For Immediate Release

U of M School of Music & MacPhail Center for Music Kick Off New Chamber Series with ‘An Evening of Collaborative Percussion’ (12/1)

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (11/16/2012)—The University of Minnesota School of Music and MacPhail Center for Music will present the first of four concerts in a new chamber series with An Evening of Collaborative Percussion on Saturday, December 1, 2012 at 8 p.m. at MacPhail’s Antonello Hall. The evening will feature U of M School of Music Professor Fernando Meza, MacPhail President, COO and Teaching Artist Paul Babcock, the U of M Percussion Ensemble, and the MacPhail Rimshots! Percussion Ensemble. Events in this series are free and open to the public.

The program will be an eclectic mix of percussive works, including Emmanuel Séjourné’s Akadinda Trio, Ney Rosauro’s Concerto for Marimba and Percussion Ensemble, Mvt. 4, Bob Becker’s Mudra, for prepared tom-tom and percussion ensemble, John Cage’s Third Construction, Edgar Varèse’s Ionisation, and Ney Rosauro’s Samba.

Upcoming concerts in the series: Guitar Concert: Six Strings Valentine with Maja Radovanlija (SOM professor) and Alan Johnson and Jean Seils (MacPhail teaching artists) and MacPhail students on February 14, 2013; Collaborative Brass concert with performances by David Baldwin (SOM professor), Allison Hall and Timothy Bradley (MacPhail teaching artists), and The MacPhail Brass Quintet on March 8, 2013; and Voice Concert: Songs of Spring with Adriana Zabala (SOM professor) and MacPhail teaching artists and students on April 3, 2013.

ARTIST BIOS

Bob Adney, percussion instructor, has been part of the Twin Cities music community for more than 33 years. Teaching at MacPhail since 1977, Bob has students ranging in age from 8 to adult. He guides his students whether their goal is music as a vocation or music is looked at as a fun activity. With his high school students, he has earned the reputation as being the “go to” teacher, preparing them for their college entrance auditions. Besides teaching percussion (snare drum, mallets, drum set and timpani) Adney is also the section coach for the Allegro Orchestra Camp, camp director for Percussion and Mallet Camp, director of the Percussion Ensemble II and director of MacRimba, percussion ensemble class for adults. He is also developing percussion curriculum for the Crescendo program. Adney looks at each of his concerts as career highlights. Performing is a gift and he feels honored and lucky to be able to do so. Some of those performances include: two tours of Asia with both the Minnesota Orchestra and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, participating in the Ojai Music Festival with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, performing “Carmina Burana” with the Minnesota Dance Theater and concerts with the Minneapolis Pops at Lake Harriet.

Paul Babcock is a percussion instructor and the director of MacPhail’s Rimshots! He has been a percussion instructor for more than 22 years and for the last 20 plus at MacPhail. During his time at MacPhail, Babcock has worked with hundreds of students of varying ages and levels, and taught in numerous settings ranging from lessons to ensembles, to classes with young children.
and clinics and residencies throughout the state. He created the innovative curriculum for the class Percussion for Children of which many graduates went on to successful student careers in percussion. His work with ensembles has taken performing groups throughout the Twin Cities, the United States and abroad. In January 1996, the percussion ensemble Rimshots! was formed and has since recorded several CDs, performed in more than 300 concerts, toured France, Boston and Chicago, has won several awards, and were featured on the public radio show “From the Top” with Christopher O’Riley. Their group has also worked with more than 60 nationally recognized percussionists and musicians in recordings, clinics and special rehearsals. Babeck can be seen frequently throughout the Twin Cities as a freelance percussionist in both jazz and classical settings. He is also the president and COO of MacPhail.

Fernando Meza has been at the helm of the percussion department at the University of Minnesota School of Music since 1993, when he was appointed as the first full-time percussion faculty member at the university. Formerly principal percussionist of the Costa Rica National Symphony Orchestra, Meza has performed with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Minnesota Orchestra in such esteemed venues as Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall (New York), Musikverein (Vienna), and Berliner Philharmonie (Germany) as well as toured and recorded in Latin America, Europe, Japan, Lithuania and the USA with such renowned marimba artists and groups as Keiko Abe and Nebojsa Zivkovic’s Jovan Perkussion Projek. His recording J.S. Bach: Suites for Unaccompanied Cello - Performed on Marimba by Fernando Meza has met with great reviews and is distributed through cdbaby.com, iTunes, and other digital music providers. A native of Costa Rica, Meza holds degrees from Baylor University (B.M), and the University of Michigan (M.M). He has been a faculty member at The Ohio State University, National Institute of Music and University of Costa Rica, and for the YOA-Orchestra of the Americas in the summers since 2003. Meza was one of the original percussionists for the Broadway production and original-cast recording of Disney's The Lion King and was Artistic Director/Host of the Marimba 2010 International Festival and Conference, the most comprehensive event centered around the marimba to this day.

MacPhail Center for Music
MacPhail Center for Music is a non-profit organization committed to transforming lives and communities through exceptional music learning experiences. Each year, MacPhail opens its doors to 10,200 students offering programming for all ages and abilities, at locations in Minneapolis, White Bear Lake, and Apple Valley, as well as 72 community partnerships across the Twin Cities metro area. MacPhail has a 105-year history of excellence, promoting life-long learning and building long-term relationships between students and teachers. www.macphail.org

University of Minnesota School of Music
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 www.music.umn.edu or call (612) 626-1094 for a brochure.

PARKING: There are several parking ramps and a surface parking lot nearby including the Portland Ave. Ramp (enter on Portland Ave) and the Depot Hotel parking (enter on 5th Ave) which range in price from $4 on weekdays to $3 on weekends, as well as metered street parking which costs $1 an hour. There are also four handicapped parking stalls available and ramps at curbs by all entrances and exits, and a drop off and pick up site on the east side of the building.