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MEDIA CONTACTS

Bonnie Quintanilla, 818.681.5777

Phyllis Grabot, 805.341.7269

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Grammy Award-Winning Soprano Hila Plitmann to Perform the West Coast Premiere of "The Long Bright" March 11, 2010, at UCLA's Royce Hall

A collaborative effort with the Israel Cancer Research Fund and the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony, the Concert of Hope featuring the cantata will raise funds to help Israeli scientists find new treatments and cures for cancer.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF, January 25, 2009 -- The Israel Cancer Research Fund (<http://www.icrfla.org>) today announced that the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony will perform "The Long Bright" along with Israeli-born, Grammy award-winning soprano Hila Plitmann and an intergenerational/interfaith women's choir that will include young women from area Jewish day schools. "The Long Bright," a cantata that serves as a tribute to the memory of Anni Baker Wolman who, after a courageous battle, succumbed to cancer at the age of 55, will be performed at the Concert of Hope, a benefit to help raise funds for Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) grants that are awarded to Israeli scientists seeking treatments and cures for cancer. The performance will take place March 11, 2010, at UCLA's Royce Hall beginning at 7:30 p.m.

"The Long Bright' cantata is a wonderful gift that honors the life of Anni Baker Wolman, provides inspiration to all who are fortunate enough to experience its power, and, through this West Coast premiere, enables ICRF to continue funding critical research," said Barbara Lazaroff, chair of this year's Concert of Hope.

Added ICRF Executive Director Mitch Orlik: "ICRF is unique in that every dollar awarded goes directly to scientists at Israel's top biomedical research centers solely to fund their work. Our awards are made strictly on the basis of scientific merit and the ability of the individual scientist to make a significant impact in the search for new treatments and cures for cancers."

A wide range of sponsorship packages are available starting at \$500.00 that include pre- and post-receptions, front/center seats, full- and half-page ads and messages in the tribute book, and preferred parking. For information on these sponsorships contact the ICRF office at 323.651.1200. General Admission seating begins at \$18.00 and can be purchased through TicketMaster, the Royce Hall Box Office or by visiting the ICRF web site.

"The Long Bright" is a cantata that was awarded the 2005 Theodore Front Prize for Chamber and Orchestral Music from the International Alliance of Women in Music. This very special hour-long musical and vocal performance is a result of the collaboration between the acclaimed composer Dr. Andrea Clearfield and poet and writer David Wolman. The lyrics for this powerful performance are taken from the poetry lovingly penned by author and playwright David Wolman during the five



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years between his wife's diagnosis and her death from breast cancer. His wife, Anni Baker Wolman, was an acclaimed coloratura soprano, Broadway singer and a strong supporter of contemporary vocal music.

Mr. Wolman commissioned Dr. Clearfield to set the words to music in an effort to share hope, as reflected in the name, "The Long Bright." The title may be perceived as the white light at the end of the tunnel of dying, the long but bright hope for a cure and the fierce brightness of our lives – the white light of each person's soul – within which, as the color white contains all colors, everyone can feel deeply all things. For additional program notes, visit <http://www.andreaclearfield.com/works/choral/the-long-bright/>.

The evening will begin with a brief video introduction highlighting the work made possible by grants from the Israel Cancer Research Fund, followed by a performance of "The Long Bright," featuring violinist Mandy Wolman, daughter of Anni Baker Wolman who inspired "The Long Bright" cantata, and Hila Plitmann. Dr. Noreen Green, artistic director of the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony, will introduce "The Long Bright" cantata, and provide a glimpse into the inspirational story and lives of Anni Baker Wolman and David Wolman. Accompanied by the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony, Ms. Plitmann will perform the cantata. Prior to and immediately following the performance, a private reception will be held where donors will have the opportunity to meet Dr. Green, Ms. Plitmann, Mandy Wolman, Dr. Clearfield, David Wolman and Ms. Lazaroff.

About the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony

Under the baton of Artistic Director Dr. Noreen Green, the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony has been dedicated to the performance of orchestral works of distinction, which explore Jewish culture, heritage and experience. Since its debut performance in 1994, the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony has won local, national and international acclaim for its inspired programming featuring commissioned new works and many world premieres. For information, visit <http://www.lajewishsymphony.com/index.html>.

About the Israel Cancer Research Fund

The Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) was founded in 1975 by a group of American and Canadian physicians and scientists who sought to help establish Israel as a prime global research center in the quest to find the new treatments and ultimately cures for cancer. Through its work, ICRF supports the most promising and innovative research being accomplished by Israel's most brilliant physicians and scientists who are working on cutting-edge technologies at Israel's finest universities, medical centers and research institutions. Modeled on the NIH grant-making process, ICRF grants are awarded directly to the most promising and capable Israeli cancer researchers at all of the leading academic and biomedical research centers throughout Israel. To date, ICRF has funded almost



For Immediate Release

8383 Wilshire Boulevard, #648 | Beverly Hills, California 90211 | www.icrfla.org | 323.651.1200

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\$40 million in awards to Israeli cancer researchers via more than 1,700 fellowships, project grants, career development awards and professorships (senior, internationally recognized scientists). ICRF, a 501(c)(3) organization depends entirely on private donations to fund its grant programs. For more information, visit <http://www.icrfla.org>, call 323.651.1200, or email email@icrfla.org.

(30)