FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

University of Minnesota to School of Music Alumna Maria Schneider’s Record Wins Three GRAMMY Awards

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL (1/27/14) – U of M School of Music alumna Maria Schneider's latest record “Winter Morning Walks” won three GRAMMYs, including the prizes for classical composition and classical vocal solo album. The recording features soprano Dawn Upshaw with the Australian Chamber Orchestra and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. A portion of “Winter Morning Walks” was recorded at the U of M School of Music’s Ted Mann Concert Hall and featured School of Music faculty members, including Julia Bogorad (flute), Chris Brown (bass), Michael Gast (horn), Timothy Lovelace (piano), and Charles Ullery (bassoon).

Schneider was in residence in September 2012 at the U of M School of Music. During her residency, she offered School of Music students the opportunity to witness the recording of “Winter Morning Walks” at Ted Mann Concert Hall, conducted composition master classes, and engaged in open side-by-side rehearsals with School of Music jazz ensembles.

The U of M School of Music conferred an honorary Doctor of Human Letters on composer, arranger, and big band leader Maria Schneider at the School of Music’s 2012 Fall Convocation. On the honorary degree, School of Music Director David Myers said, “For years, Maria Schneider has been a musical proponent and mentor to faculty and students alike at the University of Minnesota. Ms. Schneider's work in the arts exemplifies the School of Music’s important initiatives in preparing career-aspiring musicians to traverse new musical landscape to be engaged leaders and entrepreneurs in society and their communities. It was time for her alma mater, the flagship institution of the state from which she hails, to bestow its highest honorary accolade on this superbly talented, successful and deeply dedicated individual.”

Soprano Dawn Upshaw and Tim Martyn and David Frost, the recording/engineering team for “Winter Morning Walks,” were part of the School of Music's Fall 2012 Convocation.

Schneider, a Windom, Minnesota native, received the Master of Music degree in composition from the University of Minnesota School of Music in 1983.

Established in 1902, the University of Minnesota School of Music offers a dynamic, comprehensive program to more than 550 music students in undergraduate and graduate programs, led by a world-class faculty of more than 50 artists, scholars, and teachers. The School of Music presents more than 400 free concerts per year. For a complete schedule of events, visit music.umn.edu or call 612-626-1094 for a brochure.

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