

# Susan McKeown & Lorin Sklamberg

Saturday, May 9, 2009, 8 PM \$25 advance/\$29 door

Following on the heels of their Grammy-winning work with the Klezmatics, Irish singer Susan McKeown and Klezmer great Lorin Sklamberg have begun an exciting musical collaboration: an album of Yiddish and Irish song to be released in early 2009.



Culled from rare archive material and old recordings, McKeown and Sklamberg have selected songs on various themes from the Jewish and Irish traditions: love, death, betrayal and the demon drink, as well as cumulative and macaronic songs are represented.

"We love singing together and started to explore the connections between Yiddish and Irish songs awhile ago," says McKeown. The bulk of the Jewish material is being drawn from the papers of the legendary collector and performer Ruth Rubin. The Irish songs come from both the popular and the ancient Gaelic sean nós traditions.

Susan McKeown is renowned for her groundbreaking work with her band Chanting House, which included future Solas founder John Doyle, and for her long collaboration with the Scottish fiddler Johnny Cunningham. More recently, she was the singer behind all songs in Arena Stage's production of Peter and Wendy. When Sklamberg, the voice of the Klezmatics, decided with his band mates to seek an additional vocalist for their Woody Guthrie project Wonder Wheel, the choice was McKeown. The resulting album went on to win the 2006 Grammy for Best Contemporary World Music Album.

**Coming on November 21**: Scottish Singer Jim Malcolm with a special show celebrating Robert Burns' 250<sup>th</sup> birthday.

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

Find Sunspot at www.myspace.com/sunspotpro and on Facebook under Sunspot Concerts

### **About the Sunspot Concert Series**

Sunspot 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 have 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, including driving, parking and Metro directions, visit the Sunspot website at www.sunspotpro.com.

## **Ordering Tickets**

Order tickets through the Sunspot web site: www.sunspotpro.com. We are a volunteer organization, so we do not have a box-office staff to take orders. If you cannot use the web site, you can purchase advance tickets 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 online 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

### **Past Sunspot 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 Andreassen & Mark Schatz • Scottish fiddler Alasdiar Fraser with Natalie Haas ● Irish fiddler and National Heritage Fellow Liz Carroll and John Doyle • Wammie-winners Jennifer Cutting's Ocean Orchestra • Irish masters The Hedge Band • The Wiyos • Sarah Lee Guthrie & Johnny Irion • Mick Moloney • Athena Tergis • Emily Smith

# **The Sunspot Newsletter**

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