

**Porter-Phelps-Huntington Foundation, Inc.
130 River Drive Hadley, MA 01035**

For Immediate Release
www.pphmuseum.org

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VIVA QUETZAL
at
THE PORTER-PHELPS-HUNTINGTON MUSEUM
Rescheduled for

Sunday, October 8, 2023 at 2:00 pm

Hadley MA —

The **Wednesday Folk Traditions** concert series at *The Porter-Phelps-Huntington Museum* continues its 42nd season on **October 8th** with **Viva Quetzal**, a World/Afro-Andean/Latin/Jazz Fusion band who draw on a diverse soundscape and folkloric themes to create a link between the rainforests of Central and South America, the carnivals of Brazil, the high plateaus of the Andes, and the urban barrios of Latin America and the United States. Viva Quetzal's members hail from Latin America and New England and feel that the merging and sharing of musical traditions may help reconcile political, cultural, and linguistic divides throughout the Americas.

The concert will be held outside on the grounds of the museum at 130 River Drive, Route 47, Hadley MA 01035. Admission is \$12, \$2 for children 16 and under, or free for participants in the Card to Culture program. Cash only please. In the event of rain, performances will be held at Wesley United Methodist Church in Hadley. The museum and its grounds are a carry in/carry out, smoke-free site. For further information please call (413) 584-4699 or view www.pphmuseum.org.

Viva Quetzal provides a high-energy musical experience featuring artists from across the Americas who perform an eclectic mixture of traditional, folkloric, and pop themes using a fascinating array of instruments. The band has toured extensively in the USA, playing at clubs, colleges, festivals, and fine arts centers. Viva Quetzal has released three albums, including *Ancestros* (1995), *Mujeres de la Puna* (1998) and *Hijos del Sol* (Signature Sounds, 2000). They are also featured on Putamayo's *Music of the Andes* (2014).

Viva Quetzal's members include **Robert Clavijo**, who plays *quenás*, *zampoñas*, *charango*, Venezuelan *cuatro*, and vocals. Born in Arica, Chile, Clavijo has toured much of Central and South America with the renowned folkloric group Guamary before joining Viva Quetzal in 1993, playing in folk clubs, on television, and at university concerts in Panama, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, and Curaçao. **Joe Belmont** is a classical and electric guitarist who plays the Colombian *tiple*. He

has performed with the group since 1992. Originally self-taught, Belmont later earned a degree in music theory and composition from the City College of New York. He has released two of his own records and fronts his own band, Joe Belmont Experience. **Jon Weeks** plays flute, saxophone, wind synth, and percussion. Weeks has performed with a variety of jazz, rock, and Latin bands throughout the East Coast such as Sol y Canto, Orquesta Unidad, The Temptations and many others. **Abe “Oscar” Sanchez** performs on vocals and keyboard. Sanchez has performed with the Orchestra Latina while studying at the Conservatorio de Música de Maracay. He brings a wealth of experience from his native Venezuela, where he was director of a music school and toured both nationally and internationally. **Rudi Weeks**, a member of Viva Quetzal for over twenty years, plays upright and electric bass. Weeks has performed with 60s greats such as The Contours, The Crests, and Ronnie Spector, as well as folk and bluegrass legends Tom Paxton and Tony Triska. Weeks has served as a faculty member at UMass, Amherst College, and Holyoke Community College while performing with groups such as Viva Quetzal. **Eliezer Martinez**, Viva Quetzal’s newest member, is featured on the drums. Of Panamanian descent, Martinez was raised in New England and developed an interest in gospel music through local churches. He has played for local gospel recording artists such as the Kevin Sharp Group, Rossana Regalado, Marino Rojas, and José Lizardo.

Wednesday Folk Traditions continues on **July 19th** with **Tony Vacca’s World Rhythms Ensemble**, which presents a free-flowing fusion of jazz, world music, and spoken word. Combining elements of traditional African and Afro-Cuban rhythms with American jazz instrumentation, they create a sound that is both familiar and excitingly new.

Wednesday Folk Traditions is funded, in part, by grants from: the Marion I. And Otto C. Kohler Memorial Fund at the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts; Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, through its Festivals and Programs Grants; the Amherst and Hadley Cultural Councils; local agencies funded by Massachusetts Cultural Council; Robinson and Cole; The Adams Foundation; Easthampton Savings Bank; Gage-Wiley and Company, and with generous support from many local businesses.

The Porter-Phelps-Huntington Foundation acknowledges that it occupies the unceded lands of the Nonotuck people. The Porter-Phelps-Huntington Museum contains a collection of the belongings of several generations of one extended Hadley family, dating back to the house’s establishment in 1752 by Moses and Elizabeth Porter. The farmstead, known as “Forty Acres and its Skirts,” was a year-round home for generations before becoming a rural retreat for the family in the 19th century. The house and its activities include the labor and livelihood of many artisans, servants, and enslaved people. Their lived experiences are being brought to the forefront at the museum in the form of a new tour and reinterpretation initiative funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The new tour foregrounds the lives of six enslaved men and women at the house: Zebulon Prutt, Cesar, Peg, Phillis, Rose, and Phillis. Additionally, the tour highlights the role of “pastkeeping” by exploring the home’s transition into a museum in the twentieth century. Recently, the museum was designated the “Forty Acres and its Skirts National Historic District” by the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Open June 3rd through October 15, Saturday through Wednesday. For more information check out our website at: www.pphmuseum.org or call the museum at (413) 584-4699.

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