

## **Canadian fiddler to perform traditional Scottish music with modern, innovative spin in concert Nov. 8 at UCSD**

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### **CANADIAN FIDDLER TO PERFORM TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH MUSIC WITH MODERN, INNOVATIVE SPIN IN CONCERT NOV. 8 AT UCSD**

Fiddler Natalie MacMaster, praised by the Los Angeles Times for her "remarkable ... flat-out star-quality," will entertain at 8 p.m. Nov. 8 in Mandeville Auditorium at the University of California, San Diego.

MacMaster's "a ball of fire," the Times continues, "performing jigs and reels with unstoppable, foot-tapping energy and ballads with irresistible, keening passion."

A native of Nova Scotia, Canada, MacMaster records in Nashville, Tenn., and can deliver Scottish music of old as readily as she celebrates musical innovations with a sprightly modern spin.

"Not only is she one of the crown jewels of the traditional Cape Breton fiddle scene," writes In Tune, "she step dances while fiddling, without dropping a single beat."

MacMaster's Nov. 8 San Diego performance is sponsored by the UCSD University Events Office.

MacMaster began learning traditional fiddle music at age nine, under the mentorship of her uncle Buddy MacMaster, a respected Cape Breton fiddler. In her mid-twenties now, MacMaster's resume includes tours across Canada, the United States and overseas. She has appeared on Canadian radio and television, including hosting the award-winning CBC Radio production of Natalie MacMaster's Atlantic Airwaves and appearing on CBC Television's Pamela Wallin Live, The Fifth Estate and Newsworld.

In 1997, the fiddler cohosted and won three awards in the Canadian national broadcast of the East Coast Music Awards and also that year received a Canadian Country Music Award as Fiddler of the Year.

MacMaster records for Rounder Records in the United States, Warner Music Canada and Greentrax Recordings in the United Kingdom and Europe. Her album, No Boundaries, won a gold record award in Canada.

MacMaster is "pushing the pure-roots envelope with doses of rocking electric guitar, synthesizer, drum programming, and even some Texas swing pedal steel," writes the San Francisco Bay Guardian. "But No Boundaries includes enough old fiddle tunes jigs, reels, clogs, hornpipes, strathspeys, and gorgeous airs to show off MacMaster's instrumental brilliance ... In concert she adds her spectacular dancing to dazzle the crowd."

The artist's most recent release, My Roots Are Showing, includes many of the traditional Celtic melodies that first enticed her to pick up a bow.

"If anyone is looking for a Celtic performer with major potential to cross over into the larger pop music market," writes the Los Angeles Times, "MacMaster's the one."

Tickets for the Natalie MacMaster performance are \$17 general admission, \$15 for faculty, staff and senior citizens, and \$12 for students. Tickets are available at the UCSD Box Office, 534-8497, and at Ticketmaster outlets at 220-8497. For information on the entire season of events sponsored by the University Events Office, visit the website, <http://ueo.ucsd.edu>, or call the UCSD University Events Office at 534-4090.

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