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Electronic Art: Blendine Sound & Light Multimedia Composer, Artist, to Perform in Concert,

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May 10, 1996

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Electronic Art: Blending Sound & Light
Multimedia Composer, Artist, to Perform in Concert,
May 18 at Illinois Wesleyan University

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--The *New York Times* called his performance: "A virtuoso display of images." San Francisco's KCBS radio said he's on the "cutting edge of the new music."

Now, Ron Pellegrino will bring his trademark multimedia concert--typically involving music, the visual arts, theater arts, computers, videos, and lasers--to Illinois Wesleyan University.

Pellegrino will be a guest artist at IWU, May 16-18, as part of IWU's inaugural May Term, which is a month-long program where students study a single course intensively on campus, take a travel course, or work on an internship.

Pellegrino will perform in concert, Saturday, May 18, at 7:30 p.m., in Room C-101, a first floor auditorium in the Center for Natural Science Learning and Research, 201 E. Beecher St., Bloomington. The concert is open to the public, free-of-charge.

Jean Kerr, IWU assistant professor of dance and theatre arts, will perform Pellegrino's composition, "Cynthia's Dream." Her live dance performance will be complemented by spoken text, videotape, and other special effects.

"He pushes the envelope of music and technology," Kerr said, referring to Pellegrino's electronic approach to the use of sound and light.

"Working with Dr. Pellegrino," Kerr said, "opens my world a little more."

A promotional pamphlet described Pellegrino's work this way: "Computer graphics, video graphics, and laser graphics are the natural dancing partners of music. The instruments of the electronic arts provide the means for choreographing their dances in an infinitude of forms without stylistic boundaries."

During his three-day residency, Pellegrino will make several presentations to various IWU classes:

- Thursday morning, May 16, he will discuss his theories of music and the visual arts.
- Friday morning, May 17, he will lecture on computer technologies and the arts.
- Friday afternoon, May 17, he will discuss techniques of combining music and images.

Pellegrino, who is based in the San Francisco Bay area, has been involved in more than 400 public events as a producer and artist in North and South America and Europe. He began his pioneering work, blending music, technology, and the visual arts, in 1967. Pellegrino played a pivotal role in establishing multimedia programs at Ohio State University and Oberlin College. He also has been involved in designing and directing electronic music facilities at Ohio State, Oberlin, Miami University, Texas Tech University, and Sonoma State University. Pellegrino has been a faculty member in university departments

(more)

Pellegrino's IWU Concert/2

of music, physics, art, and education since 1964.

He is the author of two books, "The Electronic Arts of Sound and Light" (1983), and "An Electronic Studio Manual" (1969), as well as about 40 articles.

Pellegrino frequently presents lectures, recitals, seminars, master classes, workshops on college campuses and elsewhere.

He earned a bachelor of music degree at Lawrence University, Appleton, Wis., and master of music and doctoral degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 1,850 students in a College of Liberal Arts, College of Fine Arts, and a four-year professional School of Nursing. A \$15 million athletics and recreation center opened in the fall of 1994; and a \$25 million science building opened in the fall of 1995. The Carnegie Commission for the Advancement of Teaching promoted Illinois Wesleyan to a "Baccalaureate I" institution in 1994, a classification that places it among 161 highly selective National Liberal Arts Colleges in the annual *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. *Barron's Profiles of American Colleges*, another respected college guide, rated IWU "highly competitive (+)" in its latest edition.