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Teresa Sherman  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

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## New Music Cafe to Present Local, International Compositions

November 6, 2006

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. -- The New Music Cafe, part of Illinois Wesleyan University's New Music Series, will present new local and international compositions on Saturday, Nov. 11, at 7:30 p.m. in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall, 1210 Park St., in Bloomington.

The event and reception, which follows immediately after, are free and open to the public, courtesy of the IWU School of Music and Sigma Alpha Iota, the professional music fraternity for women.

The New Music Cafe will feature two compositions by award-winning, internationally recognized Thai composer Narong Prangcharoen, and premiere an original composition by David Vayo, director of the New Music series and IWU professor of composition and theory. Other performers include Adjunct Professor of Composition Brad Decker, IWU Faculty Violinist Michael Hall, and Illinois State University Faculty Bassist William Koehler.

The works of guest composer Prangcharoen have been performed by the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Pacific Symphony, and the National Symphony Orchestra of Thailand. At Saturday's concert, Vayo will perform Prangcharoen's piece "Three Minds" on piano. A musical trio, which will include IWU senior orchestral instruments major Amanda Andrews on flute, adjunct faculty member Amanda Legner on percussion and accompanist Nancy Pounds on piano will perform "Shade of the Night and Day," another of Prangcharoen's compositions.

Currently a faculty member in the Western Music Department of Srinakharinwirot University in Bangkok, Prangcharoen earned his master's degree in composition from Illinois State University, where he later taught as instructional assistant professor of music in composition. In 2005, Prangcharoen founded the Thailand Composition Festival in Bangkok.

New compositions from within the University community will include "Montage," an "electroacoustic composition" by Decker, and the premiere of Vayo's piece, "Flower Thought," which will be performed by Hall. Vayo, who has received 19 ASCAP awards since 1988, composed the piece in January of 2006. "It's a brief, gentle, innocent, ruminating piece, like a short poem expressed as music," he said.

Finally, Vayo himself will perform improvisations based on simple musical ideas or suggestive phrases with Koehler. "We continuously surprise each other and ourselves when we improvise, and look forward to sharing our adventures with the audience," Vayo said.

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

*Contact: Teresa Sherman, (309) 556-3181*