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For immediate release:

Award-winning Pianist Chu-Fang Huang to Play Mondavi Center Studio Theatre

November 16, 2007; Davis, California—Acclaimed young pianist **Chu-Fang Huang**, who won raves for her February 2007 appearance with the **Sacramento Philharmonic**, will play recitals in the Studio Theatre of the **Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts** on December 15 and 16. Huang, a winner of the 2005 Cleveland International Piano Competition and the 2006 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, will play music by **Schumann, Ravel, Haydn, and Prokofiev**.

There will be two performances. The first will begin at 8 pm on December 15 and the second at 2 pm on December 16, both of them in the Mondavi Center's Studio Theatre on the **UC Davis** campus. Tickets are available from the Mondavi Center Ticket Office at 530.754.ARTS (2787) or online at MondaviArts.org. The event is presented as part of the Mondavi Center's **Debut Series**.

Only 25 years old, Huang has already toured extensively throughout the United States, winning enthusiastic responses from audiences and critics alike. Writing of a performance of **Beethoven's** Piano Concerto no. 5 last February, the *Sacramento Bee* praised her "deft and sensitive touch with Beethoven's piano passages, especially when the piano must trail off to wafer-thin notes for an orchestral entrance," calling her "a rising star whose playing is absolutely on fire."

Critics on the East Coast were equally impressed. *The Washington Post* called Huang "among the most confident and accomplished young pianists around." *The New York Times* praised her "chameleon's ability to change with the surroundings" in a recital of Haydn, Chopin, and Liszt, citing her "solid technique and thoughtful interpretive personality."

Born in China, Huang began piano studies at the age of seven and received a full scholarship to the **Shenyang Music Conservatory's** pre-college division five years later. She made her U.S. recital debut at the age of 15 in the La Jolla Music Society's Prodigy Series and went on to receive her Bachelor of Music degree from the **Curtis Institute of Music**, where she studied with **Claude Frank**, and her Master of Music degree from the **Juilliard School**, where she was a student of **Robert McDonald**. She is currently pursuing postgraduate studies at Juilliard while also performing a busy schedule of recitals and concerts.

Huang's busy 2007-2008 season includes concerto performances with the **Springfield Symphony Orchestra**, **Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra**, **Florida West Coast Symphony**, **Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra**, **Boise Philharmonic**, and **Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra**. Her recital schedule includes performances at Boston's **Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum**, the **Buffalo Chamber Music Society**, The Embassy Series in Washington, D.C., at the Houghton Library of **Harvard University**, and more. She will also be featured in a recital at **Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall** as part of the Young Concert Artists Series.

A First Prize winner of the 2005 Cleveland International Piano Competition and a finalist in the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in Texas in 2005, Huang will record a CD for the Naxos label as part of the award for her Cleveland Competition prize. She also won the Paul A. Fish Memorial Prize, the Slomovic Orchestra Soloist Prize, the Embassy Series Prize, the Lied Center of Kansas Prize, the Mortimer Levitt Piano Chair of YCA, and the Mortimer Levitt Career Development Award for Women Artists. She has appeared as a soloist with some of America's most prestigious orchestras, including the **Cleveland Orchestra**, performed in Canada with the **Victoria Symphony**, in Australia with the **Sydney Symphony Orchestra** and **Australian Chamber Orchestra**, and in China with the **Shen-Zhen Philharmonic** and **Liao-ning Philharmonic**.

The program for her Mondavi Center recitals will be:

- **Robert Schumann**: Fantasy in C major, op. 17;
- **Maurice Ravel**: *La Valse*;
- **Franz Joseph Haydn**: Sonata in B minor, Hob.16/32;
- **Sergei Prokofiev**: Sonata No. 7 in B –flat major, op. 83.

“It is always a pleasure to be able to present, in the intimate setting of our Studio Theatre, a gifted young artist such as Chu-Fang Huang,” said **Don Roth**, the Mondavi Center's executive director. “We look forward to hearing her in a very attractive program of Schumann, Ravel, Haydn, and Prokofiev in the first concert of our 2007-08 Debut Series.”

What: **Chu-Fang Huang, piano**
When: Saturday, December 15 · 8 pm
Sunday, December 16 · 2 pm
Where: Studio Theatre
Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts
University of California, Davis
Admission: \$29 Adults • \$14.50 Students, Children
Tickets/Info: 530.754.ARTS (2787)
866.754.ARTS (toll-free)
<http://www.MondaviArts.org>
530.754.5402 [TDD]

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