

MICHAEL GUTHRIE

BLUES / FOLK / SONGWRITER

“A world class performer.”

Peter Jordan, North Coast Folk Festival

“Michael Guthrie is the real deal, a throwback to the 60’s who sings music from the heart in the old style, my kind of folkie! Thanks for keeping the old music alive! Carl Allen, The Wanderers“

“Michael Guthrie is a wonderful blend of bluesman, folksinger, storyteller, singer-songwriter, and he also plays songs by the many friends he has made in years of performing.”

Dick Weissman, Portland Folk Music Society

Up-coming shows for 2010 include: Haller Lake Concert Series, March 13th ~ Three Rivers Folklore Society, April 9th ~ Langham Theatre, May 1st and Cascade Coffee House October 9th

Michael Guthrie plays a variety of string instruments most of which he has repaired himself, like his vintage 1914 Knutsen Hawaiian Lap Steel Guitar. People from Kaslo, BC to Astoria, Oregon are delighted by this historic instrument. Besides playing acoustic lap steel guitar he also plays; electric blues lap steel, guit-jo (guitar-banjo), banjolin (mandolin-banjo), rebab, and acoustic steel string guitars. This makes for a dynamic program of varied sounds and styles.

Guthrie’s influences are: Folk, Blues, Jazz and Old Time. He incorporates these styles into his own blend of music. He can do a show in one genre like; blues, folk or he can mix it up. Guthrie is by no means afraid to step out of the box. He has a deep respect for the music he listened to growing up. His folk influences started in ‘63 when some friends, the “Pill Palace Porch Pickers”, showed him some cords to a Kingston Trio song. Before long Guthrie was taking Flamenco lessons from the spanish teacher at his high school. Of course he was deeply influenced by his mother Mamie (McClain) Guthrie who used to sing songs while she did chores around the house. While living in Canada, Guthrie spent time with a couple great acoustic blues guitar players; Ken Hamm and Rick Bockner, he managed to get some lessons in the old blues styles. Guthrie ended up back in the LA area (where he grew up) in ‘81 and met Michael McClellan, who showed him some of the old blues lap steel guitar styles he learned from old 78’s. In the spirit of - the folk process - Guthrie is a true folk musician playing songs he has learned from folks along the way, some of which have spanned many generations.

