



Colden Auditorium
LeFrak Concert Hall
Goldstein Theatre

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NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kupferberg Center Performances Presents QUEENS COUNTY FOLK FESTIVAL Sunday, September 13, 2009 from 12 noon to 6 pm Queens College Campus Quad

- Free outdoor festival highlights music and dance of the Queens music scene -

(Flushing - August, 2009) - Round up family and friends, bring your chairs and spend a day outdoors at Queens College for the **Queens County Folk Festival**, on Sunday, September 13th. No other county in America could produce a folk festival quite like this one! Queens County Folk Festival is a free music festival featuring performing artists from a variety of genres, drawn from the rich cultural traditions found throughout the borough of Queens. Buy delicious food from an array of vendors or bring your own (no grills or alcohol please!) and picnic on the Quad, a large tree-lined grassy area within easy walking distance to parking lots and bus stops.

The festival is curated by Sami Abu Shumays, local musician and educator and recent Queens Community Arts Fund Director. The music starts at noon on the Queens College campus Quad, where musicians and dancers from Queens own music scene will take the stage to perform. (In case of rain, the festival will be held in Colden Auditorium.) The following groups are scheduled to perform:

Aaron Copland School of Music jazz ensemble

Students from Queens College's own acclaimed Aaron Copland School of Music will perform New Orleans jazz in the tradition of Louis Armstrong.

American Bolero Dance Company

Founded by Gabriela Granados to bring the music, history and traditions of Spanish Dance to the United States, American Bolero Dance Company explores the rhythmic intricacies and music of Flamenco, Spanish Classical and Folkloric Regional dances from Spain.

Afrodita/Pachamama Peruvian Arts

Deeply rooted in the powerful rhythms that are part of the Afro-Peruvian tradition, Afrodita expands to the universe incorporating the sounds of contemporary world music. Pachamama Cajon Group from Pachamama Peruvian Arts will join Afrodita as their special guests.

(more)

Blue Pipa Traditional Chinese Women's Ensemble

Min Xiao-Fen, pipa (lute); Yang Yi, zheng (zither); and Li-qun Lee, yangqin (dulcimer). These three virtuoso musicians will present a set of beloved Chinese traditional music and folksongs. Each artist has received universal acclaim from critics and audiences alike.

Eli Gerstner featuring Benny Amar

Eli Gerstner is the creator/producer of international Jewish pop groups The Chevra, Menucha, Tek-Noy and the Yeshiva Boys Choir. The Chevra has become the biggest selling group in Jewish music history. Eli is the principle writer for these groups and is an accomplished solo artist as well, with 3 best selling solo albums. To date, he has released over 18 albums worldwide.

F# Miners

This traditional Irish group performs music that is a rich tapestry of sound influenced by the likes of Planxty and the Bothy Band of old. All members are well known on the Irish music circuit for many years and offer something quite unique when they perform together.

Jiva Dance with Akshara

Jiva Dance and the Akshara Percussion Ensemble present South Indian Classical Music and Dance expressing the dynamic and graceful rhythms and melodies of Bharatanatyam and Carnatic music.

Zikrayat

Dedicated to presenting the varied styles of music and dance from the greater Arab World, Zikrayat ("memories" in Arabic) is inspired by the "golden age" of Egyptian and Lebanese cinema from the 1950s to 1970s.

Zlatne Uste Brass Band

The traditional music of the Balkans – focusing primarily on Serbian, Macedonian, Bulgarian and Romany (Gypsy) traditions – comes alive with Zlatne Uste ("Golden Lips"), an internationally known group of American-born musicians.

Program and artists are subject to change.

ADMISSION TO QUEENS COUNTY FOLK FEST IS FREE. Queens College is located between exits 23 & 24 of the eastbound service road of the Long Island Expressway in Flushing. The Quad is centrally located on the campus between the Kissena Boulevard and Melbourne Avenue Gates. In case of rain, the concert will be held in Colden Auditorium. Free parking is available. For more information call 718-793-8080.

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