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Meg Dubuque
Illinois Wesleyan University

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Contact: Meg Dubuque, (309) 556-3181

Internationally Renowned Pianist Padova to Perform at IWU

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. –Internationally renowned Italian pianist Andrea Padova will perform Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 8 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall (1210 Park St., Bloomington).

The concert is free and open to the public.

Padova, winner of the J.S. Bach International Piano Competition in 1995, is considered by critics to have “extraordinary gifts, pulsating interpretation, and modern and vibrating conception.” He will perform J.S. Bach’s *Aria Variata alla Maniera Italiana*, BMV 989; Chopin’s *Barcarolle*, Op. 60; his own *Impromptu*, Op. 36; Liszt’s *Les Jeux d’eaux a la Villa d’Este*; Mozart’s *Sonata in C Minor*, K. 457; and Ravel’s *Jeux d’eau*.

A “musician of top rank,” according to major German regional newspaper, *Saarbruecken Zeitung*, Padova has received several awards as both a pianist and composer, and has worked with contemporary composers such as Pierre Boulez, Goffredo Petrassi, Franco Donatoni and Leonard Bernstein.

Padova has performed across the country at venues such as New York’s Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall and Washington’s Performing Arts Society, as well as in concerts across the globe, including Prague, Munich, Vancouver, Montreal, Athens, Rome, Istanbul and Tel Aviv.

Born in 1962, Padova studied piano with Vincenzo Vitale, Aldo Ciccolini and Eric Larsen, and composition with Franco Donatoni at the Accademia Nazionale di S.Cecilia in Rome. He has also studied eighteenth-century performance practice, as well as ancient instruments.

Mario Pelusi, professor of composition and theory and director of the School of Music will be hosting Padova on his visit to IWU. “I first met Andrea Padova about ten years ago at a master class he gave for pianists at a school at which I taught in New Jersey,” Pelusi said. “Since that time, he and I have remained in contact and, in fact, became collaborators a few years ago when I composed a work for him to be performed on one of his annual tours of the United States, which, at that time, included a concert here at IWU. Andrea Padova belongs to a highly

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select group of musical artists that includes both accomplished composers and performers who appear regularly in concerts. It has been a really great privilege for me to work with Maestro Padova as colleagues and to count him as a cherished friend.”

For additional information, contact the IWU School of Music office at (309) 556-3061.