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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly Early Music Ensemble Performs “Music of the Americas” May 20

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly’s 13-voice Early Music Ensemble will present “Music from the Americas” on Friday, May 20, at 8 p.m. in the Pavilion of the Performing Arts Center’s Christopher Cohan Center.

The concert will feature the operatic serenata “Venid, Venid Deydades” (“Come, Come Deities”) by Peruvian composer Fray Esteban Ponce de León. The work was presented in honor of prelate Don Fernando Perez de Oblitas in 1749, and is based on an imaginary dispute between the cities of Arequipa and Cuzco, each vying for the bishop’s attention.

In addition, villancicos (sacred and secular songs with mixed rhythms from the Iberian Peninsula and Latin America) by fellow Peruvian composers Tomás de Torrejón Velesco and Juan de Araujo will be performed, as well as a new work by Music Professor Craig Russell.

Music Professor Thomas Davies conducts the ensemble. Student vocalists will be joined by Cal Poly faculty and staff instrumentalists Paul Severtson, violin; Jeanne Shumway, cello; Jennifer Sayre, harp; and Paul Woodring, harpsichord. Russell will give short narratives about the works performed.

Tickets are \$12 for the public and \$8 for seniors and students, and are on sale at the Performing Arts Ticket Office from 10 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: 805-756-6088.

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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