

Herberger College  
of Fine Arts

# School of Music

## PRECIOUS METAL, CRYSTAL, AND WOOD

### AN EVENING OF FLUTE MUSIC WITH RHONDA LARSON AND HER VIRTUAL BAND

RECITAL HALL  
Saturday, October 25, 2003 • 7:30 p.m.

ASU ARIZONA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

"...Once every generation there comes along a transformative force that breaks all the industry rules. Larson wields her instrument like a blow torch, breaking down our Victorian preconceptions of what the classical flute should be, how it should sound and where it should take us ... This intensely gifted flutist needed little more than her native Montana charm to win the hearts of the packed house ..." raves Connecticut's VOICES review of *Rhonda Larson & Ventus* in concert. Flutist James Galway said of Rhonda, "... she's one of the best — a great player — and she does her *own* thing." The Yale University Press publication entitled "The Flute" cites Rhonda as "... the first female star of the flute to bring her polished classical training to a popular fusion of jazz, Celtic, ethnic and sacred music."

Flutist, composer, and bandleader Rhonda Larson entered the national music scene from her native Montana by winning first prize in the National Flute Association's Young Artist Competition in 1985, including a Carnegie Hall debut. Shortly thereafter, Rhonda joined forces with the Paul Winter Consort, initiating her journey of combining diverse musical styles in addition to her classical training. Rhonda won a *Grammy Award* during her last year with the Consort, departing the group at that time to embark on her individual cross-cultural/multi-genre music path.

Rhonda's diversity, combined with her musical and technical wizardry, has begun a new generation for the flute as a leading voice in the music world. Composing much of her own repertoire, Larson continues to be recognized as a visionary force, creating a refreshing hybrid music for the flute, including her array of ethnic flutes from around the world. Rhonda's music is frequently featured on National Public Radio and can be heard on the Windham Hill release "Communion With God," as well as numerous other recordings.

Larson journeyed to South Africa as a musical ambassador for the United States to perform for the Parliament of the World's Religions, sharing the stage with such luminaries as Nelson Mandela and the Dalai Lama. In addition to South Africa, Rhonda has toured in Russia, Japan, Israel, Europe, Central America and throughout North America.

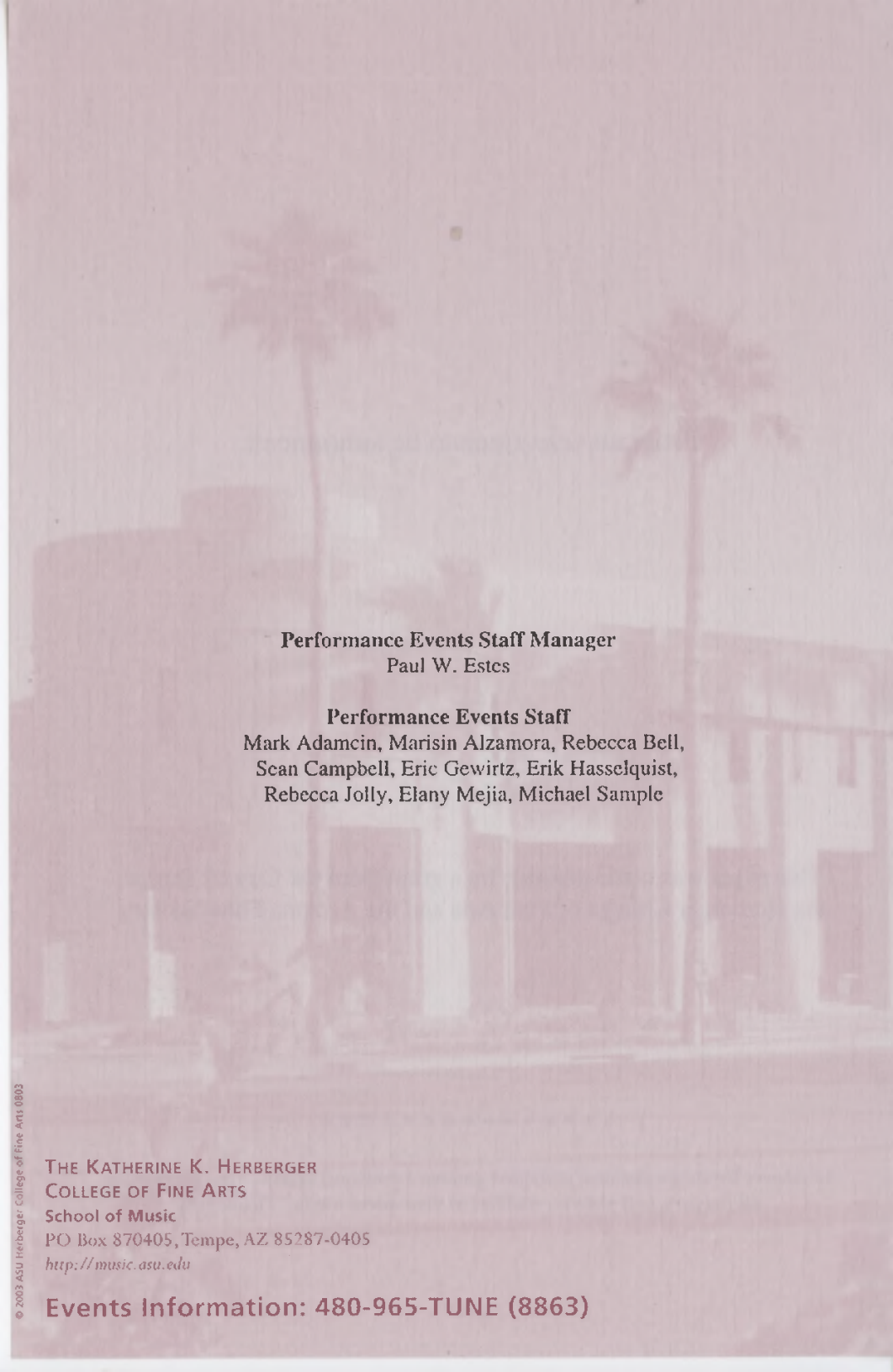
Most recently, *Rhonda Larson & Ventus* performed in Minsk, Belarus, and at the National Flute Associations convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. In addition to her debut solo recording, "Free As A Bird," Ms. Larson has just released her second solo CD, "Distant Mirrors," a dazzling musical reflection on world cultures and ancient traditions, featuring the members of *Ventus*. Rhonda is featured in the 2003 "Flute Series — 101 Inspirational Stories from the World's Best Flute Players" publication by Windplayers magazine. You can visit Rhonda's site on the web at [www.RhondaLarson.com](http://www.RhondaLarson.com).

Program selections to be announced.

This event was made possible by a grant from the City of Tempe, the Herberger College of Fine Arts and the Arizona Flute Society.

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In respect for the performers and those audience members around you, please turn all beepers, cell phones, watches to their silent mode. Thank you.



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