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Contact: Michele Abba
805-756-2406; mabba@calpoly.edu

Cal Poly Alumni, Students Bring Anime and Video Game Music Concert to Cal Poly Nov. 5

SAN LUIS OBISPO – The concert event NPR is calling “a video game symphony on steroids” will make its Central Coast debut Saturday, Nov. 5, at 8 p.m. at the Christopher Cohan Center in the Performing Arts Center at Cal Poly.

“Hideo” was created and produced by Cal Poly alumni Blair Baker, who graduated in 2006 with a degree in Computer Engineering and a minor in Music, and Christopher Pasillas, a 2006 Music graduate. “Hideo” is a one-of-a-kind experience combining live music from Japanese animation (anime) and video games with dramatic performance to tell the tale of a reckless young hero (Hideo), a mysterious traveler, and the dark secret that ties them together.

Fourteen Cal Poly students are involved in the production, including nine instrumentalists and three vocalists. Music major Lauren Wasynczuk will conduct the orchestral piece, an eight-minute original arrangement of various battle themes from several video games.

Theatre major Ryan Austin is playing the title character. Art and Design major Jessica Fong is working on the “Hideo” graphic novel and created one of two special-edition posters that will be on sale at the show.

“Hideo” features a diverse selection of jazz, rock, opera and orchestral music from internationally acclaimed anime series and video games such as “Darker Than Black,” “Wolf’s Rain,” “Fullmetal Alchemist,” “Final Fantasy,” “ICO” and “Mega Man” performed by more than 30 professional and student musicians. An ensemble cast and full stage-projected illustrations develop the story while the music is performed.

Tickets are \$18 to \$28 with both student and senior discounts available. They can be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays or 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call SLO-ARTS (756-2787).

The event is sponsored by the Cal Poly Music Department. For more information, go to www.hideoconcert.com.

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California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

polynews [at] calpoly.edu