Acclaimed Composer, Music Educator to Present Music Education Workshop, Lecture at Cal Poly Jan. 30

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Nationally acclaimed composer and music educator John Zeretzke will present a public lecture-performance from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30, in Cal Poly’s Business Building Rotunda, Room 213. He will also give a professional development workshop for teachers on Saturday, Jan. 31.

In Friday’s event, titled “Art and Music: Creators and Connections,” Zeretzke’s presentation will take the audience on a visual and auditory journey into the worlds of famous, infamous and little-known visionaries of the visual art and music world of the 21st century.

They will see and hear the very first electronic instrument ever invented --the theremin -- the first electronic pick-up, and the first synthesizer created by Robert Moog. Musical inventors such as John Cage, Jimi Hendricks, Phillip Glass and Peter Gabriel will be discussed. Zeretzke will interweave the work of both visual and musical artists who helped change and shape the world of art today.

Kristine Bowen, director of school and tours programs for the Orange County Museum of Arts, calls Zeretzke’s lecture “an enthralling new show demonstrating connections across disciplines ... The most popular art and music program since I have been with the museum.”

The connection between art and music will continue in a professional development format for classroom teachers from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31 in Room 114 in the Business Building. The workshop will provide teachers with hands-on music and visual arts lesson ideas for K-6 classrooms.

Admission to both events is free, but because of limited space, those interested in Saturday’s workshop should pre-register by calling Cal Poly’s Liberal Studies Department at 756-2935.

Zeretzke is noted for his orchestral compositions for film, television, ensembles, stage, theatre, ballet and dance, including works commissioned for companies such as The Joffrey Ballet of Chicago, The Royal Danish Ballet, and the Geva Theatre of New York. In 2000 Zeretzke was an honored recipient of the P.A.S.A. Award (Professional Artist in the Schools), a lifetime achievement award for his work in arts education in California. He performs for thousands of students every year in educational programs across the nation. Additional information regarding his career and work can be found at: www.zworldmusic.com.

The event is funded in part by the College of Liberal Arts Lottery Funding, Cal Poly Instructionally Related Funds, and the Central Coast Center for Arts Education. For more information, contact Kathy Friend in Cal Poly’s Liberal Studies Program, at 756-1715.

* * *