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Cal Poly Symphony to Perform ‘Music and Word’ June 1

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Actor and stage director Josh Machamer will be the guest artist at Cal Poly’s Symphony Spring Concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, June 1, in Harman Hall of the Performing Arts Center’s Christopher Cohan Center.

The annual concert will feature the university’s 75-member symphony performing “Music and Word.” The two major works on the program draw their inspiration from the art of storytelling.

Machamer, associate chair of Cal Poly’s Theatre and Dance Department, will join the symphony as narrator for Sergei Prokofiev’s “Peter and the Wolf.” Composed in 1936, this tale features various instruments of the orchestra as characters in the story. The story relates the adventures of Peter and his friends as they confront a danger emerging from the forest.

The symphony will also perform “Scheherazade,” a popular masterwork by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov. This symphonic suite was inspired by the Persian collection of stories “Thousand and One Nights.” Told solely through music, the work relates Scheherazade’s struggle to convince the Sultan to spare her life from one night to the next, with the promise of further narrative adventures.

Tickets to the concert are $12 and $14 for the public and $9 and $12 for senior citizens and students. New pricing includes all Performing Arts Center fees, and the PAC sponsors event parking. Tickets are sold at the Performing Arts Ticket Office between noon and 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. To order by phone, call SL0-4TIX (756-4849).

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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