



January 3, 2012

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Cal Poly Early Music Ensemble, Local Professionals to Perform 'Bach in the Mission' Jan. 21

SAN LUIS OBISPO – For a second year, the Cal Poly Early Music Ensemble will perform “Bach in the Mission” at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21, in Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa.

The Cal Poly student group -- with Music Department faculty members and professionals from San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Los Angeles counties -- will perform a cantata, a motet and a double concerto for oboe and violin, all by J. S. Bach.

Early Music Ensemble Conductor Thomas Davies and Cal Poly Symphony Conductor David Arrivé will join forces for this performance.

Choral performers include 13 student members of the Early Music Ensemble and Cal Poly professors Meredith Brammeier, Ken Habib and Susan Azaret Davies, as well as Westmont College professors Grey Brothers and Michael Shasberger, Cuesta College faculty member Jill Anderson, and Paul Osborne, San Luis Obispo High School choral director.

Instrumental performers include Cal Poly Symphony students; university faculty members Paul Severtson, violin; Jeanne Shumway, cello; Lisa Naufal, bassoon; and David Hennessee, viola; as well as Music Department staff member Paul Woodring, organ. Also performing will be Los Angeles oboist Paul Sherman and San Luis Obispo violinist Pam Dassenko. Severtson and Dassenko are co-concertmasters for the San Luis Obispo Symphony.

“This is an incredible opportunity for our talented Cal Poly students to sit next to professional musicians and make music at a very high level,” said Davies, who will conduct the cantata and the concerto.

Arrivé will conduct the motet and will play the harpsichord in the cantata and concerto.

The works to be performed are three of Bach’s most-loved, according to Davies. “The cantata, ‘Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimm,’ and the motet, ‘Komm, Jesu, Komm,’ come from Bach’s early years in Leipzig around 1731. The Concerto for Oboe and Violin is probably from the same period,” Davies said.

Tickets are \$8 for seniors and students and \$12 for the public. They are on sale at the Performing Arts Ticket Office from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekends. To order online, visit www.pacslo.org; by phone, call SLO-ARTS (805-756-2787); or by fax, dial 805-756-6088. Tickets may also be purchased at the door the night of the concert.

Patrons who buy season tickets to four Music Department events through the Performing Arts Ticket office will receive a 10 percent discount; a 15 percent discount is given to those who buy tickets to five or more events.

The concert is sponsored by Cal Poly's College of Liberal Arts, Music Department and Instructionally Related Activities program. For more information, call the Music Department at 805-756-2406.

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