



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CULTURAL COUNCIL
FOR MONTEREY COUNTY



SUPERB MUSICIANS INSPIRE DIVERSITY FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Media Contact JESSICA SOLOMON BLUESTEIN
Phone 831.622.9060 Email sparts@culturalmonterey.org

JULY 28, 2003

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

8:00 PM

Monterey Institute of International Studies, Irvine Auditorium, Monterey

The Golem - silent film (1920) with original score by
DAVKA (Jewish Diaspora Fusion)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

8:00 PM

Sunset Cultural Center, Sunset Theater Carmel

Into the Tradition and Beyond
DERVISH (Irish)
SOLAS (Celtic Fusion)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

11:00 AM

Historic Downtown Monterey, Monterey

United Colors of Monterey Bay
Ethnic Procession with **SAMBADÁ** (Brazilian)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 8:00 PM

Monterey Conference Center, Serra II Ballroom, Monterey

Sahara Caravan
MAMADOU DIABATE ENSEMBLE (Jeli Music of Mali)
HASSAN HAKMOUN ENSEMBLE (Moroccan Gnawa Trance Music)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

6:00 PM

Sunset Cultural Center, Sunset Theater, Carmel

The Mystic Dance
STELLAMARA (Bulgarian, Medieval, Middle Eastern)
AXIOM OF CHOICE (Persian Emigre Fusion)

WWW.MONTEREYWORLDMUSIC.ORG

- MORE -

THE 2003 MONTEREY WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL

July 28, 2003

Media Contact JESSICA SOLOMON BLUESTEIN Phone 831.622.9060 Email sparts@culturalmonterey.org

The Cultural Council for Monterey County launches the 7th annual 2003 **Monterey World Music Festival** with the theme, *Hope for the World*. On **SEPTEMBER 25, 26, 27, 28**, music from Ireland, Brazil, Morocco, Bulgaria, West Africa, Persia and Israel will be heard throughout Monterey County from **DAVKA** (*Jewish Diaspora Fusion*), **DERVISH** (*Irish*) & **SOLÁS** (*Celtic Fusion*), **SAMBADÁ** (*Brazilian*), **MAMADOU DIABATE** (*West Africa Kola Ensemble*), **HASSAN HAKMOUN ENSEMBLE** (*Moroccan Trance Music*), **STELLAMARA** (*Bulgarian, Medieval, Middle Eastern*) and **AXIOM OF CHOICE** (*Persian Emigre Fusion*). Call 866.56.MUSIC for tickets and visit www.montereyworldmusic.org.

The theme of this year's **Festival** is *Hope for the World*. Across space and time music moves the heart, touches the nexus of meaning and emotion. Forbidden by zealots, constrained by puritans of all stripes, it gives expression to the vital rhythmic forces of life. Music articulates the poignant, the beautiful. It exalts the mystic, strengthens the protester, soothes the infant, gives *hope*. Indomitable and freeing, music spontaneously penetrates cultural barriers to connect us with the deepest, most universal part of ourselves.

***INTRODUCING THE 7TH ANNUAL, 2003 FESTIVAL
MUSICIANS AND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS***

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

8:00 PM

Monterey Institute of International Studies, Irvine Auditorium, Monterey

The Golem - silent film (1920) with original score by
DAVKA (*Jewish Diaspora Fusion*)

In Jewish legend, the golem was a soulless clay giant brought to life by a mystical rabbi in 16th century Prague to protect the Jews from persecution. The story inspired the classic 1920 German Expressionist film "The Golem." The film is shown with live music composed by violinist Daniel Hoffman and performed live by Davka, the riveting Bay Area band, which blends traditional klezmer melodies with Middle Eastern rhythms and jazz improvisation.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

8:00 PM

Sunset Cultural Center, Sunset Theater, Carmel

Into the Tradition and Beyond

DERVISH (*Irish*)

Out of northwest Ireland, Dervish achieves a high point of interpretation of traditional Irish music. They make present and important authentic stuff! Dervish concert performances are a myriad of tones and moods ranging from high energy tunes, played with fluidity and intuitiveness, to beautifully measured songs, from charming lyrics of life and love, to inspiring melodies that lift audiences from their seats. All the elements are drawn together by vocalist Cathy Jordan's masterful stage presence.

- MORE -

Sunset Cultural Center, San Carlos at 9th / POB 7495 Carmel, CA 93921
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July 28, 2003

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SOLAS (*Celtic Fusion*)

In six short years Solas has made a major impact in both America and abroad as an Irish music supergroup whose albums and live shows are among the finest and most exciting musical experiences anywhere. Led by multi-instrumentalist Seamus Egan, they interpret a wide range of material in surprising ways; songs by contemporary artists are given a Celtic tinge, making explicit their connections with the deep ultimately Celtic roots of American music.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 11:00 AM

Historic Downtown Monterey, Monterey

United Colors of Monterey Bay

SAMBADÁ (*Brazilian*)

Led by SambaDá, the Santa Cruz's based Brazilian percussion and dance group, the *United Colors of Monterey Bay* procession presents performances of high quality and offers opportunities for local groups to show their cultural richness and outstanding talents. Let's rejoice in our differences and celebrate our commonalities!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 8:00 PM

Monterey Conference Center, Serra II Ballroom, Monterey

Sahara Caravan

MAMADOU DIABATE ENSEMBLE (*Jeli Music of Mali*)

Mamadou Diabate is descended from a long line of Manding musician-storytellers, the jeli, sometimes referred to by the French term *griot*. Mamadou is a kora virtuoso. The kora has a very unusual harp-like sound, but looks quite different, with a huge gourd resonator, a very long neck and a high bridge supporting its twenty-one strings. Mamadou will perform with balafon player Balla Kouyate and Abdoulaye Diabate, both among the finest jeli musicians.

HASSAN HAKMOUN ENSEMBLE (*Moroccan Gnawa Trance Music*)

Hassan Hakmoun is a master of the *sintir*, a three-stringed long-necked African lute producing the bass tones which underlie the *derdeba* trance ceremonies of the Gnawa, Morocco's descendants of Black African slaves. Hassan Hakmoun's performance is the incontrovertible evidence of a poised spirituality, hand-in-hand with a certain unbridled energy. *The New York Times* has been effusive in its praise of Hassan's "spellbinding fusion of Moroccan and Arabic sounds."

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 6:00 PM

Sunset Cultural Center, Sunset Theater, Carmel

The Mystic Dance

STELLAMARA (*Bulgarian, Medieval, Middle Eastern*)

Based within Turkish, Arabic, Balkan, Persian, Medieval European and Indian musical traditions, Stellamara creates original evocative soundscapes that are now considered to be a new model in contemporary world music. At its core is vocalist Sonja Drakulich and multi-instrumentalist Gari Hegedus. The result of this creation is a sublime new level of mystery, beauty and depth.

- MORE -

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AXIOM OF CHOICE (*Persian Emigre Fusion*)

Innovative, poignant and soulful best describe the music of Axiom of Choice. The sound of Axiom of Choice is based on the quartertone guitar, traditional Persian vocals, and various native percussion instruments. Axiom of Choice incorporates the sounds of other cultures – broadening the scope and appeal of their music – while remaining loyal to their roots. “Rich vocal textures, excellent musicianship and an open heart ...Axiom of Choice well may move into the front ranks of world music front.” CMJ New Music Report

Many sponsors are partners with the 2003 Monterey World Music Festival, they include public radio stations KUSP – 88.9 FM and KAZU – 90.3 FM; Vintners JEKEL Vineyards; magazine GLOBAL RHYTHM; newspaper the SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS; bank WASHINGTON MUTUAL as well as the California Arts Council, the City of Monterey and the County of Monterey. The **Monterey World Music Festival** is a program of the **Cultural Council for Monterey County**.

The **Monterey World Music Festival** paves the way through barriers of ethnicity, social and economic backgrounds. In its 7th season of presenting over a hundred of the highest-caliber World musicians, the Festival promotes cultural understanding and awareness, celebrate humankind's differences, and transcend cultural boundaries through the universal language of music. Every year, musicians from around the world arrive on the Central Coast for a cultural exploration of innovative blends of contemporary and traditional rhythms. Additionally, the Festival Educational Outreach Program presents global musicians through the Professional Artists in the Schools Program in Monterey County public schools, K-12 and colleges.

The **Cultural Council for Monterey County (CCMC)** is a private, non-profit organization and the official arts agency for Monterey County. Formed in 1982, **CCMC** serves as Monterey County’s local, county-designated partner of the California Arts Council. **CCMC** provides several vital programs: arts leadership, the granting program, arts education and cultural understanding. The **Cultural Council for Monterey County** promotes education, appreciation and excellence in the arts of Monterey County. **CCMC** fosters cultural awareness and understanding, helping to provide an array of aesthetic and educational experiences for adults and children. Please also visit www.culturalmonterey.org, the gateway to the arts and culture of Monterey County.

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