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AMERICAN FOLK ICON <u>ARLO GUTHRIE</u> BRINGS HIS GUTHRIE FAMILY RIDES AGAIN CONCERT TO CAL PERFORMANCES FRIDAY, APRIL 23 AT 8:00 P.M.

BERKELEY, March 12, 2010—Folk music legend Arlo Guthrie and "the first family of American folk" (*Vanity Fair*) pull into town with *Guthrie Family Rides Again* concert Friday, April 23 at 8:00 p.m. at Zellerbach Hall. "It's really fun and an adventure to hit the road as a family...and it's a great excuse to get everybody out of the house," says Guthrie. Along with plenty of Guthrie family classics, the concert will feature a big dose of Arlo's legendary storytelling and a selection of unpublished Woody Guthrie lyrics recently put to music by such distinguished artists as Billy Bragg, Wilco, Janis Ian, Wenzel, The Klezmatics and others. The *Guthrie Family Rides Again* spotlights Guthrie's son Abe, who has contributed keyboards and vocals to his father's performances since the '80s; daughters Cathy, Annie and Sarah Lee, all of whom have their own music careers and sing and play acoustic guitars; and son-in-law guitarist Johnny Irion. The youngest generation of Guthrie kids will be added to the mix on select songs.

## ARLO GUTHRIE

Arlo Guthrie was born on Coney Island, New York, in 1947, to America's legendary folksinger/writer/philosopher Woody Guthrie and Marjorie Mazia Guthrie, a dancer in the Martha Graham Company. His childhood was spent surrounded by musicians, including Pete Seeger, Ronnie Gilbert, Fred Hellerman and Lee Hays of The Weavers, Leadbelly, Cisco Houston, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Sonny Terry and Brownie McGee. Guthrie began performing at age 13 and played in many famed Greenwich Village spots, including Gerdes Folk City, The Gaslight and The Bitter End.

Over the last four decades he has toured throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Australia, winning a broad and dedicated following. He performed last at Cal Performances when he brought his *Solo Reunion Tour-Together at Last* to Zellerbach in 2008.

In addition to being an accomplished musician—playing the piano, six- and twelve-string guitar, harmonica and a dozen other instruments—Guthrie is a natural-born storyteller whose hilarious tales and anecdotes are woven seamlessly into his performances. Not all of his performances are acoustic folk experiences: he has performed over 40 concerts with 27 different symphony orchestras between 1998 and 2004, including a performance at Boston Symphony Hall that was broadcast on PBS's "Evening At Pops."

In 1983, alongside his thriving performing career, Guthrie launched his own record label, Rising Son Records (RSR), which holds his complete catalog of music. Over the years, RSR catalogue has grown to include works by Abe's band, Xavier; Sarah Lee's self-titled debut album; Johnny Irion's recordings; and Sarah Lee and Johnny's joint projects, *Entirely Live and Exploration*. Guthrie is also heard alongside the voice of his father, Woody Guthrie, on the 1997 re-release of *This Land is Your Land*. The album won several awards and a Grammy nomination for Best Musical Album for children.

Guthrie's undertakings include community projects as well as artistic pursuits. In 1991, Guthrie purchased the Trinity Church in Great Barrington, Massachusetts—where the *Alice's Restaurant* saga begins—renamed it The Guthrie Center after his parents, and opened it as a not-for-profit interfaith foundation and a place to meditate. The Guthrie Center and the separate Guthrie Foundation provide community services such as an HIV/AIDS referral service, art and music classes for children recovering from abuse, a lecture series, and leadership on issues such as the environment, healthcare, cultural exchange, and education.

## THE GUTHRIE FAMILY

Although Arlo Guthrie is often cited as the main performer, he is more truly part of a family ensemble. His longest family collaborator is his son **Abe**. In his spare time, Abe plays and records with his band Xavier, and is currently working on a follow-up album to the group's

debut CD (*Full Circle*, 2000). Daughter **Sarah Lee** and husband **Johnny Irion** together have released several records including their recent children music album *Go Waggalo*, praised for its blend of traditional folk music and contemporary country rock. Daughters **Cathy** and **Annie** run the family record label Rising Son Records. This is the second family tour that the clan has undertaken.

## TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for Arlo Guthrie's *Guthrie Family Rides Again* on Friday, April 23 at 8:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall are priced at \$26.00, \$38.00 and \$48.00. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988 or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.org.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20 for all other community members. Information is available at (510) 642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, three hours prior to a performance only.

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## CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE: CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, April 23 at 8:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley

Bancroft Way at College Avenue, Berkeley

World Stage
Arlo Guthrie, vocals, guitar and stories
Guthrie Family Rides Again

**Program:** Arlo Guthrie—folk singer, musician, storyteller—brings three generations of his family to Cal Performances.

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