

NEWS RELEASE

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FROM PAKISTAN TO PERU, 8 INTERNATIONAL CONCERTS TRAVEL TO MILLENNIUM PARK THIS SUMMER

“MUSIC WITHOUT BORDERS” SERIES RUNS JUNE 3 – JULY 23, 2009
FREE ADMISSION

The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, Millennium Park presents the fourth year of the popular international music series, *Music Without Borders*, featuring traditional folk and pop artists from around the globe. The series, which consists of eight free concerts at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park, features music from **South Korea, Morocco, Peru, Pakistan, Cape Verde** and more. *Music Without Borders* is part of the City of Chicago's ongoing celebration of world music. For more information, call 312.742.1168 or visit www.millenniumpark.org.

“Thanks to our generous sponsors we have the ability to expand the series to eight concerts,” said Michael Orlove, Senior Program Director at the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs. “With eleven groups covering music from five continents the *Music Without Borders* series serves as a reflection of our city – a city of incredible diversity that is welcoming to all.”

Music Without Borders is supported by a grant from the Governor's International Arts Exchange Program of the Illinois Arts Council. United is the Official Airline and The Fairmont Chicago is the Official Hotel for *Music Without Borders*.

Concert Schedule

DULSORI | Wednesday, June 3, 6:30 pm



Tradition and spectacle come together in Dulsori, the South Korean percussion sensation that **debuts in Chicago on its first US tour**. Through song and dance, along with the powerful sound of the drum, this interactive performance creates a kaleidoscope of color and sound, alive with a rich and vibrant energy. Dulsori, whose name means “heartbeat of the land,” formed in 1984 as a means to rekindle the spirit of ancient festival through music. Dulsori's new show *Binari* utilizes the percussive style of Pungmul, or “summoning,” in celebration of the elements, imitating the natural sounds of rain, wind, thunder and lightning. For more information on the artists, visit <http://www.dulsori.com>.

This program is supported by the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation Endowment, managed by Millennium Park, Inc.

FAIZ ALI FAIZ | Thursday, June 18, 6:30 pm



The sounds of great Sufi poets are brought to life by Pakistani singer Faiz Ali Faiz. Dubbed “the great new voice of Qawwali music,” his devotional singing combines heavy percussion sounds with traditional chanting. Faiz is a seventh generation Qawwali singer who studied both classical and qawwali before launching his career in 1978. His music is in the spirit of fusion as it takes traditional prayer music to the global stage. His ensemble of 12 makes their **Chicago debut** as part of their first US tour. Learn more about the artist here:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio3/worldmusic/a4wm2008/2008_faiz_ali_faiz.shtml

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CIMARRON | Sunday, June 21, 6:30 pm



Colombia's Cimarron makes their Chicago debut, bringing *Joropo*, their country's traditional folk music and dance, to the stage. Led by harpist and composer Carlos Rojas, Cimarron showcases their musical virtuosity using percussive harp techniques, fast-picking bass and guitar, along with maracas. A huge hit at the 2008 WOMEX Festival, Cimarron is the **first and only Grammy-nominated group of Colombian traditional music**. For more information on the artists, visit <http://www.cimarroncolombia.com>.

MARIACHI NUEVO TECALITLAN | Thursday, June 25, 6:30 pm



Millennium Park welcomes Mariachi Nuevo Tecalitlan as they kick off their US tour in Chicago. Led by Pepe Martinez and his brother Fernando Martinez, one of Mexico's most celebrated mariachi groups of the past half-century, performs a night of traditional mariachi music. Catch them in the Park on June 24 for a different musical program when they collaborate with the Grant Park Orchestra. For more information on the artists, visit <http://mariachinuevotecalitlan.com>. This program is sponsored by Mexico Tourism Board.

OUMOU SANGARÉ | Thursday, July 2, 8 pm



Oumou Sangaré returns to Chicago with songs from her new album *Seya (Joy)*, which reaffirms her position as one of Africa's great female vocalists. This singer from Southern Mali's Wassoulou area was one of the first female artists in West Africa to openly deal with social problems through her song lyrics. Since rocketing to superstardom in 1989, Sangaré has retained her place as **one of West Africa's most admired and outspoken artists**. For more information on the artist, visit www.myspace.com/oumousangare.

LURA and CHIWONISO | Thursday, July 9, 6:30 pm



Lura's unique musical tradition embraces French Afro-pop, Brazilian rhythms and earthy traditional African music. From the islands of Cape Verde, her music has a streetwise, urban sensuality, infused with the passionate roots of Africa. Opening the night is Zimbabwe's music star Chiwonisa, who combines modern musical influences with the traditional South African instrument mbira. A devoted mother and passionate activist, Chiwonisa's lyrics focus on themes of global responsibility. Both artists made their Chicago debuts at past World Music Festival: Chicago events. For more information on the artists, visit <http://www.luracriola.com> and <http://www.cumbancha.com/chiwoniso>.

NAJAT AATABOU / JUSTIN ADAMS and JULDEH CAMARA | Thursday, July 16, 6:30 pm



World renowned for her songs that fuse traditional Arabic and indigenous music, as well as her influence on the Moroccan women's movement, Najat Aatabou comes to Chicago on her first US tour. Today, she has more than 25 albums to her name, including a worldwide hit with the Chemical Brothers. Opening the evening is the innovative duo of master guitarist Justin Adams and riti (fiddle)-master Juldeh Camara. From the combination of Justin Adam's driving blues guitar and Jeldeh Camara's African percussion emerges a raw and gutsy Afro-

Blues style. Tonight marks the Chicago debut of all three artists. For more information on the artists, visit <http://www.najataatabou.com> and <http://www.myspace.com/juldehcamarauk> and <http://www.myspace.com/justinadamsproducer>.

NOVALIMA and ISSA BAGAYOGO | Thursday, July 23, 6:30 pm



Novalima's pioneering blend of soulful Afro-Peruvian melodies with reggae, electronica and a Latin beat creates an irresistible match of old school traditions and modern trends. The young members of this innovative quartet hail from Lima, Peru yet when they formed Novalima in 2001, the former classmates were scattered across the world in London, Barcelona, Peru and Hong Kong. The group, which created a lot of buzz at SXSW this year, surpassed their own expectations when their first album went platinum. The night opens with West African artist Issa

Bagayogo, nicknamed "Techno Issa" for his blending of native Mali sounds with electronic technique. Issa taught himself to play traditional Mali instruments while working on the family farm almost twenty years ago, and is now an international Afro-Techno star. For more information on the artists, visit <http://www.novalima.net/afro> and <http://www.issabagayogo.com>.

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About Millennium Park

Millennium Park is located in the heart of downtown Chicago. It is bordered by Michigan Avenue to the east, Columbus Drive to the west, Randolph Street to the north and Monroe Street to the south. Convenient parking is located in the Millennium Park Garage (entrance on Columbus at Monroe or Randolph) and at the Grant Park North and East Monroe Garages, all located within a short walking distance to Millennium Park.

Millennium Park, managed and programmed by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, is an award-winning center for art, music, architecture and landscape design. The result of a unique partnership between the City of Chicago and the philanthropic community, the 24.5-acre park features the work of world-renowned architects, planners, artists and designers. Among Millennium Park's prominent features are the Frank Gehry-designed Jay Pritzker Pavilion, the most sophisticated outdoor concert venue of its kind in the United States; the interactive Crown Fountain by Jaume Plensa; the contemporary Lurie Garden designed by the team of Gustafson Guthrie Nichols, Piet Oudolf and Robert Israel; and Anish Kapoor's hugely popular Cloud Gate sculpture. Since its opening in July 2004, Millennium Park has hosted more than 16 million people, making it one of the most popular destinations in Chicago.