

UCSD to present "Bluestory, " a collaboration of acoustic blues with Cephass and Wiggins, and stories by Jackie Torrence, Jan. 20

January 12, 1993

Contact: Ruth Baily, University Events Office, 534-4090 or Alixandra Williams, 534-3120

UCSD TO PRESENT "BLUESTORY," A COLLABORATION OF ACOUSTIC BLUES WITH CEPHAS AND WIGGINS, AND STORIES BY JACKIE TORRENCE

It is generally accepted that the blues has influenced most major modern musical forms, including jazz, rock, country, pop and modern classical music. Combine the poetry and literature of the blues tradition with the music, and the result is Bluestory, the music and legends of America's most influential art form, to be presented at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 20, in the Mandeville Auditorium at the University of California, San Diego.

Acoustic blues masters John Cephas and Phil Wiggins will join with acclaimed storyteller Jackie Torrence to give audiences a new look at the blues. The musicians will perform on their own, and together with Torrence, as she relates her African- American, post-construction era narratives.

Cephas and Wiggins, referred to as "Ambassadors of the Blues," have performed throughout the world. They have received National Endowment for the Arts Heritage Fellowships and other awards for outstanding performances and recordings. The duo was formed in 1977 after meeting at the Smithsonian National Folklife Festival, in Washington, D.C.

Cephas is well known for his thumb-and-finger picking style of Piedmont blues. His guitar style also was influenced by such famous bluesmen as Blind Lemon Jefferson and the Reverend Gary Davis. His slide-fingering and dobro work are considered a standard by which to judge blues guitar.

Wiggins' blues mouth harp has accompanied many notable Washington, D.C., blues artists, including Archie Edwards, John Jackson, and slide-guitarist Flora Holton.

Torrence is known as "The Story Lady." She has knowledge of a host of tales and legends which she has performed worldwide. She began her career inadvertently, while working as a librarian. She soon became one of the country's award-winning storytellers.

Tickets for this event may be purchased at the UCSD Price Center Box Office or from TicketMaster outlets, for \$12/14 general admission and \$8/10 students. Parking permits are required on the UCSD campus. For information, call the UCSD University Events Office at 534-4090.

(January 12, 1993)