SPRING FESTIVAL, March 19-21, 2010

International House, 1414 E 59th St, Chicago, IL 60637

workshops, concert, parties, culture sessions featuring the dance and music of Eastern Europe and Mediterranean

DANCE WORKSHOPS --- Sat & Sun, 9am-5pm ---> MUSIC WORKSHOPS (per workshop: $8/$10/$12)

Atanas Kolarovski  Macedonian dances  Chris Bajmakovich  accordion, Macedonian songs
Ahmet Lüleci  Turkish dances  Ljupčo Milenkovski  Macedonian kaval, gajda
Ventzi Sotirov  Bulgarian dances  James Stoyanoff  clarinet
Šani Rifati  Rrom (people formerly called "Gypsies") dances, songs, & culture

FRIDAY EVE PARTY, 8pm-midnight, dance workshop plus party with Jim Stoyanoff & Orch Chalgija featuring Chris Bajmakovich & Muzika4U, Ljupčo Milenkovski & Orchestra Legenda, plus ethnic Bulgarian, Macedonian, Polish, Serbian, etc. dance groups and more...

SATURDAY EVE, 6pm-1am, Dinner, Concert, & Dance Party with artists below ($25/$30/$40)

featuring Chris Bajmakovich & Muzika4U, Ljupčo Milenkovski & Orchestra Legenda, plus ethnic Bulgarian, Macedonian, Polish, Serbian, etc. dance groups and more...

INFORMATION: 773-324-1247 (24-hours) or 847-331-7842 - eves & weekends

balkanske_igre@yahoo.com  Balkanske Igre, PO Box 1157, Chicago, IL 60690

Omega Shuttle between the International House & O'Hare or Midway airports: 773-734-6688 or www.omegashuttle.com.

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NOTE: REGISTER EARLY FOR SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS

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Housing - I-House single & double occupancy rooms available: 773-753-2270. Also, limited crash space - write/call for info.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING TEACHERS, GUEST ARTISTS, AND MISCELLANEOUS

To/from O'Hare: $30/person, $24/person if two or more, no reservation required. To/from Midway: $17/person, 24-hour notice.

The SPRING FESTIVAL is an eagerly awaited annual event which draws enthusiasts of Balkan, Eastern European, and Mediterranean music, dance, food, and culture from throughout North America to Chicago - a chance to celebrate with old friends and to make new ones. Guided by master dance teachers and inspired by virtuoso musicians you'll dance, sing, and jam all weekend long! Be enthralled by splendid performances of music and dance at the Saturday evening concert. Enjoy dancing on a sprung, oak floor to exhilarating live music each evening at the dance parties. Sample mouth-watering delicacies prepared by expert Balkan cooks. Our sizzling parties are renowned from coast-to-coast and a hit among dancers, world music fans, and the Balkan and Eastern European communities. Bring your family and friends too! Finally, don't miss the Sunday evening post-festival dinner & party!

GUEST ARTISTS AND TEACHERS TEACHING WORKSHOPS ALL DAY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY:

ATANAS KOLAROVSKI is the legendary Macedonian dancer nonpareil and former lead soloist and director of "Tanec". Atanas has helped to spread Macedonian culture and folklore throughout North America, Europe, and East Asia.

AHMET LÜLECI is a fabulous dancer and one of the premier teachers of Turkish dance in the world. Ahmet directs the popular annual "World Camp" on the east coast and is in great demand at workshops, camps, and festivals.

ŠANI RIFATI is the director of the Voice of Roma and will give presentations on the dance, songs, & culture of the Roma. Voice of Roma sponsored tours with Esma Redžepova, "Queen of Romani Music", Yuri Yunakov, & "KAL".

VENTZI SOTIROV is a native of Sandanski in the Pirin-Macedonian region. He was a lead soloist with the Bulgarian National Folk Ensemble "Pirin" and was rated by his peers the number professional dancer in Bulgaria.

CHRIS BAJMAKOVICH is a young, talented, and versatile musician and vocalist much in demand in the Macedonian community who can play Macedonian, Bulgarian, Rom, Serbian, and other genres with equal authority.

LJUPČO MILENKOVSKI, a native of Dračevo, Macedonia was a three-time gold-medalist on the Macedonian kaval (shepherd's flute) at the Dolnensko-Prilepsko folk festival and is the last and best student of the legendary Mile Kolarov.

JAMES STOYANOFF is a master of the clarinet and performs and teaches Greek, Macedonian, and Turkish music. He studied clarinet with such masters as Karakos, Halkias, Anestopoulos, Gündeğer, and others.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY EVENING EVENTS:

FRIDAY and SATURDAY evening will feature exciting music and performances by a variety of master Balkan musicians. Jim Stoyanoff and friends has formed a "čalgija" (traditional town Macedonian orchestra) and will lead off the weekend with this style of music as well as classics from the old-time bands of Kime Nancoff et al. Also, Ljupčo Milenkovski Orchestra; "Music4U" with Chris Bajmakovich & friends; "Balkanski Ritmi" Bitov Orch, including Angel Dobrev (gadulka), Stamen Gardzhev, (gaida), Kotse Marinov (tapan); the St. George Tamburasi; plus "Balkanske Igre", & others.

SUNDAY EVENING post-festival dinner for the teachers, committee, and friends has been so much fun, we are inviting everyone to join us at (restaurant to be announced) for dinner, music, and dancing. Check form if interested.