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Ursonate Performance Live Across National LambdaRail for International Supercomputing Conference in Seattle, WA

Albuquerque, NM, November 1, 2011 -- The University of New Mexico’s (UNM) Center for Advanced Research Computing (CARC) will feature a live performance of Kurt Schwitters’ Ursonate, to be performed collaboratively across 1,200 miles via high-speed link using the National LambdaRail (NLR) between Albuquerque, New Mexico and Seattle, Washington in UNM’s booth at the 2011 Supercomputing Conference (SC11) Technical Exhibition, November 12 to 18. Students and researchers from across the U.S. will participate in the international conference and technical trade show for high performance computing, networking, storage, and analysis.

“Contributions to the SC11 Conference and Technical Exhibition this year will enable CARC to present advanced computational science research at UNM to an international high performance computing audience,” said Dr. Susan Atlas, CARC Director. “The live Albuquerque to Seattle SC11 performances by Professors Jack Ox and Kristen Loree over a dedicated National LambdaRail line will be unique in the annals of Supercomputing and will demonstrate the promise of state-of-the-art networking technology in support of university research and education.”

NLR, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded by the research and education community to connect over 280 universities and federal laboratories via 12,000 miles of high performance optical fiber in the United States for leading edge research. NLR creates opportunities for users at organizations such as NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), and the NIH (National Institutes of Health), to work with universities on collaboration, innovation and commercialization across the global research community, and including both public and private partners.

The Ursonate performances will feature Professor Jack Ox from UNM’s Department of Music (digital projections), Professor Kristen Loree from UNM’s Department of
Theater and Dance (voice), and Jane Crayton from UNM’s College of Education (VJ), with high-speed connectivity and optical switching provided by UNM IT’s Networking Group (Ed May, Gary Bauershmidt) in collaboration with CARC’s Deputy Director Dr. Tim Thomas and technical staff Chun-Yu Chan and Dan Felker. Special thanks are due to UNM’s Amanda Machon (Theater/Dance), Bahram Saba and Val Gerhold (Media Technology Services), and Manny Rettinger (Music) for providing video consulting and equipment.

Each demonstration will feature two movements with a fifteen-minute intermission to include a brief lecture on the piece by Jack Ox in Seattle. Professor Loree will sing a rendition of Kurt Schwitters’ Ursonate live from Albuquerque, accompanied by Jane Crayton’s video-jockey display of the performance. The piece will be viewed live in Seattle via high-speed connection and optical switching, where Professor Ox will digitally project the piece on HDTV at the SC11 CARC booth.

The performance includes pieces from Jack Ox’s eight hundred square foot visual translation of German artist Kurt Schwitters’ text/sound piece, Ursonate. “The painting is a visual interpretation of a copy of an iteration, a fractured palimpsest reassembled in a mosaic form; the performance a time-based rendering of that mosaic,” explained Ox. Ox’s rendition involves each theme in the sonata with a corresponding image based on one of the landscapes documented through photographs of Schwitters’ own paintings in Germany, Norway, and England. Professional actress/singer Kristen Loree, who collaborated with Ox for the Ursonate, has a vocalization range that allows the audience to get a sense “of that relatively rare cognitive condition or ability called synaesthesia”, as described by KUNM host Marina LaPalma.

Performances will run during the following times:

**Seattle Times:**
- **Monday, November 14th** – 7:45 p.m./8:15 p.m.
- **Tuesday, November 15th** – 10:15 a.m./10:45 a.m., 3:45 p.m./4:15 p.m.
- **Wednesday, November 16th** – 10:15 a.m./10:45 a.m., 2:00 p.m./2:30 p.m.

**Albuquerque Times:**
- **Monday, November 14th** – 8:45 p.m./9:15 p.m.
- **Tuesday, November 15th** – 11:15 a.m./11:45 a.m., 4:45 p.m./5:15 p.m.
- **Wednesday, November 16th** – 11:15 a.m./11:45 a.m., 3:00 p.m./3:30 p.m.

If you would like to see the performance live from Albuquerque, contact CARC at 505.277.8249 to reserve a seat for any of the performances.

For more information on the Center for Advanced Research Computing or SC11 performance, Ursonate, visit www.carc.unm.edu or contact the Director, Dr. Susan R. Atlas, at director@carc.unm.edu.

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