

World Sacred Music Festival: Artbeat of the Spirit

Olympia, Washington, USA



For_Immediate_Release:

Olympia, WA – 1 Feb. 2009 – Music, dance, and artwork from the world's diverse sacred traditions will be celebrated at the fifth annual World Sacred Music Festival: Artbeat of the Spirit at the Kenneth J. Minnaert Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday March 7.

Festival headliners include Portland Taiko (Japanese drumming), Word-Beat (a rhythm and vocal duo from Washington, DC), and Thione Diop & Yeke Yeke (Senegalese drum and dance).

The festival's three stages will also host performances of pre-Hispanic Mexican music by Nuestro Canto, Jewish music by Jewbilee and The Erev Ravens, sacred jazz by the Olympia Sacred Jazz Ensemble, contemporary Baha'i music by Russ Salton, solo kora (West African harp) by Sean Gaskell, contemporary Native American flute by Peter Ali & Tammy Kennedy, Indian temple dance by Arpan, sacred vocal music with percussion by Abrace, Sufi dance by the Mevlevi Order of America, and more.

Olympia's World Sacred Music Festival: Artbeat of the Spirit is a showcase for musicians from across the Pacific Northwest and beyond, all part of our world's rich spiritual tapestry. Created by Interfaith Works and sponsored in part by the Washington State Arts Commission, this all-day, family-friendly global celebration is a rare opportunity to experience the music, dance, and visual art of different sacred traditions in one location.

The festival includes a sacred visual art gallery, interactive workshops, ethnic food, and a marketplace with dozens of vendors of sacred ethnic and musical goods. Admission for the full day of the festival is just \$20, \$15 for low-income individuals, and free for kids under 10 accompanied by a paid adult.

For more information, performer biographies and links, and the complete performance schedule, see the festival website: www.olsacredmusic.org.

For more information, photos, or interview possibilities, contact:

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