

UCSD to present music and dance of Balinese gamelan ensemble Gamelan Sekar Jaya, October 16

September 30, 1991

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UCSD PRESENTS THE MUSIC AND DANCE OF GAMELAN SEKAR JAYA, OCT. 16

A 30-member Balinese gamelan ensemble, Gamelan Sekar Jaya, will perform music and dance at 8 p.m. Oct. 16, in the Mandeville Auditorium of the University of California, San Diego, featuring one of Bali's most well-known dancers, Ni Wayan Iriani.

Tickets for this performance are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for seniors and \$6 for students; they may be obtained at the UCSD Box Office or from TicketMaster outlets.

Gamelan Sekar Jaya, which was started in 1979 in the East Bay area of San Francisco, has given more than 100 fully-staged performances in the United States, Canada and Bali.

The ensemble performs highly rhythmic sounds on gongs, cymbals, drums and flutes. The bronze xylophone-like instruments are struck with hammers. Traditional works such as Legong and the masked Topeng dances are performed, as well as new commissioned works, such as the recently premiered Jagat Anyar by I Nyoman Windha, Bali's foremost young composer and last year's ensemble guest director.

Joshua Kosman of the San Francisco Chronicle says, "The music blends intricately dovetailing rhythmic patterns and spiky melodies into a loud, shimmering clangor that is both strange and rapturously beautiful."

The group is currently under the direction of I Wayan Sujana, the younger brother of Sekar Jaya's founding director, I Wayan Suweca. Sujana began studying music at the age of nine, with his father, master musician and gamelan maker I Wayan Konolan. Sujana is an expert in several different forms of Balinese music, including Gong Kebyar, Semar Pegulingan, Angklung and Gender Wayang.

Guest dance director Ni Wayan Iriani is currently a faculty member of the Balinese music academy STSI (National Performing Arts Academy). She received a master's degree in dance from the institute, and now is one of their principal dancers.

This event is brought to San Diego by UCSD University Events. For information call the UCSD Box Office at 534-4559.

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