



## MEDIA RELATIONS CONTACTS

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## FULL SCHEDULE AND IMAGES

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

April 17, 2009

### **Yo-Yo Ma: Solo Bach at the Mondavi Center**

**Davis, Calif.**—Fifteen-time Grammy winner **Yo-Yo Ma** returns to **Jackson Hall** of the **Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts**, UC Davis, **Thursday, May 14, at 8 p.m.** The program comprises selected **J.S. Bach Cello Suites: No. 1 in G Major (BWV 1007), No. 3 in C Major (BWV 1009), and No. 5 in C Minor (BWV 1011)**. Mr. Ma has dedicated this performance to the memory of Robert Mondavi.

Says **Don Roth**, Mondavi Center executive director, “Yo-Yo Ma is perhaps the most celebrated classical musician in the world. He is an artist whose approach to material, whether Bach or brand new work, is always fresh and focused. No one has had more influence on what we listen to today. It is a genuine pleasure to host Ma’s return, especially as he approaches some of the greatest works ever written for his instrument.”

**Ticket** availability is limited. Please contact the Mondavi Center box office at 530-754-ARTS (2787) or 866-754-ARTS (toll-free) for more information. This event is presented as part of the Mondavi Center’s Raley’s and Bel Air Concert Series.

**Yo-Yo Ma** was born in 1955 to Chinese parents living in Paris. He began to study the cello with his father at age 4 and soon came with his family to New York, where he spent most of his formative years. Later, his principal teacher was Leonard Rose at the Juilliard School. He sought out a traditional liberal arts education to expand upon his conservatory training, graduating from Harvard University in 1976. He has received numerous awards, including the Avery Fisher Prize (1978), the Glenn Gould Prize (1999), the National Medal of the Arts (2001), the Dan David Prize (2006), the Sonning Prize (2006) and the World Economic Forum’s Crystal Award (2008). Appointed a CultureConnect Ambassador by the United States Department of State in 2002, he has met with, trained, and mentored thousands of students worldwide in countries including Lithuania, Korea, Lebanon, Azerbaijan and China. He has performed with and conducted master classes for members of the Iraqi National Symphony Orchestra. In 2006, Secretary General Kofi Annan named him a U.N. Messenger of Peace; in 2007, Secretary General Ban Ki-moon extended his appointment.

Ma is an exclusive Sony Classical artist, and his discography of more than 75 albums reflects his wide-ranging interests. He has made several successful recordings that defy categorization, among them “Hush” with Bobby McFerrin, “Appalachia Waltz” and “Appalachian Journey” with Mark O’Connor and Edgar Meyer, and two Grammy-winning tributes to the music of Brazil, “Obrigado Brazil” and “Obrigado Brazil—Live in Concert.” His most recent recordings include “Appassionato” and “New Impossibilities.” He also appears on John Williams’ soundtrack for Rob Marshall’s film “Memoirs of a Geisha.” Across this full range of releases, Ma remains one of the best-selling recording artists in the classical field. All of his recent albums have quickly entered the Billboard chart of classical best sellers, remaining in the Top 15 for extended periods, often with as many as four titles simultaneously on the list.

Ma plays two instruments, a 1733 Montagnana cello from Venice and the 1712 Davidoff Stradivarius. Read more at [www.yo-yoma.com](http://www.yo-yoma.com).

- **Yo-Yo Ma**
- **Thu., May 14, 8 p.m.**
- **Mondavi Center, Jackson Hall**
- **9399 Old Davis Road, Davis, CA 95616 (GPS)**
- **\$125/90/65 regular; \$62.50/45/32.50 students, children**
- **530-754-2787**  
**866-754-2787 (toll-free)**  
**530-754-5402 (TDD)**  
[MondaviArts.org](http://MondaviArts.org)

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