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### Bach aficionado plays UM concert

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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This release is available electronically on INN (News Net.)

Nov. 12, 1999

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**BACH AFICIONADO PLAYS UM CONCERT**

**MISSOULA --**

A harpsichordist who specializes in Bach will bring his 'world-class talents to' a University of Montana stage as part of the 1999-2000 President's Lecture Series.

Edward L. Parmentier, professor of music at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, will lecture and play during his performance titled "J.S. Bach's Clavieruebung: Masterpieces for the Harpsichord." The free, public lecture-concert begins at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, in the Music Recital Hall.

Parmentier also will lead "Performance Class in Baroque Music: Edward Parmentier and University Students" during a Friday afternoon seminar from 3:10 to 4:30 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall.

"He is a marvelous musician who really is a student of the harpsichord," said Richard Drake, UM history professor and lecture series organizer. "He is extremely well known and is a gifted speaker as well. He's educated in the general humanities, as well as in music."

Parmentier has performed throughout the United States, Europe and Japan. He has

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studied harpsichord with maestros Albert Fuller in New York City and Gustav Leonhardt in Amsterdam and holds degrees in the classics and musicology from Princeton University and in humanities from Harvard University.

At Ann Arbor Parmentier teaches harpsichord and performance practice and directs choral and instrumental performances of the Early Music Ensemble. His solo appearances include recitals on harpsichord and antique organs, as well as concerto performances with orchestras. He's recently performed at the Philadelphia Bach Festival; the conservatories of Moscow, St. Petersburg and Ufa, Russia; and the Library of Congress.

"The baroque spirit, embodied in the music of J.S. Bach, was dusted off, uncorked and poured into the mainstream of life by harpsichordist Edward Parmentier," said a review in the Milwaukee Sentinel. "Better baroque playing, more stylish and luminous and expressively compelling, doesn't happen anywhere in the world."

Parmentier's collection of recordings has won both critical and popular acclaim. His release on the Wildboar label of works by Bach and Böhm was nominated by Ovation magazine for Record of the Year in the solo artist category. High Fidelity magazine named his conducting of the Early Music Ensemble in excerpts from Handel's Messiah to its prestigious "Critic's Choice" list. Also released on Wildboar are Parmentier's albums of early Italian harpsichord music, sonatas of Domenico Scarlatti, 17th-century French harpsichord music, the six partitas of J.S. Bach, early German harpsichord music, Bach's complete toccatas and "Splendor of the Harpsichord."

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