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Guest Artist Atzinger to Perform Piano Recital

Summary: The Music Discipline will welcome Christopher Atzinger for a piano recital on Sunday, April 21, at 2:30 p.m.

(April 12, 2013)-The Music Discipline is pleased to welcome guest artist Christopher Atzinger, associate professor of music at St. Olaf College, for a piano recital on Sunday, April 21, at 2:30 p.m. in the Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall. His program will feature music of Beethoven, Brahms, Richard Danielpour, Pierre Jalbert, and Justin Merritt. All are welcome to attend.

Praised in Gramophone for his “abundant energy, powerful fingers, big sound and natural musicality,” and in the San Francisco Chronicle for his “fervency and panache,” Atzinger has performed in Austria, Germany, England, Italy, France, Spain, Malta, and Canada in addition to performances throughout the United States. He has also lectured at the Juilliard School and Berklee College of Music and has given masterclasses across the country.

As a medalist of the New Orleans, San Antonio, Cincinnati, Shreveport, and Seattle International Piano Competitions, Atzinger has been praised by critics for his “personal interpretive vision” and “virtuoso aplomb.” He is a winner of the National Federation of Music Clubs Artist Competition, the Simone Belsky Piano Competition, and the Premio Città di Ispica prize at the IBLA Grand Prize Competition in Ragusa-Ibla, Italy in addition to receiving honors from the Frinna Awerbuch International Piano Competition, the National Society of Arts and Letters, and the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). Additionally, he has received grants and fellowships from the McKnight Foundation, the Theodore Presser Foundation, the American Composers Forum, the Minnesota State Arts Board, Foundation La Gesse, and the Joyce Dutka Arts Foundation.

With interests in American music, Atzinger has given premieres of works by Stephen Rush, Gregory Fritze, Robert Pound, and Kevin McCarter. His debut recording on the MSR Classics label featuring Samuel Barber’s Piano Sonata, Op. 26 also received high marks, including special mention at the 8th annual International Web Concert Hall Auditions. Most recently, Atzinger received honors at the 10th San Antonio International Piano Competition for his performance of the commissioned piece, Ivory and Ebony, by Joan Tower. He has also recorded music of Judith Lang Zaimont and Amy Beach for Naxos and Centaur Records.

In addition to degrees from the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Michigan, Atzinger earned a doctor of musical arts degree in piano performance from the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University. Prior to his faculty appointment at St. Olaf College in Northfield, he taught at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania.

Atzinger is represented by Parker Artists, New York.

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