



Sketches

Gualala Arts News · November 2005

Top Music Acts Appear this Month at Gualala Arts Center

? *Saturday, November 5th 7:30 p.m.*

Willson & McKee with Toe-Tapping Music

Willson & McKee, a nationally touring duo specializing in traditional Irish, Scottish and original acoustic music, will be performing on Saturday, November 5th, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Students 7 – 17 free admission.

Willson & McKee are two voices with hammer dulcimer, mountain dulcimer, guitars, Irish bouzouki, bodhran, Celtic harp, accordion, dance, stories, all with an emphasis on fun. The concert will include material from their five CDs, featuring their 2002 vocal release "Passed by Here" and their 2002 instrumental release "When the Notes Dance." Kim McKee received 15 years of classical training before turning to traditional Irish music, 25 years ago. She is the 2002 National Mountain Dulcimer Champion, and moves effortlessly between her instruments. Her palate includes hammer dulcimer, folk harp, accordion, guitar and bodhran, and she never passes up an opportunity to teach a Ceili dance.

Ken Willson adds a folk flavor to their performances with his guitars and Irish bouzouki. An engaging weaver of Irish tales, Ken can also spin a fine Ceili swing on the dance floor.

This amazing duo has once again won 2nd place in the 2005 Irish Festival songwriting contest! They won both first and second place songwriting awards at the 2003 Milwaukee Irish Festival, the largest Irish Festival in the world. International judges compared songs from all over the world, so it was quite unique for this couple to receive the two top slots.



"Willson & McKee both have clear sweet voices.. and are accomplished and versatile musicians! ... impressive and expressive!" says *Dirty Linen Magazine*.

? *Sunday, Nov. 13th 4:00 p.m.*

Featuring Roy Bogas on Piano



The Gualala Arts Concert Series is delighted to present the ever-popular Roy Bogas, director of the Gualala Summer Chamber Music Festival, in his first solo piano recital in our community.

The program will include works by J. S. Bach, Schubert, Beethoven, Debussy, Ravel, Rachmaninoff, and Chopin. Although he is known in Gualala primarily as a chamber musician and as a disciple of the composer Ernest Bloch, Bogas made his name internationally as a solo pianist, giving his debut at New York's Tully Hall and London's Wigmore Hall. In addition to recitals in Europe and the Soviet Union, he made a specialty of concerto performances with orchestra, appearing with such groups as the Mexico Philharmonic, the Radio Orchestra of Ljubljana, the Moscow Philharmonic and virtually every orchestra in California. He performed many times with Sir Arthur Fiedler and Mitch Miller playing a variety of concertos, from Mozart to Gershwin, and has also been soloist at numerous Summer Festivals including those at Ravinia in Chicago, the Mendocino Festival and the Lake Tahoe Festival.

Professor of Music and founder of the MasterGuild Series of chamber music concerts at Holy Names University in Oakland, Bogas is also principal solo pianist for the San Francisco Ballet. His work with the Ballet consists largely of concerto work, which this season will include Tchaikovsky's Third Concerto and Stravinsky's Capriccio. Bogas is especially known for his interpretations of Chopin and Rachmaninoff, both of whom are represented on the November 13th program at Gualala Arts.

Tickets for the concert are \$15. Children ages 7 through 17 are admitted free. Advance tickets are available at the Gualala Art Center or at the Dolphin Gallery in Gualala. Tickets may also be purchased at the door prior to the performance. For further information, call the Gualala Arts Center at 707-884-1138, or visit the website gualalaarts.org. Those unable to furnish their own transportation may call the Arts Center to request rides to the concerts.