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NEWS RELEASE

Oct. 16, 2002

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VERDEHR TRIO TO PERFORM AT UM

MISSOULA --

The next installment of The University of Montana President's Lecture Series brings the internationally renowned Verdehr Trio to the stage of UM's Music Recital Hall.

The violin-clarinet-piano trio will present "Around the World in Eighty Minutes with the Verdehr Trio: A Commissioning Odyssey" at 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31. The trio also will give a master class from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 1, in the Music Recital Hall. Both events are free and open to the public.

For more than 30 years, the Verdehr Trio has concentrated on molding and defining the personality of the violin-clarinet-piano trio. Formed in 1972, the trio led the way in the chamber music medium using the tonal possibilities of the grouping. More than 150 new works from some of the world's most prominent and exciting composers have been commissioned by the trio. The trio's evening performance at UM will include works from Austria, Turkey, Australia, Germany, China and the United States.

Walter Verdehr, the trio's violinist, was the first violinist to receive a doctorate at New York's Juilliard School. He also studied as a Fulbright Scholar in Austria at the Vienna Academy of Music.

Elsa Ludewig-Verdehr is the clarinetist for the trio. She studied at the Oberlin

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Conservatory of Music and received a doctorate from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y.

The trio's pianist, Silvia Roederer, graduated from the Eastman School of Music and received a doctoral degree from the University of Southern California.

To complement its commissioning efforts, the Verdehr Trio is creating a compact disc series titled "The Making of a Medium" and a video series consisting of half-hour programs with interviews and discussions by composers and performers and complete performances of the works.

The Verdehr Trio is in residence at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Mich. For more information about the trio, go online to www.verdehr.com.

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