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FULL SCHEDULE AND IMAGES

<http://mondaviarts.org/press>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Mondavi Center SummerMusic Is Back!

The **Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts** once again presents **SummerMusic** on the **UC Davis Quad**—a **free music series** featuring sounds from around the globe, from **Austin country-punk** to **Cambodian surf-rock** to **Malian-fused rockabilly**.

The series begins on **Thursday, July 9, at 7:30 p.m.** with **Alejandro Escovedo**, a founding member of The Nuns, a seminal San Francisco punk band. In the early 1980s, Escovedo moved to New York City, where he joined fellow Bay Area punk veterans Chip and Tony Kinman in Rank & File, a band that forged the early country-punk sound that would become known as alternative country. After Rank & File, he relocated to Austin, Texas, forming True Believers with his brother Javier. This critically acclaimed group disbanded in the late 1980s. In 1992, Escovedo embarked on a solo career with his debut album, “Gravity,” and last year, he released his ninth solo album, “Real Animal.” **For more info:** www.alejandroescovedo.com.

On **Saturday, July 25, at 7:30 p.m.**, the music continues with **Dengue Fever**, whose psychedelic take on the Cambodian pop sounds of the 1960s makes them one of rock and roll’s most unique success stories. Brothers Ethan (keyboards) and Zac (guitar) Holtzman started Dengue Fever in 2001, when they discovered their shared love for Cambodian pop music. After adding saxophonist David Ralicke (Beck/Brazzaville), drummer Paul Smith and bassist Senon Williams, they went looking for a Cambodian singer. Enter Chhom Nimol, who performed regularly for the king and queen of Cambodia. Her powerful singing, marked by a luminous vibrato that adds exotic ornamentations to her vocal lines, and hypnotic stage moves, based on traditional dances, complement the band’s driving Cambodian/American sound. **For more info:** www.myspace.com/denguefevermusic.

SummerMusic 2009 concludes on **Friday, August 14, at 7:30 p.m.** with award-winning Malian singer **Rokia Traore**, known as the most adventurous singer-songwriter in Africa. Traore knew that she wanted to create a new musical style that was “more modern, but still African; something more blues and rock than my folk

guitar.” When Traore heard an old Gretsch, the classic electric guitar so beloved by American rockabilly bands and played by everyone from Chet Atkins to George Harrison, she knew that this was the sound she had been looking for—it has helped her bring a fresh and startling new dimension to her exquisite and adventurous songs. **For more info:** imnworld.com/artists/detail/74/roki-traor.

Support for SummerMusic 2009 is provided by UC Davis Summer Sessions.

- **Mondavi Center SummerMusic 2009**
 - **Thu., July 9, 7:30 p.m.: Alejandro Escovedo**
 - **Sat., July 25, 7:30 p.m.: Dengue Fever**
 - **Fri., Aug 14, 7:30 p.m.: Rokia Traore**
- **Free; all ages**
- **530-754-2787, 866-754-2787 (toll-free), 530-754-5402 (TDD)**
- MondaviArts.org

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