Jan. 21, 2004

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Ravel, Mozart To Be Focus of Feb. 5 Lecture-Recital at Cal Poly

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Composers Maurice Ravel and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart will be the focus of a lecture-recital by Cal Poly music faculty member Katherine Arthur, soprano, and staff accompanist Rudolfas Budginas, piano, at 11 a.m. Feb. 5 in Room 218 of the Davidson Music Center on campus.

They will perform and discuss Ravel’s “Trois Poèmes de Stéphane Mallarmé” (“Three Poems of Stéphane Mallarmé”), “Soupir” (“Sigh”), “Placet Futile” (“Futile Supplication”), and “Surgi de la Croupe et du Bond” (“Rising from the Curve and the Leap”). They will also perform and talk about Mozart’s concert aria “Bella Mia Fiamma! . . . Resta, oh cara” (“My Lovely Flame . . . Stay, oh dear one”).

"One could liken a concert aria to an abbreviated opera, and this one is about a dying husband who is saying his goodbyes,” according to Arthur.

Arthur earned a master's degree in voice from UC Santa Barbara, where she studied with Elisabeth Mannion and Michael Ingham. She appeared as a soloist with the Southwest Chamber Music Ensemble, Santa Barbara Oratorio Society and Pacific Repertory Opera.

Arthur has appeared as a guest artist in Europe, recorded works for Austrian Radio, and performed for many international music festivals and opera companies. A certified Alexander Technique teacher, she began teaching voice at Cal Poly in fall 2003.

Budginas was born in Lithuania. He made his concert debut at the age of nine with the Lithuanian National Symphony. Known as an accomplished soloist, he has performed in cities throughout Europe as well as Tokyo, Los Angeles, Seattle and Fort Worth. He has played as a guest soloist with the Lithuanian National Symphony, The Riverside Philharmonic, Los Angeles Virtuosi and the California Chamber Ensemble.

Budginas won first prize in the International Liszt Piano Competition and Vitols International Piano Competition and won the Yamaha of Europe award.

Admission to the lecture-recital is free. It is sponsored by the Cal Poly Music Department and College of Liberal Arts. For more information, call the Music Department at 756-2406.

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