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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pianist William Terrence Spiller To Give Benefit Concert at Cal Poly Jan. 10

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Music faculty member and pianist William Terrence Spiller will give a benefit recital of works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Frédéric Chopin at 8 p.m. Jan. 10 in the Cal Poly Theatre.

The program, titled “Too Many Notes!: Works of Mozart and Chopin,” will include two sonatas by Mozart and the Op. 10 Études of Chopin.

The recital will begin with Mozart’s Sonata in F Major, which is described by Spiller as “one of Mozart’s most joyous and boisterous keyboard works.”

Spiller will follow that piece with Mozart’s Sonata in A minor, which he describes as a “serious and dramatic composition for solo piano.”

“These two sonatas encompass a vast emotional range, and are some of Mozart’s most deeply personal works,” Spiller said.

The recital will continue with Chopin's monumental Études, Op. 10. “Chopin demonstrates, in these 12 early works, his complete mastery over not only his startlingly new approach to piano technique, but also his composition of Romantic character pieces,” Spiller said.

“The title for the program comes from an apocryphal criticism of Mozart by ‘a musically uninformed Emperor Franz Joseph.’ However, despite the fact that Mozart and Chopin are two of the greatest keyboard poets – there are a lot of notes to play,” Spiller said. “I also chose to play Mozart on this concert as my own personal ‘tribute’ to Clifton Swanson, who is retiring from the Cal Poly Music Department at the end of this year. “I wanted to play some of the great works by the composer we most closely associate with Clif. This isn’t a grand gala – that will happen in spring quarter – but it is my own recognition of a good friend and colleague,” Spiller said.

Tickets to the recital are $6 for students and senior citizens and $10 for the public. They are on sale at the Performing Arts Ticket Office 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekends.

Proceeds from the recital will benefit the Cal Poly Music Department Scholarship Fund. The recital is sponsored by the Music Department and College of Liberal Arts. For more information, call 756-2406.

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