



SUNSPOT PRODUCTION

Promoting American and World Roots Music

Sunspot Concerts at the Lyceum

The Wiyos

Friday, October 5, 2007, 8 PM

\$18 advance/\$20 at the door.

The Wiyos will start Sunspot's fall season at the Lyceum on Friday, October 5. They play and compose music inspired by the early American musical idioms of the 1920s and '30s. Gleefully subverting genre distinctions, their music comes from a time before commercial formatting separated blues from country, ragtime from gospel, and swing from hillbilly.

After a Millennium Stage appearance this summer at the Kennedy Center, The Wiyos were invited to participate in the Kennedy Center's annual Open House Arts Festival this past weekend, playing outside on the North Plaza and in the Terrace Theater.



With an instrumentation of washboard/harmonica/kazoo, resonator guitar/banjo, upright bass and three harmony vocals, The Wiyos' live performance transports audiences back to an era before TV and mass-media were the main sources of entertainment. Their sound is reminiscent of days-gone-by when live bands could be heard both on the radio and at community dances, juke joints, and house parties. With infectious exuberance and theatrical skill, they create a visual spectacle in the tradition of vaudeville-esque performers such as Fats Waller, the Hoosier Hotshots and Uncle Dave Macon. Their on-stage physical comedy recalls the silent films of Laurel & Hardy, Keaton and Chaplin. Formed in New York City during the summer of 2002, The Wiyos took their name from the toughest gang to prowl the streets of old New York (The Whyos, circa 1890).

Like the traveling bands of the depression era, they have taken to the road full-time, touring extensively in the USA, Canada, France, The Netherlands and The United Kingdom. Playing theaters, bars, street corners, art auctions, pig roasts, and listening rooms, The Wiyos unique charisma transcends typical social boundaries. They appeal to everyone from hipsters to seasoned music connoisseurs, from children to bikers everywhere they play, The Wiyos charm and amuse audiences with their exuberant style of old-timey music, passionately carrying this rich musical heritage into the 21st century.

Past Shows: Irish singer **Karan Casey** • Irish-American singer **Cathie Ryan** • American banjo master **Tony Trischka** • Connemara fiddlers **The Kane Sisters** • Irish singer and guitarist **John Doyle** • New England fiddler **Lissa Schneckenburger** • **Four Fabulous Fiddlers** (**Jake Armerding, Hanneke Cassel, Laura Cortese & Jeremy Kittel**) • Vocal trio **Sometymes Why** (**Kristin Andreassen, Aoife O'Donovan & Ruth Ungar**) • Modern string band **Old School Freight Train** • Anglo-Irish band **Flook** • Irish singer **Aoife Clancy** • Irish fiddler and National Heritage Fellow **Kevin Burke** with **Ged Foley** • **Boulder Acoustic Society** • Scottish singer **Jim Malcolm** • Americana musicians **Kristin Andreassen & Mark Schatz** • Scottish fiddler **Alasdiar Fraser** with **Natalie Haas** • Irish fiddler and National Heritage Fellow **Liz Carroll** •

**Tickets available at www.sunspotpro.com
The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St, Alexandria, VA**

About the Sunspot Concert Series

The Sunspot concert series showcases musicians from the United States and around the globe, representing all styles of traditional and contemporary folk music. Sunspot shows feature musicians who often perform as part of larger groups in larger venues, who are working on developing an independent career after leaving another group or who are just beginning their careers. Each show is presented in an intimate setting that allows the performers and audiences to enjoy a close connection not possible in larger venues.

The concerts take place in Old Town Alexandria. Sunspot's primary venue is the 130-seat Lecture Hall at The Lyceum, Alexandria's city museum, which lends its historic atmosphere to the presentation of traditional music. With no seat more than six rows from the stage, The Lyceum provides an ideal meeting place for artists and audiences to share a unique musical experience.

For additional information, visit the Sunspot website at www.sunspotpro.com.

Ordering Tickets

Tickets can be ordered through the Sunspot web site: www.sunspotpro.com. Because we are an all-volunteer organization, we do not have a permanent box-office staff to take ticket orders. If you are unable to order through the web site, you can purchase advance tickets for future shows at any Sunspot show, or call 800 404-9049 to request that we contact you by phone.

To maintain the security of your personal information, we use a ticketing agency for on-line ticket orders. The ticketing agency adds a service charge to each ticket purchase. The service charge is paid to the ticketing agency and is not part of our ticket price

Sunspot Production
2414 Andorra Pl
Reston, VA 20191



Fall Concerts



The Wiyos

Friday, October 5, 8 PM

Vaudevillian Ragtime Blues,
Hillbilly Swing and Old Time
Country

www.sunspotpro.com