

UPCOMING WORLD MUSIC EVENTS

Friday, March 14 • 8p.m., Agate Hall Auditorium
BALKAN FOLKDANCE
UO East European Folk Music Ensemble; Free

Friday, May 2 • 8p.m., Beall Concert Hall
ANIRUDDHA KNIGHT & ENSEMBLE
South Indian classical music and dance
World Music Series; \$8, \$12

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SCHOOL OF MUSIC COMING EVENTS

For more information on any of these events, or to be on the UO Music mailing list, call the music school's Community Relations Office, weekdays, at 346-5678.

Saturday, March 8 • 8 p.m., Beall Hall
OREGON PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
UO Ensemble; \$7, \$5

Sunday, March 9 • 8:15 p.m., Beall Hall
I-YI PAN, Piano
Master's Recital; Free

Monday, March 10 • 7:30 p.m., Beall Hall
ALL THAT BRASS!
UO Ensembles; \$7, \$5

Tuesday, March 11 • 8 p.m., Beall Hall
CHAMBER MUSIC ON CAMPUS
UO Chamber Ensembles; Free

Wed., Mar. 12 • 7 p.m., Dougherty Theatre
DANCE QUARTERLY
Department of Dance; Free

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108th Season, 85th program



SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE

Beall Concert Hall
8:00 p.m.

Friday evening
March 7, 2008

THE WORLD MUSIC SERIES

presents

TRADITIONAL MUSIC
OF IRELAND

featuring

The Black Brothers
Eliot Grasso & Dave Cory
Gerry Carthy



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

PROGRAM

Gerry Carthy
Eliot Grasso & Dave Cory
The Black Brothers

INTERMISSION

The Black Brothers

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ABOUT TONIGHT'S ARTISTS

The Black Brothers, Shay, Michael and Martin, grew up in Dublin, and have been performers all their lives. Both parents were singers, with dad Kevin being an accomplished piper, fiddler and mandolin player. The brothers are “regarded as one of the most impressive groups of Irish singers to be found anywhere” according to a recent review in *The Irish Echo*. They are a close-knit family group, possessing a bond that enriches their onstage intertwining of voices. In addition to their vocal talents, the brothers accompany themselves on a variety of instruments including guitar, banjo, mandolin, and fiddle. Their broad repertoire includes old Dublin street songs, music hall songs, historical ballads, songs from the Irish, English and Scottish traditions, dance tunes, and songs by contemporary writers. Their performances include songs that involve the audience in a chorus, as well as stories and humorous anecdotes from their childhood. They always welcome audience participation, and their infectious humor, wit, and joy in singing make it difficult for anyone to remain a passive spectator for long!

In 1994 **Shay** moved to Berkeley, California from Liverpool, where he had lived for the previous twenty years. He performs regularly with a myriad of instrumentalists and singers in the Bay Area. Shay's most regular gig these days is the weekly “Starry Irish Session” at The Starry Plough pub in Berkeley every Sunday. In addition to performing with his brothers, **Michael** also performs solo in the United States, and has recently concertized in Canada, Iceland, the Faeroe Islands, and Hawaii. His solo album, *Michael Black*, on Compass Records, has received rave reviews by critics. **Martin** has remained in his native Dublin, where he performs regularly as a solo act and has run a singing session for the past ten years. He also plays at many benefit gigs for various social and political causes.

Eliot Grasso holds a BA in music from Goucher College and a Masters Degree in Ethnomusicology from the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick. A Baltimore native and current Oregon resident, he began playing Irish traditional music on the flute at age seven, tin whistle at age eight, and uilleann pipes at age eleven. Since 1996, Eliot has won regional and international first, second, and third place titles at the Mid-Atlantic Fleadh Cheoil and Ireland's International *Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann* in the uilleann pipes and tin whistle divisions. He currently attends the University of Oregon, where he is pursuing doctoral studies in musicology. He is also on the music faculty at the John G. Shedd Institute for the Arts.

Gerry Carthy was born on the West Coast of Ireland. He plays a variety of instruments, including banjo, guitar, tenor guitar, tin whistle, saxophone, fiddle, mandolin, bouzouki, and vocals. Inspired by the folk revival of Irish music in the '60s and '70s, he spent ten years playing music at sessions around Galway. He is one of the founding members of the traditional Irish session at the Crane Bar, the longest running session in Galway. Carthy now lives in New Mexico and is on the music department faculty at the College of Santa Fe teaching classes and private lessons in tin whistle, banjo, guitar, and Celtic Ensemble. Carthy is also an Artist in Residence for the New Mexico Arts Commission.

Dave Cory hails from Bishop, CA where he began playing the guitar in his early teens. By age 16 he became infatuated with Irish tenor banjo and never let go. In the late '90s and early 2000s, he spent a great deal of time playing Irish music around Boston with such exponents of the tradition as Dan Isaacson, Tina Lech, Ted David, and Peter Molloy. Now living in Portland, Cory performs and records regularly with such talents as Bridgetown, An Tua, Crumac, The McKassons, and Celhorn, to name a few. Dave's style is marked by impeccable rhythm, innovative variations, and abounding virtuosity coupled with profound understanding of traditional Irish music.

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