

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Shawn Farley or Carolyn Kilmer at 545-3671



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 20, 2005

**WHAT: Center Series presents: Arlo Guthrie's Alice's Restaurant
40th Anniversary Massacre Tour**

WHEN: Thursday, November 17 at 7:30pm

**WHERE: Fine Arts Center Concert Hall
University of Massachusetts Amherst**

Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or

go online to www.fineartscenter.com/tickets

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'You can get anything you want...' at the 40th Anniversary Celebration of Arlo Guthrie's Epic Ballad "The Alice's Restaurant Massacre"

On Thanksgiving Day 1965, Arlo Guthrie began writing his epic saga "The Alice's Restaurant Massacre." Based on actual events that took place in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, the saga became a song. The song became a record. The record became a major motion picture. And Arlo became a cultural hero, inspiring a whole generation to social consciousness and activism. Although he stopped performing "Alice" years ago, Arlo has continued to entertain audiences all over the world keeping alive the rich traditions and social values that have become synonymous with the '60s, as he says "Freedom, Peace, Justice - the usual stuff." Now, Arlo, along with son Abe on keyboards and Gordon Titcomb on steel, mandolin, and banjo, will sing "Alice" again, reminding you that 40 years later the song has morphed to become part of American culture. It is the story of the triumph of the little guy ... survival not through wisdom but through ... littering.

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Arlo, a natural-born storyteller, in addition to playing the piano, six- and twelve-string guitars, harmonica and more, ties his shows together with witty anecdotes and thought-provoking ideas. Included on the 40th Anniversary program will be Arlo's favorites such as "City of New Orleans," "The Motorcycle Song," 'Coming Into Los Angeles,' and traditional songs he feels everyone knows, songs which identify us as part of a continuing movement.

"Some people think a folksinger is someone who just sings their own songs. That's a shame. It's like being of the tradition, rather than in it. I've taught myself to make any song I like, my own. This is the secret of all great spiritual teachings: claim nothing as yours and everything belongs to you. If it doesn't make sense, it's probably true." - Arlo Guthrie

Continuing the historical relationship between the Guthrie and the Seeger clans, The Mammals will open the show and at times accompany Arlo. Their music is an infectious mix of social commentary and fiddle-banjo-guitar artistry. They are "acoustic traditionalists, to be sure, but the subversive sort," says The Washington Post. Writing original takes on current politics and playing driving traditional standard's like "John Henry," a song Tao Rodriguez-Seeger could have indeed learned at his grandpappy, Pete Seeger's knee, the Mammals redraw the boundaries of old-time music.

Go back to where it all began.....In collaboration with Northampton Academy Arts, the movie *Alice's Restaurant* will be at the Academy of Music for a special showing on Tuesday, November 15 at 6:45pm. Moviegoers will have the opportunity to enter a raffle for tickets to the performance on the 17th. Admission is only \$5.

Arlo Guthrie's Alice's Restaurant 40th Anniversary Massacree concert will be at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall on Thursday, November 17 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40, \$30, and \$15; Youth 17 and under are \$15 and Five College Students are \$15. For tickets and information, call the Fine Arts Center Box Office at 413-545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS, or go online to www.fineartscenter.com/centerseries. This performance is sponsored by PeoplesBank, The Valley Advocate, The River 93.9FM and the Berkshire Brewing Company.

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