

NEWS RELEASE

UMass Amherst Fine Arts Center www.fineartscenter.com

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WHAT: The Center Series at the UMass Fine Arts Center Announces 2009-2010 Season

**WHERE: UMass Fine Arts Center
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or
go online to www.fineartscenter.com**

**IMAGES: To download images relating to this press release, go online to:
<http://www.umass.edu/fac/centerwide/pressRoom/index.html>**

UMASS FINE ARTS CENTER/CENTER SERIES ANNOUNCES 2009/2010 SEASON

The Power of Art: To Inspire, Elevate, Heal and Invigorate. That's what we are all looking for these days right? Something that has the power to take us out of the daily grind amid heated discussions on health care reform, politics and the economy. The UMass Fine Arts Center has the solution - art. What better way to be inspired and uplifted than through the immediacy and power of the performing arts.

"This season nurtures the artistic spark in all of us with a bold season bursting with curiosity, beauty and joy. From the passionate Orquestra de Sao Paulo with visionary percussionist Evelyn Glennie to the incomparable Mark Morris Dance Group to the timeless tunes of the legendary Chieftains, every performance is a journey that carries us to new heights" said Center Series programming director Kathryn Maguet. "Families are welcome her, too" she added "we're bringing back Dan Zanes and Friends by popular demand, the wild and wonderful Cirque Mechanics and Ballet Folklorico de Mexico, promising a stunning performance of traditional music, elaborate dance and ornate costumes."

Season highlights include Orquestra de São Paulo, one of Brazil's most celebrated classical musical ensembles touring under the baton of rising star conductor 29-year-old Kazem Abdullah and the extraordinary percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie;

the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company in its homage to Abraham Lincoln and rumination on history with *Another Evening/Serenade: The Proposition*; The L.A. Theatre Works performing its docu-drama "The RFK Project," chronicling Robert Kennedy's dramatic transformation from discomfort with and indifference towards the Civil Rights movement to a champion and crusader; and Ensemble Galilei and NPR's Neal Conan in First Person: Stories From The Edge of The World where spectacular images from the National Geographic archives projected on a large on-stage screen, Neal Conan's compelling narration, and evocative music created specifically for this project, work seamlessly to take the audience along on some of the world's most extraordinary expeditions.

In addition to the 16 performances, there will be a number of associated events including pre-performance talks, post-performance talk backs, pre-concert festivals and receptions in the lobby, films about the artists, workshops, forums, and much more. Plus the successful 'Arts Give Back' campaign returns this year where patrons can bring items to events including clothing, books, toys, or food that will be donated to various non-profit organizations.

In consideration of the economic pinch, ticket prices have remained the same as last year's prices. And as always tickets in price range C and tickets for youth 17 and under and students of the Five Colleges, Greenfield Community College and Springfield Technical Community College are only \$15. 2009-10 event tickets are available in "create your own" series packages of at least three events, as well as, single-event tickets and are on sale now. Call 545-2511 or 800-999-UMAS to receive a free brochure or to order tickets. For more detailed information about the 2009/2010 season and to safely order tickets online, visit www.fineartscenter.com.

The Complete 2009-2010 Center Series Schedule

ORQUESTRA DE SÃO PAULO with DAME EVELYN GLENNIE
Sunday, October 18, 7 PM, Concert Hall

DAFNIS PRIETO SEXTET
Thursday, October 22, 7:30 PM, Bowker Auditorium

DAN ZANES and FRIENDS
FAMILY DANCE PARTY
Friday, October 23, 7 PM, Concert Hall

AMERICAN SHAKESPEARE CENTER
Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare
Tuesday, November 3, 7:30 PM, Bowker Auditorium

BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE DANCE COMPANY
ANOTHER EVENING/SERENADE: THE PROPOSITION
Thursday, November 5, 7:30 PM, Concert Hall

CIRQUE MECHANICS IN BIRDHOUSE FACTORY
Tuesday, November 10, 7:30 PM, Concert Hall

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP
Tuesday, February 2, 7:30 PM, Concert Hall

IMANI WINDS with STEFON HARRIS
Wednesday, February 3, 7:30 PM, Bowker Auditorium

L.A. THEATRE WORKS Susan Albert Loewenberg, Producing Director
presents "THE RFK PROJECT"
Tuesday, February 23, 7:30 PM, Concert Hall

BALLET FOLKLÓRICO DE MÉXICO
Tuesday, March 2, 7:30 PM, Concert Hall

BLACK GRACE DANCE COMPANY
Choreographer, Neil Ieremia
Tuesday, March 9, 7:30 PM, Concert Hall

PADDY MOLONEY with THE CHIEFTAINS
Wednesday, March 10, 7:30 PM, Concert Hall

ZAKIR HUSSAIN PRESENTS
MASTERS OF PERCUSSION
Saturday, March 27, 8 PM, Concert Hall

ENSEMBLE GALILEI and NEAL CONAN
FIRST PERSON: STORIES FROM THE EDGE OF THE WORLD
Saturday, April 10, 8 PM, Concert Hall

ROKIA TRAORÉ
Wednesday, April 14, 7:30 PM, Concert Hall

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET
Friday, April 30, 8 PM, Concert Hall

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