

PETE SEEGER, PATTI SMITH PERFORM FOR LINCOLN BRIGADE ARCHIVES 10/16
Benefit Hosted by Puffin Foundation at Museum of the City of New York
Supports Music, Education, and Activism
(Press Release: 9/24/10)

Pete Seeger, the legendary 91-year-old “godfather of folk” and Patti Smith, the path-breaking, iconic “godmother of punk” join to celebrate lifelong commitments to social activism at a “Songs for the Cause” event Sunday, October 16th at the Museum of the City of New York benefiting the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives (ALBA), a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the history and legacy of the American volunteers of Seeger’s generation who risked their lives to fight in the International Brigades against fascism in the Spanish Civil War (1936-39).

The event, hosted by the Puffin Foundation, will feature performances by Pete Seeger and by poet, artist and rocker Patti Smith, blues musician Guy Davis, and other guests, showcasing a multi-generational lineage of commitment to progressive causes that ALBA continues by promoting public awareness, research, and discussion about the Lincoln Brigade’s passionate activism.

A limited number of tickets are available to the public for these intimate performances in a venue of fewer than 250 seats (\$75) and for a post-performance catered reception with the performers, special guest speakers, and Matti Mattson and Maynard Goldstein, the last two surviving Lincoln Brigade veterans in New York, as well as a silent auction featuring items donated by the performers (\$125). A premium package includes seating in the front rows and a DVD of the classic Spanish Civil War documentary ‘The Good Fight: The Abraham Lincoln Brigade and the Spanish Civil War’ and a limited edition print of Terrenceo’s event poster (\$300).

“For 60 years,” Pete Seeger says, “I have been singing about the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and their struggle to save Spain from General Franco. It was the first battle of World War II. Now, since the days of Martin Luther King and since Hiroshima, I feel that the chance for the human race to survive depends on how we act. Learning how to communicate with each other no matter how much we disagree is the most important commitment we can make.”

Event Details:

WHO: Pete Seeger, Patti Smith, Guy Davis and guests

WHAT: Songs for the Cause: A Tribute to Activism and the Lincoln Brigade, a fundraising event for the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives (ALBA) hosted by the Puffin Foundation, Ltd.

WHEN: Saturday, October 16th, 5 pm

WHERE: The Museum of the City of New York, 1220 Fifth Avenue (103rd St), New York, NY 10029

WHY: To support music, education and activism

TICKETS: A limited number of tickets are available to the public for \$75-\$300.

Tickets and event details available at http://bit.ly/SongsforCause_10-16

Hear Pete Seeger sing the Spanish Civil War song “Jarama Valley”:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GTDzjYNJZ0Q>

About the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives (ALBA) (<http://www.alba-valb.org>)

The Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives (ALBA) was founded in 1979 and is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to promoting public awareness, research, and discussion about the Spanish Civil War (1936-39) and the 2,800 American volunteers who risked their lives to fight fascism in Spain. Using the continually expanding ALB archival collections at New York University's Tamiment Library, ALBA presents exhibitions, publications, performances, and educational programs related to the war and its historical, political, artistic, and biographical significance. With these activities, ALBA preserves the legacy of progressive activism of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade as an inspiration for present and future generations.

About the Puffin Foundation: (<http://www.puffinfoundation.org>)

The Puffin Foundation, Ltd. has sought to open the doors of artistic expression by providing grants to artists and art organizations that are often excluded from mainstream opportunities due to their race, gender, or social philosophy. The Puffin seabird, once endangered in the northeastern United States, was returned to its native habitats through the efforts of a concerned citizenry. The Foundation's name is a metaphor for how it perceives their mission in the arts: to join with other concerned groups and individuals to ensure that the arts not merely survive, but flourish at all levels of our society.

About Pete Seeger: For nearly 70 years as a performer, Pete Seeger has embodied the ideals of folk music - communication, entertainment, social comment, historical continuity, inclusiveness. The songs he has written, and those he has discovered and shared, have helped preserve our cultural heritage, imprinting adults and children with the sounds, traditions and values of our global past and present. A fearless warrior for social justice and the environment, Pete's political activism - from the Civil Rights movement and anti-McCarthyism to resistance to fascism and the wars in Vietnam and the Middle East - has become the template for subsequent generations of musicians and ordinary citizens with something to say about the world.

About Patti Smith: As one of the early pioneers of New York City's dynamic punk scene, Smith has been creating her unique blend of poetic rock and roll for over 35 years, has been nominated for multiple Grammy awards, and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2007. The 2009 film 'Dream of Life,' an intimate portrait of Smith, was nominated for an Emmy Award. She is also an accomplished visual artist and poet and in 2007 was awarded the Commander of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Minister of Culture for her contributions to music and literature. Smith is strongly involved in social issues and participates in various human rights organizations. Her latest book, *Just Kids*, was released earlier this year. In addition to her music, Ms. Smith will read from her latest volume of poetry, *Auguries of Innocence*.

About Guy Davis: Guy Davis has dedicated himself to reviving the traditions of acoustic blues and bringing them to as many ears as possible. The son of actors, writers and activists Ruby Dee and the late Ossie Davis, Guy has released seven albums, has been nominated for nine W.C. Handy Blues Awards and contributed the title track to 'I Will Be Your Friend: Songs and Activities for Young Peacemakers,' a CD collection distributed by the Southern Poverty Law Center as part of its national "Teaching Tolerance" campaign.

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For more information, please contact ALBA Executive Director Jeanne Houck (jhouck@albalb.org) at 212-674-5398.