



Media contact:  
Lucy Beighle 239-3193  
Lucybeighle@yahoo.com  
November 21, 2011

## **Missoula Symphony Orchestra & Chorale Take Audience on Tour of the World – International Holiday Pops Concert December 3 & 4 –**

(Missoula, Montana) – With a *Joyeux Noel*, *Feliz Navidad* and *Fröhliche Weihnachten*, Missoula Symphony Orchestra and Chorale bring in the holiday season with a “Holidays Around the World” -themed Holiday Pops Concert. One of Missoula’s favorite family holiday traditions, **Holiday Pops** is the place to be on Saturday, December 3 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, December 4, at 3 p.m. Both shows take place in the University Theatre on the University of Montana campus.

According to Music Director Darko Butorac, this show will be familiar but different. “We’ll be doing carols from all over the world interspersed with popular classical music from the country of the carol’s origin.” An extensive traveler himself, Butorac says he borrowed from the holiday traditions of the many countries of his travels: Italy, Norway, Brazil, Russia, Austria, to name a few. “From Austria, for example, Schubert’s *Ave Maria* pairs with Strauss’s *Weiner Blut Waltz*. From Russia, ‘Chocolate’ and ‘Tarantella’ from the *Nutcracker* pair with a Rachmaninov piece. There’s a lot of great international holiday music out there, and it’s fun to explore a different repertoire.”

Along with the international selections, the second half of the show features traditional English/American favorites that will keep the audience humming long after the concert. “Who could resist Winter Wonderland, Rudolph and Jingle Bells?” Butorac asks. That would be like the holidays without...Santa? You bet, he’ll be there too. Tossing candy to young and old alike.

As is tradition, the 100-plus members of the Chorale join the Orchestra for this concert. Straying from tradition, however, the Chorale won’t simply come on stage for the second half of the show. “The music of this concert really lends itself to a back and forth between chorale and orchestra,” Butorac says. “So it made sense for the Chorale to be on stage the entire time. Orchestra and Chorale members alike are going to really enjoy themselves this concert.”

As will the audience. Who, Butorac reminds, should buy tickets early as Holiday Pops sells out fast. “Bring your family, bring your friends, let us take you on a musical tour of the world.”

*Prost* to that.

Holiday Pops tickets are available online at [missoulasymphony.org](http://missoulasymphony.org), by phone at 721-3194, or in person at the Symphony office at 320 East Main Street. Tickets range from \$10 to \$40. For more on the Symphony, please visit [missoulasymphony.org](http://missoulasymphony.org).