



For Immediate Release

Contact: Juli Isola
juliisola@sbcglobal.net
(949) 463-6461

**Recently Knighted Classical Concert Pianist Michael Fennelly
Returns Home to San Clemente for 2-hour Recital**

San Clemente, Calif. (September 5, 2017) -- Soprano Megan Weston and pianist Dr. Michael Fennelly return to San Clemente for a classical voice and piano recital on Friday, September 22, 7:30 p.m. at the Center for Spiritual Living Capistrano Valley. Cost to attend is a love offering.

These acclaimed artists recently toured China, Argentina, Uruguay, Spain, Antarctica as well as 6 other countries and the United States before returning for their San Clemente concert, the town where Fennelly grew up.

This summer, the Knights of Malta conferred a knighthood upon San Clemente native Fennelly for his completion of George Gershwin's lost choral version of Rhapsody in Blue, which was premiered in Lincoln Center's David Geffen Hall last season.

Weston was called "superb and dramatic" (Woodstock Times) in the role of Constance in the premiere of *The Three Musketeers* at the Phoenicia International Festival in August.

The California natives will perform music by Chopin, Verdi, Tchaikovsky, Gottschalk, Scriabin, Puccini and Gershwin.

"I love coming home to San Clemente to visit my family and to play for my friends!" said Fennelly regarding his upcoming visit. "Since graduating from SCHS I've lived in New York but every year in September I return to perform the music I'm preparing for the next season. The support and enthusiasm of the audiences here is truly inspiring, and of course this is the most

beautiful place in the world! As an artist it is very fulfilling to share classical piano music for both the aficionados who know every note in the score as well as for those who may be hearing these pieces for the first time.”

Soprano Megan Weston, Fennelly's wife and accomplished artist, will join him on stage for the recital. Weston was raised in Orange County, California, graduating with a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from California State University Fullerton. She was the overall winner and vocal area winner of the CSUF Music Associates Competition and won the CSUF Kim Allman Opera Performance Award twice. Megan has performed with the Tulsa Opera, the San Diego Opera, the Metropolitan Opera at Lincoln Center, at Carnegie Hall among many venues.

About Michael Fennelly:

Although Fennelly now lives in New York City and tours extensively throughout the world, he still proudly considers himself a San Clemente native. A graduate of San Clemente High School, his first concerto appearances were with the Orange County Philharmonic and the South Coast Symphony, and his first concert tour included thirty recitals throughout California with the Young Concert Artist guild. Fennelly also won numerous piano competitions throughout the state.

Fennelly has fond memories of many other high school musical activities. On cello, Fennelly performed with his two sisters Jane (violin) and Kate (viola) in the Fennelly String Trio, concertizing regularly throughout Orange County. Fennelly was also the first chair cellist in both the SCHS Orchestra (playing in the pit orchestra of *Evita* was especially memorable) and the All-State California Honor Orchestra. Michael's first regular employment began in eighth grade, as pianist for Café Mozart and later at Gambino's. These evenings spent playing American standards not only helped pay for college, but also continue to provide highly enjoyable entertainment for post-concert parties in Manhattan.

Fennelly is especially grateful to the San Clemente Boys and Girls Club, who sponsored his senior solo piano recital, and, through their National Epstein Foundation, provided substantial assistance enabling him to attend the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, where he earned his Bachelor of Music degree.

About The Center for Spiritual Living Capistrano Valley

Celebrating nearly 50 years in existence, the Center for Spiritual Living Capistrano Valley, located in San Clemente, is one of 450 Centers for Spiritual Living organizations worldwide, dedicated to providing spiritual tools to transform lives and make the world that works for everyone.

Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m. preceded by a guided meditation at 10 a.m. The Center offers a variety of services, classes, youth programs, and prayer support. It's spiritual bookstore is open Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information or directions to the Center, visit our website at www.cslcv.org or visit our blog at www.cslcv.blogspot.com.