

## Pianist Aaberg to perform Christmas show at Kroc

**Zak Adams, Kroc Center theater manager**

Grammy nominated and twice Emmy nominated pianist Philip Aaberg to perform a Christmas Concert at The Kroc Center. He will be performing selections from his two Christmas albums, *Wild Christmas* and his 2013 release, *High Plains Christmas* on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at The Salvation Army Kroc Center in Coeur d'Alene.

His original Holiday music and spirited Christmas favorites were featured last year on the PBS broadcast, *Christmas with Philip Aaberg*.

This live performance will expand upon that televised show. A Montana native, his music is known for being an interpretation of the landscapes of the Northwest, the mountains and valleys, forests and plains. Fellow pianist George Winston said of Philip, "He is a true composer, as well as a great interpreter. His music so deeply captures the essence of Montana, and yet it is so universal."

Born in Havre Montana and raised in Chester Montana, Philip was playing in dance bands by age 14. He went on to get a music degree from Harvard and after moving to Oakland, California, fell in with the Elvin Bishop Group, playing and writing some songs. His piano playing is even featured on Elvin's biggest hit, "Fooled Around and Fell In Love."

Philip Aaberg then signed with Windham Hill Records in 1985 and showed off his very eclectic background in the highly acclaimed solo album, *High Plains*. He followed that with 7 more solo releases, including the Grammy nominated 2000 release, *Live from Montana*. He has also regularly appeared on the popular Windham Hill Sampler albums over the past 20 years as well as performed with the Boston Pops Orchestra, The Marlboro Chamber Music Festival, Peter Gabriel, The Doobie Brothers and many others. His piano can be heard on over 200 albums. He was Emmy nominated for his work with PBS's All-American Jazz program.

Now residing in Montana, his own label, Sweetgrass Music, strives to make music that "connects a global audience to the sweeping landscape of the West." Although classically trained, Philip celebrates many traditions with his compositions. He weaves strains of blues and bluegrass as well as rock and new music throughout his melodic tapestries.

This is what Philip said himself about last December's release of the "High Plains Christmas" album, "*The range of this album reflects a typical Christmas Eve in my memory. I wish you all the joy and wonder, peace and excitement, awe and wildness of the Christmas season.*"

Philip Aaberg's website: <https://sweetgrassmusic.com>

Reserved Seat Tickets are \$25 available at The Salvation Army Kroc Center front desk, 1765 W. Golf Course Rd. in Coeur d'Alene or online at [kroccda.org](http://kroccda.org) or by calling 208-667-1865.