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The Rose Ensemble Presents

Christmas in Early America & Baroque Mexico

St. Paul, Minn.—The Rose Ensemble will present a concert of traditional music from the cathedrals of Mexico and from the New England colonies, “[Christmas in Early America & Baroque Mexico](#),” in four cities this holiday season. The event takes place between Nov. 28 – Dec. 16 in Alexandria, MN; Fargo, ND; Willmar, MN; and St. Cloud, MN.

The first half of this special holiday concert is a Spanish-language celebration of the festive ballads and dances that resounded through Puebla and Mexico City hundreds of years ago. Brightly alive and filled with beauty, this joyful program features popular dance rhythms from the 17th century that helped shape modern Latin dances (the *Xacara*, the *Guaracha*, the *Negrilla*, the *Romance* and the *Villancico*).

The second half returns to America’s folk roots with colonial carols, Southern shape-note tunes, Shaker hymns and the traditional harmonies that gave birth to bluegrass. The Rose Ensemble musicians also bring a variety of folk instruments into the mix, including a wooden flute, an antique gut strung gourd banjo, jaw harp, guitar, fiddle and mandolin, with percussion provided by tambourine and stomping feet.

The music featured in this program is available on two holiday recordings, “[Celebremos el Niño](#)” and The Rose Ensemble newest release, “[And Glory Shone Around](#).” Both discs are ideal holiday gifts and will be available for purchase at the concert and at www.RoseEnsemble.org.

Tickets are general admission and are available at the door or through The Rose Ensemble at (651) 225-4340/www.roseensemble.org. Students and seniors receive a \$3 discount with valid ID.

NOVEMBER 28, 7:30 pm

United Methodist Church, Alexandria
\$12/\$9

DECEMBER 2, 7:30 pm

Church of St. Mary, Willmar
\$12/\$9

NOVEMBER 29, 7:30 pm

Peace Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND
\$12/\$9

DECEMBER 16, 7:30 pm

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, St. Cloud
\$23/\$20

This event is made possible through a multi-year grant from the Otto Bremer Foundation, helping The Rose Ensemble to bring world-class performances to Minnesota communities beyond the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

[more]

ABOUT THE ROSE ENSEMBLE The Rose Ensemble reawakens the ancient with vocal music that stirs the emotions, challenges the mind and lifts the spirit. The group tours both nationally and internationally with repertoire spanning 1,000 years and 25 languages. Now entering its thirteenth performance season, The Rose Ensemble is the recipient of the 2005 Chorus America Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence and a first-place winner in the 2007 Tolosa International Choral Competition (Spain).

TICKETS/INFORMATION: www.RoseEnsemble.org | (651) 225-4340

SOUND SAMPLE: <http://www.roseensemble.org/performances/overview.html#midwest>

PHOTOS: www.roseensemble.org/news/pressroom.html

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