



Gamelan Tunas Mekar
www.TunasMekar.org
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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 17, 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, and focusing on the group's origins, history, longevity, challenges in maintaining an all volunteer community ensemble, and plans for the future as it welcomes a new generation of performers. An important step in this transition is sending the current members to Bali, where they will perform at secular and sacred events. This immersive experience will provide a deeper understanding of Balinese culture, and an opportunity to reconnect with the group's established Balinese community.

Tunas Mekar is seeking public support to raise \$95,000 to send their current members to Bali, and to complete the documentary's production. Donations in the form of tax-deductible contributions will make this project possible, and will aid the organization in continuing its mission to demonstrate the strength of community and cooperation. The March 2 event will feature music and dance of Bali performed on the *gamelan angklung* instruments, along with a screening of the Indiegogo fundraiser 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. The group presents the indigenous music and dance of the island of Bali, Indonesia, and has performed by special invitation across the US and internationally. Tunas Mekar performs regularly at music festivals, schools, private events and specially produced concerts throughout the Rocky Mountain region. Modeled after typical village groups found throughout Bali, and learning by traditional methods, this community ensemble provides American audiences with an authentic glimpse of one of the world's most fascinating cultures. Gamelan 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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