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School of Music Welcomes University of Wisconsin Performers

Katie Webb
Illinois Wesleyan University

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September 8, 2009

Contact: Katie Webb '13, (309) 556-3181

School of Music Welcomes University of Wisconsin Performers

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University's School of Music will present a guest recital featuring performers from the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The recital will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 20 in Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall (1210 Park St., Bloomington).

The recital is free and open to the public.

The performance will feature Mark Hetzler, trombone; Anthony Di Sanza, percussion; and Jessica Johnson, piano.

The group will begin the evening with a performance of Steven Rush's *Inner Rebellion* (1995) followed by David Vayo's *Climb* (1957), Serra Wang's *Sojourn* (1962), Jan Bach's *Concert Variations* (1937), and finish with Steven Rush's *Rebellion* (1958).

Hetzler, the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Assistant Professor of Trombone, began playing the trombone at the age of 12. He has performed with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Pops, the Florida Orchestra, and is currently a member of The Wisconsin Brass Quintet. Hetzler has also released three solo recordings, with a fourth one to be released in January 2010. He has created a series of multi-media programs featuring the performance of live music set to original video and photography that have been performed at New Music festivals across the country as well.

Internationally recognized performer and educator Anthony Di Sanza can be heard on recordings of many artists and ensembles, including; Linda Maxey and the Galaxy Percussion Group, The Wisconsin Brass Quintet, Keiko Abe and the Michigan Chamber Players, the Brass Band of Battle Creek, and the Reptile Palace Orchestra. Di Sanza is the Associate Professor of Percussion at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and will soon release his own solo CD. He has also performed with numerous orchestras and is currently the principle percussionist of the Madison Symphony Orchestra. Di Sanza has also performed at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention, the Society of Composers National Conference, and the Music

Teachers National Association (MTNA) National Conference with his wife, Jessica Johnson, as the piano and percussion duo Sole Nero.

The other half of Sole Nero, Jessica Johnson, is the Associate Professor of Piano and Director of Graduate Studies in Piano Pedagogy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and received UW-Madison's Emil Steiger Distinguished Teaching Award for excellence in teaching in 2006. She has given presentations and workshops at the European Piano Teachers Association International Conference, the International Society for Music Education, the World Piano Pedagogy Conference, and the MTNA National Conferences, as well as published articles in *American Music Teacher*, *Piano Journal of the European Piano Teachers Association*, *Keyboard Companion*, *Piano Pedagogy Forum*, and *Piano Adventures Teacher Newslettter*. In 2007, Johnson won the National Article of the Year Award for "The Art of Listening with Depth, Understanding, Flow, and Imagery." She is also the director of "Piano Pioneers," a program that brings quality piano instruction to low-income community members.

For more information on this event, contact the School of Music office at (309) 556-3061.

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