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Symphonic Winds to give final concert for semester on December 9

Summary: The University of Minnesota, Morris Symphonic Winds will present its final concert of the 2007 calendar year on December 9 at 3 p.m. in the Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall.

(December 4, 2007)-The University of Minnesota, Morris Symphonic Winds will present its final concert of the 2007 calendar year on December 9 at 3 p.m. in the Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall. This performance will include music which prominently features familiar melodies. The ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Martin H. Seggelke, will perform David Maslanka's "Symphony No. 7 for Winds and Percussion" as the main work of the concert. The group will also honor two graduating members, Kate Raymond, Mankato, and Mike Meyer, Winsted, in their final performance with the ensemble.

Composed in 2004, Maslanka's "Symphony No. 7" is a powerful work inspired by the four-part chorales of Johann Sebastian Bach. Soloistic interpretation is required of all sections of the ensemble, and the symphony's various movements require attention to balance and texture to support the many individual lines. Of this dynamic piece, the composer writes: "I think of this Symphony as 'old songs remembered.' With one exception, all the tunes are original, but they all feel very familiar... Each song has a bright side and a dark side, a surface and the dream underneath." "Symphony No. 7" has been performed only occasionally since it has been published, mostly due to its high level of difficulty.

In addition, UMM senior Jeff Wencil, Blaine, will enter the podium to conduct "Australian Up-Country Tune" by Percy Grainger, a chorale arranged for winds based on an Australian folk song. Wencil is a political science and history double major in his third year at UMM.

The UMM Symphonic Winds is comprised of approximately 70 musicians, both music majors and non-majors who join together to perform eight concerts on campus during each academic year. While offering students opportunities to expand their technical, intellectual and musical horizons, the UMM Symphonic Winds seek to broaden performance and teaching skills by cultivating an interest in the wind ensemble as an integral part of the American music scene.

Tickets for the performance, which can be purchased at the door, are \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors and children and \$1 for students with UMM ID. A reception of punch and cookies will follow the concert. For more information, contact the UMM Music Office at (320) 589-6234.

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