



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO'S BENEFIT GALA WILL BE AN UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT**

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA. – May 28, 2009 – Mission San Juan Capistrano is getting set to host its annual can't-miss event, the Romance of the Mission, the benefit gala concert and dinner presented by the Mission Preservation Foundation on Friday the 11th of September. Proceeds from the benefit will go to the much-needed preservation of Orange County's only mission.

The evening will begin with a pre-concert hosted reception at 6 p.m., followed by the Great Stone Church concert at 7 p.m., and dinner, compliments of The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel, at 8 p.m.

Benise, who will highlight the evening with his concert performance is armed with his Spanish guitar and an amazing world-class band of musicians, he pushes the boundaries of traditional Flamenco/Spanish guitar.

Also during the evening the Mission Preservation Foundation will honor and celebrate Orange County's Supervisor Pat Bates, whose dedication to Mission San Juan Capistrano has been extraordinary. Bates, who was the first mayor of Laguna Niguel and served four

terms, was pivotal in the Mission receiving a \$1 million dollar TEA grant to be used for the stabilization of the Great Stone Church, the conservations of the South Wing and the upgrades to the south wing interpretive museum efforts.

*About Mission San Juan Capistrano:*

*Located in Orange County, Calif., Mission San Juan Capistrano is owned by the Diocese of Orange. Founded November 1, 1776 by Padre Junipero Serra, the Mission was the seventh mission in the chain of the twenty-one California missions, which were established by Spain. Known as the “Jewel of the Missions,” it provides an inspirational learning experience about the past each year to over 53,000 fourth grade students as part of their California history studies. A place of inspiration, education, and preservation, the Mission is Orange County’s only mission and is supported by the Mission Preservation Foundation, which is comprised of business and community leaders. For more information please visit [www.missionsjc.com](http://www.missionsjc.com).*

*About Benise:*

*Rarely is an artist capable of touching the hearts and souls of people of all ages, cultures, and diverse musical backgrounds as BENISE. (pronounced Buh-nes-say) Armed with his Spanish guitar and an amazing world-class band of musicians, Benise pushes the boundaries of traditional Flamenco/Spanish guitar. For more information, please visit [www.benise.com/](http://www.benise.com/)*

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Photo Attached