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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

22 REGIONAL PERFORMING ARTISTS ADDED TO THE RANKS OF THE 4CULTURE TOURING ARTS ROSTER

Roster allows presenters a convenient way to identify regional artists available to perform in festivals, commercial venues, schools, libraries, conventions and parties

(Seattle) – 4Culture is pleased to announce 22 artists and ensembles have been invited to join the 2009 edition of the **Touring Arts Roster (TAR)**, a juried directory of some of King County's most diverse and talented performing artists who are available for regional bookings. A program of 4Culture since 1967, the publication and distribution of the TAR promotes regional performing arts through an online and print directory. New additions to the roster are added each year following an application and audition process in the late summer. The audition panel selects ensembles and artists with the primary criteria focused on demonstrated artistic quality and feasibility of the performers to tour.

The 2009 TAR will boast over 100 artists and ensembles representing a diverse range of performing disciplines and genres including: contemporary Chinese percussion, **traditional Croatian dance**, **improvisational theater**, Scottish bag piping, **vintage 1920's jazz**, contemporary modern dance, and a **saw-playing** comedic thespian.

The range of performing disciplines and genres allows the TAR to aptly serve a diverse range of presenters throughout the community. Currently, the printed version of the TAR is distributed as a free community resource to over 500 regional presenting organizations, local arts agencies, commercial venues, convention and travel industry insiders, schools, libraries, festival coordinators, party, meeting and event planners and other public and private presenters. The online version of the roster is available year-round through the 4Culture website (<http://www.4culture.org/arts/tar/>). The roster is designed to be one-stop shopping for anyone in search of performing artists for any event format, size or budget.

SEE REVERSE OF THIS RELEASE FOR A LIST OF PERFORMERS ADDED TO THE 2009 TAR

NEW PERFORMERS SELECTED FOR THE 2009 TOURING ARTS ROSTER

Performer/Group	Description
Piao Zhu: Flying Bamboo	Contemporary Chinese Percussion by Byron AuYong.
Stone Soup Theatre	Greek Myth performances that teach the origins of Western theatre.
Neil Hubbard, Bagpiper	Traditional Scottish and Celtic bagpiping.
WHOZYAMAMA	Traditional Cajun, Creole and Zydeco dance music of Louisiana.
Rainwater Storytelling	Folktales and Historical presentations designed for various age groups.
Miss Rose & Her Rhythm Percolators	Vintage 1920's jazz with Sunga Rose.
Unexpected Productions	Family friendly entertainment through Improvisational Theatre.
Ricki Mason / LAUNCH	Contemporary Dance exploring universal themes.
Ambience	Jazz including the Golden era of American music as well as Latin genres.
Adventures with Zero and Somebuddy	Clown comedy duo featuring fast paced physical comedy and audience participation.
Becky Poole	Solo sketch comedian / actor and musical saw performer.
UMO	Physical Theatre ensemble utilizing puppetry, live music and aerial movement.
Leslie McMichael	New original music played live on Celtic and electric harps with classic silent film.
North-South Conexions	Colorful and high-energy bilingual stories and songs from Latin America.
Westerbork Serenade	One person play based on the true story of Jewish cabaret performers held by Nazis at Westerbork transit camp.
Angelo Pizarro	Solo guitarist performing Latin music.
Awal Alhassan & Sohoyini Dance	Traditional West African dance and music ensemble.
Ruze Dalmatinke	Traditional music and songs of Croatia and Bosnia.
SMQ	Classical and contemporary percussion quartet.
The Bobs	Grammy nominated a cappella quartet.
Tipton Sax Quartet	World music saxophone quartet (with drums).
Vela Luka Croatian Dance Ensemble	Folkdance Ensemble presenting traditional song and dance of Croatia.
Zambini Brothers	Troupe of puppeteers performing shows and performances with both small and giant puppets.

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4Culture is a unique integration of the arts, heritage, preservation and public art; committed to advancing community through culture. Public exhibitions and performances, public art, preservation of significant sites and interpretation of local history deepen our connections to the places in which we live and work. 4Culture stimulates cultural activity and enhances the assets that distinguish a community as vibrant, unique and authentic.