



Gamelan Tunas Mekar
www.TunasMekar.org
Press Contact: Michael Fitts
303-596-2599

For Immediate Release

Gamelan Tunas Mekar announces the launch of their Indiegogo project: *The Power of Community: Documenting 25 Years of an American Gamelan Ensemble*

How does one put into words twenty-five years of weekly gatherings, friends who play music together, share meals, and visit in the beauty of nature? A picture is worth a thousand words, and a documentary will bring these shared experiences to life, capturing the essence of village culture juxtaposed against an urban backdrop.

February 13, 2014 / Denver, Colorado—

On Sunday, March 2, 2014, from 1pm-3pm at the Mercury Cafe, Gamelan Tunas Mekar, under the direction of Artist-In-Residence I Made Lasmawan, will perform the music and dance of Bali, Indonesia in support of fundraising efforts toward producing a documentary of their first 25 years as an American gamelan ensemble.

Tunas Mekar's goal is to produce a documentary chronicling its first 25 years focused on the group's origins, history, longevity, challenges in maintaining an all volunteer community ensemble, and plans for the future as its journey passes to a new generation. An important aspect of this transition is bringing their current members to Bali, where they will be introduced to the energy that captivated founding members in 1990. This experience will provide a deeper understanding of Balinese culture through performing at secular and sacred events, and by reconnecting with the group's established Balinese community.

Tunas Mekar is looking for public support in raising \$95,000 toward this video production and in bringing their current members to Bali. Donations in the form of tax-deductible contributions will make this project possible, and will aid Tunas Mekar in continuing its mission of presenting the music and dance of Bali to American audiences. The March 2 event will feature music and dance of Bali performed with the *gamelan angklung* instruments along with a showing of the Indiegogo promotional video. Historic photos, documents and concert posters from the ensemble's archives will also be on display.

WHEN: March 2, 2014
1:00 pm — 3:00 pm

WHERE: Mercury Cafe
2199 California Street, Denver, CO 80205
(303) 294-9258
www.mercurycafe.com

TICKETS: \$5 General Admission. Children 12 and under are free.

Based in Denver, Colorado, USA, Gamelan Tunas Mekar is an all volunteer orchestra under the direction of Balinese composer and Artist-in-Residence I Made Lasmawan. Tunas Mekar performs the indigenous music and dance of the island of Bali, Indonesia and has performed by special invitation both internationally and nationally. Tunas Mekar also performs regularly at music festivals, schools, private events and specially produced concerts throughout the United States. Modeled after typical village groups found throughout Bali, and learning by traditional methods, Tunas Mekar provides American audiences with an authentic glimpse of one of the world's most fascinating cultures. Tunas Mekar is sponsored in part by the University of Denver Lamont School of Music.

Press Photos available at www.tunasmekar.org/media-press-kit or upon request: newsletter@tunasmekar.org.

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