



Special to the Times

MATTHEW MONTFORT, Jim Hurley, Doug McKeehan and Ian Dogole are Ancient Future, a fusion group that gathers its musical inspiration from many cultures.

Future's vision reaches far and wide

By **ROBERTA SEABURY**
Staff writer

The fusion group Ancient Future gathers inspiration from around the world. Asian, Indian and island cultures provide rhythms and instruments to be molded, formed and fused by the band's leader, Matthew Montfort.

Listen carefully and there is a bit of Debussy, Chopin, Mozart, Grateful Dead and Led Zeppelin judiciously inserted. The group will appear Feb. 19 in Danville.

"We don't play much 'world music,' a category now found in record stores," Montfort said. "Our world fusion music grew out of world music."

World music is performed in traditional style by an ensemble: for example, an Irish band playing a Scott Joplin rag. World fusion music is music from various cultures assimilated into one piece using many instruments from as many cultures.

Montfort designed and plays the scalloped fretboard guitar, an instrument combining qualities of the South Indian vina and the steel

Concert Preview

Who: Ancient Future
Where: Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville
When: 8 p.m. Feb. 19
How much: \$12 reserved cafe table seating, \$10 general, \$7 seniors and youth
Call: 820-2651

string guitar. Currently, he teaches at Blue Bear School of Music at Fort Mason in San Francisco.

The group has five recordings and will re-release a 1980 album, "Natural Rhythms," on compact

disc. Much of the music for their Danville concert will come from the newest recording, "Asian Fusion."

"It's a fine title, as long as you don't have to say, 'Asian Fusion by Ancient Future,'" Montfort said, laughing.

Others in the band are Jim Hurley, Doug McKeehan and Ian Dogole. Hurley's primary instruments are acoustic violin and guitar. McKeehan is keyboardist and a student of Indian classical music. Percussionist Dogole is a multi-instrumentalist, including the African talking drum, bongos and Burmese temple drums.

In Concert

Ancient Future



Sat., Feb. 19

8:00 pm

\$12 reserved cafe
table seats

\$10 general \$7 senior/youth
For tickets call: 820-2651

Enjoy the rhythms of Africa, Asia & South America from jazz & folk to classical. "Trendsetters"... Billboard Magazine

Village Theatre • 233 Front St. • Danville
Italian coffees & desserts available