

Azuquita

A BENEFIT FOR THE
WILLAMETTE VALLEY
FOLK FESTIVAL

ALL NIGHT LATIN DANCE PARTY!

Live performances with guitarist Jessie Marquez, The Eugene Flamenco Ensemble, and Jose Cruz & the Salseros Dance Co. Late night with Hanif.

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MUSIC BY BRETT CAMPBELL

Songwriting Legend & Fiddle Fireball

Fine folk and world music spectacular.

When the great folk songwriters point to their idols, many of them are likely to be from Texas: Willie Nelson, Doug Sahm and Kris Kristofferson to Lyle Lovett, Nanci Griffith, James McMurtry, Steve Earle and more. Texans have a knack for writing songs that tell great stories. I lived there for many years and heard most of those songwriters perform live, and when you'd ask them who they idolized, two lesser-known Texas names always popped up: the late, great Townes Van Zandt — and his friend **Guy Clark**, who comes to the Shedd on Saturday, Nov. 15.

Clark came to national attention in the 1970s after his buddy Jerry Jeff Walker first covered his "Desperadoes Waiting for a Train" and "L.A. Freeway." Clark has lived in Nashville for years now, and is so esteemed among the musicians there it's no surprise to see names like Tim O'Brien and Gillian Welch on his new album.

A consummate craftsman of songwriting, Clark can spin a tale about subjects as mundane as mud, Indian-head pennies, or home-grown tomatoes, or as consequential as homelessness and true love. With precise imagery, word economy, memorable tunes and a warm, low-key delivery, Clark's songs represent the best of the American folk songwriting tradition.

The Shedd also hosts the great Cape Breton fiddle master **Natalie MacMaster** on Wednesday, Nov. 12. Drawing on some of the oldest surviving Scots music in the old tradition of her remote Canadian home, MacMaster brings in more contemporary and diverse influences. Anyone who saw the charismatic fiddler's previous visit here a couple years ago will also remember her electrifying, foot-stomping playing style.

But the audience-friendly antics shouldn't overshadow her undeniable skill: as with Clark, you can tell how good the 30-year-old virtuoso is by seeing who she's played with: Her new bluegrass-oriented album boasts fellow fiddler Darol Anger, boss bassist Edgar Meyer, bodacious banjoist Bela Fleck and mandolin master Sam Bush, and she's performed with everyone from Pavarotti to Paul Simon, Alison Kraus to Carlos Santana. This show will be a lot of fun.

Another great world music tradition comes from the Roma people, and on Monday, Nov. 10, one of the world's finest Gypsy music groups, the **Yuri Yunakov Ensemble**, plays music from Bulgaria, Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey at the Hult Center's Soreng Theatre.

Musicologists marvel at their easy handling of fiendishly complex rhythms, jazzers go slack jawed at their impressive improvisatory skills and often blistering tempos, and everyone responds to the haunting melodies of this "wedding music," so called because it's used in various traditional ceremonies in the Balkans. But this superb group also amalgamates jazz and rock influences into a danceable, irresistible brew. Should be one of the best world music shows of the year.



Natalie MacMaster plays The Shedd, Wednesday, Nov. 12.

A flood of fine music hits the UO's Beall Hall this month, starting Thursday, Nov. 6 when UO harp professor **Laura Zaerr** brings a delicious program of music for flute, harp, and Baroque bassoon, along with contemporary music for Celtic harp, including originals and traditional Irish pieces.

I'm looking forward to the finale: the world premiere of "Golden Apples of the Sun" by the much-esteemed retired UO professor Hal Owen. Scored for pedal harp, soprano, and tenor, it is based on poetry by Yeats and medieval Irish texts.

On Tuesday, Nov. 11, the fine UO faculty trumpeter **Steve Dunn** is joined by pianist **Mary Elizabeth Parker**, soprano **Ann Tedards**, and the UO's Renaissance music group **Collegium Musicum** playing music by Jolivet, California composer Halsey Stevens and more. On Thursday, Nov. 13, the school's **Chamber Music Series** brings the acclaimed **Amelia Piano Trio** to Beall. Along with works by Beethoven and Mendelssohn, they'll play an attractive trio by a great American composer now finally getting his due at 80th birthday concerts in New York: Ned Rorem.

For something even more avant garde, check out **Future Music Oregon** on Saturday, Nov. 15, featuring electro acoustic music by Brandeis University composer **Eric Chasalow** and the UO's **Jeff Stolet**. On Sunday, Nov. 16 the **Oregon String Quartet** plays music by Beethoven, Haydn and American composer Livingston Gearhart. And the biggest classical name of the season arrives at Beall on Monday, Nov. 17, when 1981 Van Cliburn Competition winner **André-Michel Schub** gives a solo piano recital of music by Scarlatti, Beethoven, Schumann and Grieg. Schub has won too many awards to name, and played with most of the world's finest classical ensembles and players, so piano fans won't want to miss this one. **EW**

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