Grace: Songs of Hope and Wonder*, which explores Anglo- and African-American folk traditions. The concert will feature shape note and Shaker hymns, African-American spirituals, and songs from Scotland, Wales, and Ireland.

*Grace: Songs of Hope and Wonder* marks the first time Musae has delved into the history and practices of sacred harp and shape note singing—the uniquely American genres featuring four-part, a cappella hymns, odes, and anthems. The group is delighted to present its audiences with favorites such as "Wondrous Love," "Sweet By and By," and Joan Szymko's stunning arrangement of "Amazing Grace."

Musae continues its exploration of American folk origins with a set of spirituals, many of them familiar and now an indelible part of our nation's history. "Down in the

Valley to Pray!," "Heaven Somewhere," "Nobody Knows the Trouble I See," and "Wade in the Water" all confront life's trials as well as the grace that lies beyond.

The evening will conclude with traditional Celtic melodies: the audience favorite "Danny Boy," Stephen Hatfield's fanciful arrangement of the Scottish Ballad "Geordie (or How the Lady Ann Saved Her Man)," and Ryan James Brandau's setting of "An Irish Blessing."

"We are so proud to explore and showcase this important—and really beautiful—part of our collective musical heritage this spring," says artistic director Natasha Hoehn. "We feel lucky to be able to share a little more of ourselves and our music—and look forward to having an audience to join us and sing along in this highly interactive kind of music. It's going to be great fun."

## **ABOUT MUSAE**

Musae is a women's vocal ensemble based in San Francisco. The group takes its name from the original "ladies of song," the classic nine muses of Greek mythology. Since its founding in 2004, Musae has performed diverse and accessible music throughout the Bay Area, and continues to stretch the boundaries of traditional repertoire for women's voices.

For more information, please contact [press@musae.org](mailto:press@musae.org) or visit [www.musae.org](http://www.musae.org).

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