

Queen Ida and the Bon Temps Zydeco Band will perform

October 10, 1983

Queen Ida and the Bon Temps Zydeco Band will perform their unique blend of Creole, Cajun and black music in a concert at 8:30 p.m. Sunday, October 16, in the Revelle Cafeteria on the campus of the University of California, San Diego.

Like many American blues and jazz artists, Queen Ida is well-known in Europe, but is just being discovered in her own country. She is the first female band leader in the zydeco tradition, but she is a spiritual descendant of the great female blues artists of the '20s and '30s. Queen Ida leads the Bon Temps Zydeco Band on vocals and button accordion, an instrument imported by Bavarian immigrants who settled in southwest Louisiana in the 1880s.

Queen Ida is backed up by fiddle, triangle and guitar, characteristic of the two-century-old French Cajun tradition. Washboard, bass and drums add the Afro-American blues element.

The term "zydeco" evolved from the French "haricot," or snapbean, and is used to denote a snappy dance. The waltzes and two-steps of the traditional Cajun music have been combined with numerous other influences: reggae out of Jamaica; calypso from Trinidad; country and western swing. Zydeco also weaves in dixieland jazz, blues, rock and Latin music.

Queen Ida's concert at UCSD is being sponsored by the University Events Office. For more information, phone (619) 452-4090.

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