

## **"Masters of the Steel String Guitar" to perform in Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD**

**February 5, 1991**

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"MASTERS OF THE STEEL STRING GUITAR" TO PERFORM AT UCSD ON FEB. 22

There is a certain resonance and brilliance to the steel string guitar that typifies the sound of many forms of American music: Delta blues, slack-key tuning, bluegrass, African American-influenced blues, jazz, and rock 'n' roll.

Exponents of the steel string guitar will perform a variety of musical formats at 8 p.m. Feb. 22, in the Mandeville Auditorium, at the University of California, San Diego.

The performers will be: John Cephas, Wayne Henderson, Jerry Douglas, Ledward Kaapana, Albert Lee and Tal Farlow. Each of these guitarists is expert in the kind of steel string music he exhibits. Cephas is a bluesman who has synthesized urban and African-American musical influences. His influences have been the Rev. Gary Davis, Blind Boy Fuller, and Merle Travis. In 1986, he was the recipient of the W.C. Handy Award for Best Traditional Album of the Year. His singing and driving guitar sound put him in the company of the "first generation" blues greats.

Henderson is an Appalachian guitarist who not only picks at lightning speed, but builds the guitars on which he performs. He has played the guitar since the age of five, going on to win many dozens of prizes for his brand of guitar picking--which employs a thumb pick and finger picks, rather than the flat pick.

Douglas is recognized as an innovator on the Dobro, a steel- top, guitar-like instrument invented in the 1920s in San Diego, by the Dopera brothers. It is played like a steel guitar. Douglas was a member of the legendary country music group, The Country Gentlemen. In 1983, he won a Grammy for Best Country Instrumental Performance and for five years was voted as Best Dobro Player by Frets magazine.

Kaapana is a master of the Hawaiian slack-key guitar style of playing. Slack key finger picking style was used to accompany the hula, and allows for a greater note range than standard guitar tuning.

Lee is an English-born musician who earned his stripes in the 1960s British school of rock 'n' roll. In the '60s, Lee was a member of the Thunderbirds, recording and touring for four years. He moved to the United States in 1974, where he performed with Don Everly, Jackson Browne and Joe Cocker.

Lee played with Emmylou Harris' band and later had a five-year stint with Eric Clapton's band.

Farlow was "discovered" by jazz man Charlie Parker in Manhattan in the 1950s, and life hasn't been the same since. He has played with jazz greats Red Norvo, Artie Shaw, Chico Hamilton, and Charles Mingus. He had recorded five albums for Concord Jazz label.

Tickets for this event are \$14 for general admission, \$12 for seniors and \$10 for students, and may be purchased from the UCSD Box Office (534-4559) and from TicketMaster outlets. Parking permits are required on the UCSD campus and may be purchased for \$1 at the Gilman Drive entrance or the Northview Drive entrance at the information pavilions.

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