

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**  
**ARLO GUTHRIE & THE KLEZMATICS**  
**HOLY GROUND: THE SPIRITUAL MUSIC OF WOODY GUTHRIE**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

**BERKELEY, November 10, 2004** – Folk icon and master storyteller, **Arlo Guthrie** and the renowned New York-based klezmer group, **The Klezmatics**, come to Cal Performances on **Tuesday, December 7 at 8:00 p.m.** in **Zellerbach Hall**. The son of Woody Guthrie, the folk music legend who changed the face of American music with his socially conscious folk songs, Arlo is joined by the marvelously talented klezmer group, **The Klezmatics**. They will perform songs that draw upon a recently discovered treasure trove of unrecorded Jewish lyrics penned by Woody Guthrie. *Holy Ground* is a soul stirring exploration of Guthrie's favorite word, "union" – of the secular and the sacred, the humorous and the profound – and of his heartfelt lyric that inspired the project's title: "Every spot on earth is holy ground."

**ARLO GUTHRIE**

Born in Coney Island, Brooklyn, New York, in 1947, Arlo Guthrie is the son of legendary folksinger Woody Guthrie and Marjorie Mazia Guthrie, a professional dancer with the Martha Graham Company. He grew up surrounded by musicians, including Pete Seeger, Ronnie Gilbert, Leadbelly, Cisco Houston, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Sonny Terry, and Brownie McGee, all of whom were significant influences on Arlo's musical career. Guthrie gave his first public performance at age thirteen, quickly becoming involved in the music that was shaping the world in the early 1960s. Playing Greenwich Village in New York City in such venues as Gerdes Folk City, The Gaslight, and The Bitter End, Arlo developed his own style, becoming a distinctive, expressive voice in a crowded community of singer-songwriter musicians.

Arlo Guthrie's career exploded in 1967 with the release of "Alice's Restaurant." The album's title song premiered at the Newport Folk Festival and helped foster a new commitment

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among the 60's generation to social consciousness and activism. Guthrie went on to star in the 1969 Hollywood film version of "Alice's Restaurant" directed by Arthur Penn.

Over the last four decades Guthrie has toured throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Australia winning a wide popular following. Well accomplished as a musician—playing the piano, six- and twelve-string guitars, harmonica, and a dozen other instruments—Guthrie is a natural-born storyteller whose tales and anecdotes figure prominently in his performance. Today, Guthrie spends nearly 10 months of the year on the road, and is frequently accompanied by his daughter Sarah lee and his son Abe.

Alongside his thriving performing career, Guthrie launched his own record label, Rising Son Records, in 1983. RSR, which offers Arlo's complete catalogue of music, has re-released the classic album "Arlo Guthrie & Pete Seeger Together in Concert" for the first time on CD, and "Alice's Restaurant: The Massacree Revisited," a 30<sup>th</sup>-anniversary re-recording of the original album with an updated version of the title song. Arlo is also heard on a Rounder Records release, "This Land is Your Land," alongside the voice of his father Woody Guthrie. The album has won several awards including a 1997 Grammy nomination as Best Musical Album for Children.

In 1991 Guthrie purchased the old Trinity Church that was the scene of "Alice's Restaurant." It now houses The Guthrie Center and The Guthrie Foundation, both named for Arlo's father, as well as Rising Son Records. The Guthrie Center is a not-for-profit interfaith church foundation dedicated to providing a wide range of community services. Its outreach programs have included an HIV/AIDS referral service, arts and music classes for children recovering from abuse and a lecture series. The educational Guthrie Foundation is a separate not-for-profit organization that addresses issues of our times such as the environment, health care, cultural exchange, and education.

## THE KLEZMATICS

"The best band in the klezmer vanguard; on a good night, they can rank among the greatest bands on the planet. Still the fearless standard-bearers in their field, it is impossible to imagine the genre without them." – *Time Out New York*

Since they erupted in New York's East Village in 1986, the Klezmatiks have spearheaded the revival of Klezmer music, reclaimed it as a contemporary form, and thrown a great party in the process. With the band's musical dexterity approaching legendary status, they have managed to produce more than fifteen years of consistently excellent recordings and performances that celebrate the ecstasy of Yiddish music. Their music is by turn wild, spiritual, provocative, reflective, and danceable. On their own and in collaboration with musicians as diverse as Itzhak Perlman, Allen Ginsberg, The Flying Karamazov Brothers, The Master Musicians of Jajouka, John Zorn, Pilobolus Dance Theatre, Neil Sedaka and, of course, Arlo Guthrie, The Klezmatiks' wide-ranging musicality raises the bar for musicians everywhere. The band member includes **Matt Darriau** (multi-instrumentalist/composer), **Lisa Gutkin** (fiddler/composer), **David Licht** (drums), **Frank London** (trumpeter/composer), **Paul Morrissett** (bass), and Klezmatiks founding singer **Lorin Sklamberg**.

## TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Arlo Guthrie & The Klezmatiks** on **Tuesday, December 7** at **8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$28.00, \$38.00, and \$56.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperfs.berkeley.edu](http://www.calperfs.berkeley.edu); and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens and other students receive a \$2 discount, and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$3 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at [www.calperfs.berkeley.edu](http://www.calperfs.berkeley.edu).

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Tuesday, December 7 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**  
Bancroft Way at Telegraph, Berkeley

*World Stage*

**Arlo Guthrie & The Klezmatics**

**Program:** The program features a collection of lyrics by folk hero Woody Guthrie on themes of Jewish identity, set to music for the first time by his son Arlo and the New York-based Klezmatics.

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