

Christmas music from Mason Williams and friends



Mason Williams and friends and the Eugene Symphony Orchestra will perform songs from his newest album *A Gift of Song* at a concert in the Hult Center on Dec. 4.

The festive joys of Christmas and yuletide melodies have returned to Eugene bringing with them the second annual Mason Williams and Friends Hometown Holiday Concert with the Eugene Symphony Orchestra.

It is the time of year Williams, the talented artist of such pop culture phenomena as "Classical Gas" and the "Pat Paulsen for President" campaign, as well as two Grammy-winning songs, likes best.

"One of the things I like best about this time of year," Williams said, "is that I don't have to sell the public on the concept of Christmas. It's a short period of time where everyone suspends their total interest in pop for the historical, traditional aspects of the season. Christmas is something that I can plug into and the songs will evolve on their own."

A Gift of Song is Williams' newest album, which he released last year at this time. The album has been turned into a concert with the Eugene Symphony Orchestra, Arthur Maddox and several of Williams' other friends. The concert and album is what Williams considers to be his Christmas present to his "favorite Eugene audience."

Before every album is produced, Williams does a certain amount of research to be sure to "capture" the cause and deliver the message through his songs.

"It's the historical element of the season that interests me," Williams said. "And guitar music fits in well with Christmas sounds." For the Christmas album Williams

searched for the meaning of the season throughout the world and how carols came about.

One of the things he discovered about holiday melodies was the fact that they are supposed to be reproduced and changed as time progresses onward. In *A Gift of Song*, he features several carols with original compositional elements, which will be heard at the concert.

"Each year, around the holidays, I brush up on my Christmas favorites and usually end up with a new arrangement of a traditional Christmas tune," Williams said. "There's not a lot of instrumental Christmas music, so I developed an original body of work."

Included in the original songs on the album are such tunes as classical-guitar style "Guitar Carol," Middle-Eastern style "The Virgin Mary," and classical gas-like style "What Tune is This." All of the songs feature Williams' signature guitar sounds and drums and percussion performed by a few of his friends.

Williams said he enjoys this time of year most because people are more willing to drop anything in order to celebrate. In fact, he began working on the concert as an event specifically for him and his friends to get the chance to play together. Among the friends performing will be guitar player Rick Cunha from Los Angeles, author Ken Kesey and the Roosevelt Middle School Choir.

Turn to WILLIAMS, Page 15B

Local crafts, music and food available at Holiday Market

Saturday Market organizers want everyone to find that perfect holiday gift while enjoying local music and sampling international foods.

So, to accommodate those who shy away from the outside market during the colder winter months, the market will move indoors to the Lane County Fairgrounds Friday for its annual Holiday Market.

About 300 local artists and crafters will bargain away clothing, jewelry, ceramics and just about anything else that can be handcrafted, said Kim Schramm, assistant manager of this year's market. "Everything in the market is handcrafted by the person selling it to you," Schramm said.

This year's Holiday Market adds four last-minute shopping days to its schedule on Dec. 20-23. The market is normally open every Saturday and Sunday from Thanksgiving until Christmas.

Also new this year is a move from the Wheeler Building to the larger Exhibit Hall at the fairgrounds. The move allows all vendors to sell inside, while previous years some had to set up their business outside, Schramm said. Shoppers will have wider aisles to browse in with the larger building.

"It will be really exciting to be in this big space," she said.

Besides the traditional arts and craft booths, Schramm said shoppers can visit an indoor Farmers' Market at the fairgrounds. Lane County Farmers' Market features locally grown produce and plants

and normally operates adjacent to the Saturday Market.

Another popular feature of the Holiday Market is the International Food Court. A larger building means an expanded food area, and market visitors can sample a wide variety of cuisine. Burritos, Chinese egg rolls, cheesecake and Cajun noodles are just a few of the food dishes offered at the market.

Schramm said six entertainment acts will perform at the market each day. Local musicians will perform New Orleans boogie, Dixieland jazz, Celtic harp, classical guitar, and folk and blues music. Local church choirs will perform holiday and gospel favorites.

An Elf Plaza children's stage will offer two children entertainers each day. Vendors will offer craft workshops for kids throughout the day at the children's stage.

"In the past we didn't really have a strong place for kids to go," Schramm said. "It should be a lot better for kids and families this year."

Drew Marchbanks, a metalsmith and jeweler, is excited about this year's market and said she enjoys the community atmosphere provided by the market.


"It's just wonderful we can move indoors and create a small community," she said. "It's a place where we can sell our work, but at the same time it's a social event."

The fair is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 20-23.

—Rebecca Merritt

Guitar Strings
50% OFF
Our List Price
Coupon Expires Dec. 10, 1993
MUSIC CITY
210 E. 17th (at Pearl) Eugene

Looking for an authentic gift?
Raven and Family brings you a beautiful hand carved jewelry box from India. A perfect holiday gift at **\$995**
Add \$2.50 postage and handling.
Send check to P.O. Box 11115, Eugene, 97440



MAKE YOUR GIFTS
Give A Gift That Shows You Care!
BEAD EMPORIUM
1699 Willamette

Happy Holidays from Allann Bros. Coffee Co.
Your gift for you this season will bring good taste to your Holiday gatherings this year.
Buy two pounds any variety Allann Bros. fresh roasted gourmet coffee and get a 25.4 oz. bottle of **ALLANN BROS. PREMIUM SYRUP FREE!**
Offer good through 12.31.93
This coupon good for **A FREE SHOT of ALLANN BROS. PREMIUM SYRUP** in your drink. All natural flavors!
Coupon good through 12.31.93
THE BEANERY
Eugene's Original Coffeehouses
152 W. 5th Street & 2465 Hilyard Street
OPEN DAILY AT 6 P.M. OPEN THANKSGIVING DAY.



\$5.00 Off All Poster Art.*

Right now The Great Frame Up has a large selection of art posters from Ansel Adams, Kim Anderson, Monet and Dali and many more perfect for gift giving! Complement that special gift with one of our beautiful frames or choose an already framed piece from our gallery. Now is the time to get into the holiday frame of mind. Gift certificates available.

The Great Frame Up
YOU MAKE IT OR WE MAKE IT. THAT'S WHAT MAKES IT GREAT.™
On Campus Across From Kinkos • 863 East 13th • 484-4049
Sale Ends Dec. 24, 1993. Not valid with any other offer. Campus store only. Limited to stock on hand.
* Minimum purchase of \$25.