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Cal Poly Choirs to Celebrate the Masters in Feb. 28 Concert

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Felix Mendelssohn, Franz Joseph Haydn and George Frederick Handel – three of history's greatest composers – are being celebrated in concerts this year by musical organizations throughout the world, including Cal Poly.

The Cal Poly Choirs, conducted by Music Professor Thomas Davies, will perform at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28, in Harman Hall of the Performing Arts Center's Christopher Cohan Center. The choir will present important works by the three composers.

In addition, the Cal Poly Choirs will perform the world premiere of a work by Cal Poly Professor Craig Russell. Russell's work, titled "Wings of Bliss," is based on a poem by Los Osos resident Mark Lloyd Richardson.

The 44-member PolyPhonics will play Mendelssohn's "Sechs Sprüche ("Six Anthems"), Op. 79, and Handel's chorus "Dixit Dominus."

The 75 members of the University Singers will perform Mendelssohn's "Die Nachtigall" ("The Nightingale"), Handel's popular "Let Their Celestial Concerts Unite" (from the Oratorio "Samson"), and Haydn's Madrigal Chorus, "Der Sturm" ("The Storm").

Other composers represented in this celebration include Claude Debussy, Gioacchino Rossini and Trond Kverno. Nordic folksongs and African American spirituals will also be performed.

Student conductors Kelly Eshoff, Morgan Hurd and Rory Fratkin will assist Davies.

The Cal Poly Choirs are accompanied by Paul Woodring and Susan Azaret Davies.

Tickets are \$8 to \$15 and can be bought at the Performing Arts Ticket Office 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call SLO-ARTS (756-2787). A 10 percent discount is given to patrons who buy season tickets to four Music Department events through the Performing Arts Ticket office; a 15 percent discount is given on tickets to five or more events.

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

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