

Faculty CD just released

■ A creative set of classical music was recently compiled by a trio of university music school professors

By Brooke Ross
Oregon Daily Emerald

Faculty members at the University's School of Music do more than teach music — they also create it.

Trio Pacifica, a musical ensemble composed of Kathryn Lucktenberg, associate professor of violin, Steven Pologe, associate professor of cello, and Victor Steinhardt, professor of piano, recently released their first CD, entitled "The Call of the Wild."

Using an innovative mix of narration from several novels and their own music, the trio hopes to heighten the excitement of classical music.

The trio received funding from the University and from the Aaron Copland Foundation, from which they received a grant in 1999. The CD was released on the CRi music label after three years of work and preparation.

"The CD-making process itself is very humbling and purifying," Lucktenberg said. "You're in a different place in terms of how you play and how you think."

Composer Jon Deak created the music for the CD, which is based on four novels: "Steppenwolf," "1984," "Call of the Wild" and "My Antonia."

"Jon's music was immediately appealing because of the theatrics required of the performers," Lucktenberg said, adding that one unique aspect to this music is that the performers try to speak the text of the novels while playing, so there are a lot of added sound effects woven into the music. "We narrate and play the music simultaneously, so it all tells a story," Lucktenberg said. "This was a challenge because we all had to learn this new technique."

The professors came together as

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Trio Pacifica in 1993 after husband and wife, Pologe and Lucktenberg, interviewed for faculty positions at the University. The couple, who formerly performed with the Honolulu Symphony as full time musicians, met Steinhardt during their music auditions when he was assigned as their piano accompanist.

"We decided to try out this academic world," Pologe said, "and

we felt an instant connection with Steinhardt."

"We formed our group and have performed concerts throughout Oregon, Hawaii, Washington and we toured Taiwan in the spring of 1998," Pologe said. "But we had not made a CD yet."

Pologe also said the CD making process was intense work, but he was amazed by the way recording technology made the group sound.

"Everything in the studio was set up to maximize the greatest potential of each instrument. You could never put on a concert like that," he said.

Steinhardt agrees that while making the CD was a lot of work, overall he enjoyed the rehearsals. It was exciting to speak and make sound effects while playing, he said.

Steinhardt said he has talked with the other members of Trio Pacifica about future projects and looks forward to continuing the ensemble's work.

"I hope we have many more occasions to play together because I truly enjoy working with them," he said.

Trio Pacifica is holding a concert at Beall Concert Hall on Thursday, Nov. 9, where they will perform one of the pieces from their CD, "The Wager at El Dorado Saloon." The trio will also be performing other well-known classical works from Mozart and Brahms. General admission is \$7 and \$4 for students and seniors. The performance will begin at 8 p.m.

Ballot Box

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"We're doing it because we want to show the campus and the Eugene community — and, I guess, the world — that we are taking control of our vote, and that we care," said Brandy Alexander, public relations coordinator for the MCC.

The ASUO's drop box appears to have done its job, attracting ballots from University students as well as other community members, such as state Rep. Vicki Walker, who is running for re-election this term.

But there's a chance that the edifice may be torn down without having reached its desired status of the "World's Largest Ballot Box."

Breslow said that the box can't really be called the "world's

largest" because communication with the Guinness Book of World Records has broken down. The only contact person he had failed to answer his e-mails. Recently, the e-mails he sent have started coming back to him.

Even so, Breslow said he plans to continue working on pulling together the items necessary to obtain "world's largest" status for the box.

In the meantime, the ASUO will continue its effort to remind people to turn in their ballots. Their Youth Vote 2000 campaign consists of "canvassing" — going door-to-door — and making phone calls to some of the more than 5,000 voters the ASUO registered during its voter registration drive earlier this term. Door-to-door contacts were conducted last weekend, while phone calls to a list of 1,650 student voters have been

made in a series of three rounds, with the last round set to take place today.

The entire effort is part of a study by Donald Green, a professor of political science at Yale University. Green has been examining what affects voter turnout — how and why people vote — for the past 12 years.

Through his studies, Unger said, Green has found that canvassing is one of the best ways to get people to vote.

Green is also studying what happens when voters are left alone, so the ASUO has set aside a "control group" of people they aren't contacting at all.

After the election, Unger said, Green will follow up with some of the voters by conducting a mini-questionnaire asking what made them decide to either vote or not vote.

Student voting

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Oregon Health Plan," Kitzhaber said. "Vicki is a supporter of the tuition freeze and a tireless advocate of block grants."

In the past week, prominent Democrats such as former presidential candidate Bill Bradley and the Rev. Jesse Jackson have come to the University. All of them have told students to vote and gave strong support for Vice President Al Gore.

Now that the countdown to the election is in full swing, Kitzhaber instructed rally participants to personally contact 10 friends to get them to vote.

Walker is a University alumnae and a parent of two students who currently attend the school. As a result, Walker said she understands the needs of college students for inexpensive health care and tuition.

"You can count on me to represent you in the 2001 legislation," Walker said.

Walker thanked the students for being the most registered campus in the nation.

"I care about these issues. I know the value of an education," Walker said. "I wouldn't be where I am to-

“I care about these issues. I know the value of an education. I wouldn't be where I am today without my education at the University.”

Vicki Walker
State representative

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Walker attended the University between 1974 and 1978. She maintained a 4.0 grade point average during the spring term of 1978 when she took 15 credits, despite

being pregnant with her son, who is now a fifth-year senior.

Walker said when students make informed votes on the ballot measure they have a crucial impact on services with which they are provided.

"I brought my ballot to drop off today," said ASUO intern and senior psychology major Lauren Bennett, who helped organize the ASUO's ballot measure presentations this fall. "I agree with a lot of what Gov. Kitzhaber said ... and I'd like to show support for the issues he is behind. I think this is going to be a really close election."

Lauren Manes, a junior linguistics major who is the publicity director and secretary for College Democrats said she throws her support behind Walker. She attended the rally along with other students to place her vote in the "World's Biggest Ballot Box."

"I was already planning to vote, but I figured this would be the time to do it," Manes said.

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