



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

FIRST FRIDAYS AT THE FRICK BROUGHT TO YOU BY FIRST NIAGARA PRESENTS MARLEY'S GHOST

Band's unique sound combines bluegrass with a diverse range of musical styles

Date/time: Friday, August 5, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.
Admission: A donation of \$5 per adult is suggested



PITTSBURGH, PA, July 21, 2011—On Friday, August 5, 2011, Marley's Ghost will perform the third concert of the 2011 season of *FIRST FRIDAYS AT THE FRICK BROUGHT TO YOU BY FIRST NIAGARA*. The performance takes place on the Great Lawn at the Frick Art & Historical Center beginning at 7:00 p.m. Guests are invited to come early and create a gourmet picnic with selections from the award-winning Café at the Frick, which begins serving at 5:30 p.m. The Frick Art Museum, Car and Carriage Museum and Museum Shop will remain open until 10:00 p.m. Admission to museums is free. Free parking is available in the Frick's off-street lot, or along adjacent neighborhood streets.

After more than 22 years of making music together, recording nine albums and performing thousands of shows across the country, Marley's Ghost remains one of the best-kept secrets of

the acoustic music world. The band's sound has a strong bluegrass emphasis, but also encompasses Appalachian folk songs, traditional Celtic music, honky-tonk, and reggae. Although the members of the band have trouble describing their music, it always comes out sounding uniquely like Marley's Ghost. Mandolinist Jon Wilcox thinks it's the vocals. Steel guitarist Ed Littlefield says it's the broad repertoire. Guitarist Dan Wheetman just calls it American roots music, if you count reggae. The most important ingredients in the Marley's Ghost equation are the characters in the band. The five multi-instrumentalists boast distinctive musical personalities that couldn't be less alike.

ABOUT THE MUSICIANS

Dan Wheetman: A remarkably versatile and powerful singer, Dan is the show business veteran of the band whose Simi Valley, California 1960s teen garage rock group, The Humane Society, earned a hit with the song "Knock Knock." As a member of Aspen 1970s country rockers Liberty, he toured for years with John Denver and Steve Martin.

Jon Wilcox: This teacher, mandolinist and vocalist used to travel around the country as a solo artist to the same folk clubs where all the fledgling singer-songwriters tried their hands. Jon represents the group's tender, sensitive side.

Mike Phelan: This boy tenor can tear your heart out with a soul tune, put a romantic lilt into an Irish folk aerie or blast molten lead guitar licks through the heart of a blues song. Like Dan and Jon, Mike is a prolific songwriter.

Ed Littlefield Jr.: The innovative pedal steel guitarist son of a millionaire industrialist/philanthropist, Ed spent years playing country and western music in rugged roadhouses for loggers and cowboys across the Pacific Northwest—he kept active fishing licenses for Montana, Wyoming, Alaska, Idaho, and Washington—and brought the psychedelic spirit of Jerry Garcia to western swing. Eddie is all music—he plays fierce fiddle and is a tasty bagpiper who cuts quite a figure in a kilt and tam o' shanter.

Jerry Fletcher: Long the band's secret weapon and unofficial fifth Ghost, Jerry has been appearing on albums and gigs from the outset. He became "certified" in 2006, bringing his eclectic musical skills (drums, keys, accordion, vocal arranging) to bear full time. Teen rock rival

of Wheatman's and his cohort in Liberty, Jerry lays down a thoughtful groove that grounds the band and completes the musical puzzle.

Together the members of Marley's Ghost are a unique amalgam of their respective backgrounds, personal proclivities and musical abilities—a blend honed to a seamless collaboration over the many miles they have traveled together down the road.

Despite what at first glance may seem to be a lack of cohesive style, a distinct, clear thread runs through all this apparent disparity. The same river of feeling flows through the heart of everything the band does, whatever sound or shape it may take at any particular moment. These men are mining for emotional convergences of voices and instruments, sentiments and sensibilities, and song and style, and often find it in rich, unexpected combinations.

Even though Marley's Ghost has managed to maintain an unintentionally low profile over the course of two decades, the band has been attracting intriguing, prestigious associations on recent recordings. The 2006 CD with the R. Crumb cover, *Spooked*, was produced by Van Dyke Parks, the musical mastermind who wrote "Heroes and Villains" with Brian Wilson and produced the first album by Ry Cooder, among many other accomplishments. Parks ingratiated himself into the fabric of the band at the keyboard bench and led the Ghost through its most accomplished recording to date. But the latest development of the band's recording career may yet prove to be the crucial missing link for Marley's Ghost, who recorded their new album in Nashville—spiritual home of so much of the music that shaped Marley's Ghost — with producer "Cowboy" Jack Clement. This country music cornerstone's career is entwined with Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, among so many others. He is the beloved dean of Nashville producers. Having Marley's Ghost in his studio this past year has put a buzz around the band on Music Row for the first time.

Marley's Ghost performs on the Great Lawn at the Frick Art & Historical Center at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, August 5, 2011. The media sponsor for this concert is 91.3fm WYEP.

FIRST FRIDAYS AT THE FRICK BROUGHT TO YOU BY FIRST NIAGARA

First Niagara is corporate sponsor of the 17th season of the *First Fridays at the Frick* summer outdoor concert series.

ABOUT THE FRICK ART & HISTORICAL CENTER

The Frick Art & Historical Center is the legacy of Helen Clay Frick, daughter of 19th-century industrialist and art collector Henry Clay Frick. Having established The Frick Art Museum in 1969, Miss Frick desired that her family home, Clayton, and the surrounding estate be preserved for, and opened to, the people of Pittsburgh after her death. Her vision was realized in 1990.

Today, the Frick Art & Historical Center houses a galaxy of collections—including fine arts, decorative arts, automobiles and carriages, and historic artifacts—in multiple galleries and venues, many of which are historic objects in and of themselves. These collections, and the programs that interpret them, illuminate the era during which Pittsburgh became one of the nation's most important cities and also make meaningful connections to contemporary times. Although still a relatively young institution, the Frick ranks among Pittsburgh's most important cultural and educational assets.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Frick Art & Historical Center is located at 7227 Reynolds Street in Pittsburgh's Point Breeze neighborhood. Free parking is available in the Frick's off-street lot or along adjacent streets. The Frick is open 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday and closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission to The Frick Art Museum, Car and Carriage Museum, Greenhouse, and Playhouse is free. The public should call 412-371-0600 for information, or visit the Frick online at TheFrickPittsburgh.org.

For additional information or images, please contact Greg Langel, Media and Marketing Manager, at 412-371-0600 ext. 524 or GLangel@TheFrickPittsburgh.org.

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