



**Master Musician Pinchas Zukerman to Mentor American Violist
David Carpenter
Through the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative**

Program Pairs Masters and Rising Talents for Year of Collaboration

Advisors

Pina Bausch
Tahar Ben Jelloun
Trisha Brown
Peter Carey
Carolyn Carlson
Christo and Jeanne-Claude
Alain Coblenec
Alfonso Cuarón
Guy Darnet
Ariel Dorfman
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Jonathan Galassi
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Amitav Ghosh
Gary Graffman
Paul Gottlieb
Cynthia Gregory
Agnes Gund
Sir Peter Hall
Geraldine James
Joseph Kalichstein
Anish Kapoor
Harvey Lichtenstein
Cho-Liang Lin
Sir Neville Marriner
Joseph Melillo
Yoko Morishita
Elizabeth Murray
Ivan Nabokov
Mira Nair
Jessye Norman
Michael Ondaatje
Gabriel Orozco
Julia Peyton-Jones
Carlos Saura
Valerie Solti
Wole Soyinka
Julie Taymor
Robert Wilson

Chairman
Patrick Heiniger
Rolex SA

New York, NY – 10 July 2007 – Rolex today announced the selection of 21-year-old violist David Carpenter as the new music protégé for the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative, which pairs established masters with emerging artists from around the world for a year of collaboration in six disciplines: dance, film, literature, music, theater, and visual arts. Carpenter, from New York, will study with world-renowned violinist, violist and conductor, Rolex Mentor Pinchas Zukerman. He is the first American protégé selected to participate in the Initiative since its inception in 2002.

The Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative is the first and only corporate philanthropic program that links international artists in a time-intensive yet flexible mentor-protégé relationship designed by the participants themselves. Carpenter was chosen by Zukerman from among three finalists who attended the National Arts Centre's Summer Music Institute led by the maestro in Ottawa. All Rolex Mentors and Protégés interact over the course of a year in any way they choose, often collaborating in performances, exhibitions, and other work. The program's unrestricted format encourages open dialogue between mentor and protégé.

"There are degrees of talent, but when you have a David Carpenter, that's unique....He has this wonderful sound," said Zukerman of his young protégé.

David Aaron Carpenter began studying the violin at the age of six and the viola at age 12. He has studied at the pre-college divisions of Juilliard and the Manhattan School of Music, Italy's Accademia Chigiana, and the Verbier Festival Academy, in Switzerland. He is currently attending Princeton University as a politics major. The winner of the prestigious 2006 Naumburg viola competition, Carpenter has performed at well-known concert halls, including Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center.

Pinchas Zukerman, 59, is music director of the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, and chair of the Pinchas Zukerman Performance Program at the Manhattan School of Music. He was music director of the Saint Paul (Minnesota) Chamber Orchestra from 1980 to 1987, principal guest conductor of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and music director of festivals, including London's South Bank Festival. He is a frequent chamber music performer, appearing with such luminaries as Itzhak Perlman and Vladimir Ashkenazy, and with the Zukerman ChamberPlayers, his acclaimed string ensemble comprised of young musicians who have trained with him. Zukerman has made more than 100 recordings earning 21 Grammy nominations and two Grammy awards. He is a past winner of the Isaac Stern Award for Artistic Excellence and the Leventritt Competition.

"We are pleased to welcome David Carpenter into the Rolex family as the 2006-2007 music protégé," said Rebecca Irvin, Director of the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative. "His remarkable talent will no doubt flourish through his time with Pinchas Zukerman, one of today's great artists."

THE ROLEX MENTOR AND PROTÉGÉ ARTS INITIATIVE

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In addition to Zukerman and Carpenter, the 2006-2007 Rolex Mentors and Protégés are:

- Dance: Anne Teresa De Keersmaecker (Belgium) and Anani Dodji Sanouvi (Togo)
- Film: Stephen Frears (U.K.) and Josué Méndez (Peru)
- Literature: Tahar Ben Jelloun (Morocco/France) and Edem Awumey (Togo)
- Theater: Julie Taymor (U.S.A.) and Selina Cartmell (U.K.)
- Visual Arts: John Baldessari (U.S.A.) and Alejandro Cesarco (Uruguay)

Since its launch, 179 artists, leaders in the arts and other cultural personalities have participated in the Arts Initiative, including 54 advisors who have helped select mentors, and 93 nominators who have helped select protégés. Program participants contribute from across the globe, building a Rolex community of artists that spans 39 countries and grows in depth and scope with each mentoring cycle. Unlike most philanthropy programs in the arts, which provide one-time support in the form of a grant, Rolex makes a substantial financial investment in each of its protégés, as well as providing access to its global network of participants, support for travel and expenses during the mentorship, and funding to produce a new work – a performance, exhibition, film, publication, or other piece inspired by the mentorship.

Rolex and the Arts

The Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative broadens Rolex's long tradition of supporting the arts worldwide. Rolex has developed close ties with many of today's greatest artists, including Cecilia Bartoli, Renée Fleming, Sylvie Guillem, and Yo-Yo Ma. These relationships have led to Rolex's sponsorship of international events such as Operalia, founded by Rolex ambassador Plácido Domingo, and the Verbier Festival & Academy for top classical artists.

In addition to fostering the arts, Rolex continues its commitment to the pursuit of excellence through the Rolex Awards for Enterprise, established in 1976, which support individuals who are advancing human knowledge and well-being. For each series of the Awards, a total of five Laureates and five Associate Laureates are chosen in the fields of science and medicine; technology and innovation; exploration and discovery; the environment; and cultural heritage.

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