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DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC

The University of Alberta
Department of Music
Center for Ethnomusicology
presents

Le Fuzz

Wednesday, March 24, 2004
at 8:00 pm



Arts Building
University of Alberta



Department of Music
University of Alberta



Le Fuzz

Jason Kodie

Dwayne Hrynkiw

Chris Smith

Frank Basai

Tonight's concert has been presented under the auspices of the University of Alberta Department of Music. The World Music concerts honor **Moses Asch** and the **Asch** family for their donation of the complete catalogue of Folkways recordings henceforth known as the **Moses and Francis Asch Collection**. **Moses Asch** was the founder of **Folkways Records**, the world's largest commercially available collection of folk and tribal music.

The objectives of the World Music concert series are manifold. First, the commitment of the Department of Music to scholarly research in ethnomusicology – the study of ethnic musics – has been demonstrated through the appointment of a full time member of faculty whose teaching and research responsibilities are dedicated to the furtherance of knowledge in the field. Second, the World Music concert series will provide a forum for exposure of ethnic music to Edmonton and area audiences. Third, proceeds from ticket sales and donations from individuals will be dedicated solely to the cataloguing of the **Folkways Collection**, which will be used in the pursuit of scholarly research in world musics. Finally, as a result of the aforementioned, the knowledge base of ethnic musics will be expanded and traditions preserved in concrete form; a legacy for the future.

Program Notes

Welcome to tonight's concert presented by the Center for Ethnomusicology at the University of Alberta. The University's tradition of World Music on Stage continues this year with a performance by **Le Fuzz**, a dynamic cross cultural ensemble dedicated to the music of Spanish, French, and Russian gypsies. This concert is an exciting finish to a season of concerts that have included Tuvan throat singers, Armenian jazz, African pop stars, folk singer Ramblin' Jack Elliot, Sufi music, and our own African and Indian ensembles.

The music of **Le Fuzz** possesses a light, swinging Latin / Parisian feel and a hypnotic blend of multi-ethnic rhythms that has received rave reviews since the band's inception several years ago. Songs sung in Spanish, Russian, French, and English demonstrate an irresistible variety of different musical traditions, which transcend national and ethnic boundaries, and create a uniquely Albertan sound.

Keyboardist **Jason Kodie** began playing the accordion at the age of five. The son of a Hungarian father and Franco-Albertaine mother, Jason drew early inspiration from the folk music of these different cultures. Classical piano studies and pop music soon followed, and eventually Jason completed a degree in Music and French through combined studies at both the University of Alberta and McGill University. Jason's resume reads like a who's who of the Edmonton folk/rock scene, including stints as a member of Captain Tractor, Junior Gone Wild, Hookahman, and the McDades to name a few. He has also been active in the musical theater scene as well, and continues to inspire those around him with his multifaceted musical ability.

Dwayne Hrynskiw is Edmonton's premier percussionist and is known for his exciting blends of Afro Cuban, Senegalese, and West African drumming styles. A graduate of the Percussion Institute of Technology in Los Angeles, Hrynskiw has been the live drummer or percussionist for such acts as Lester Quitzau, the Jump Orchestra, the McDades, and trumpeter Bob Tildesley, as well as recording with dozens of other artists including The Painting Daisies and Dale LaDouceur. Those in the university community will certainly remember Dwayne's exciting *djembe* drumming at the last World Music sampler held in November at the Center for Ethnomusicology. Dwayne is a true artist of percussion playing, and continues to enrich the Canadian music scene with his presence.

Chris Smith is an Edmonton based singer/songwriter as well as being an in demand producer. With over 30 recordings as a performer or producer to his credit, Chris is yet another fine example of the world class talent that resides in Edmonton. Recent appearances include performances with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Juno nominated jazz drummer Sandro Dominelli, and on Andrea House's album "Heart's Hotel". As a member of Le Fuzz, Chris provides beautiful gypsy/jazz guitar styling and fills out the sound of the ensemble with his tasteful improvisations.

Frank Basai is a classically trained violinist and songwriter who has traveled the world performing his music as well as helping those in need. As well as performing constantly, Frank has dedicated his life to teaching and helping impoverished youth in Mexico and Nicaragua. Using performances and jam sessions as a way of reaching out to others, Frank's dedication to building bridges between communities and helping others through music has been a great blessing to all. The Center for Ethnomusicology is privileged to have the opportunity to present a such a wonderful ambassador for music and peace in concert!