

# Mount Shasta Herald

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## Ancient Future will perform "world fusion" music concert

When "Ancient Future" created its own contemporary sound by combining elements of the world's ancient music traditions, no one quite knew what to call the end result.

In 1978 "Ancient Future" coined the term "world fusion music" to describe a genre which blends musical ideas from many different cultures, traditions, and elements of nature.

Thursday, the magical sounds of world fusion music will be heard when the band "Ancient Future" appears live in concert at Saint Barnabas Church in Mount Shasta.

The history of "Ancient Future" leads back to 1967 when Matthew Montfort and Benji Wertheimer met in their fourth grade class and vowed to form a band.

Over the years the quest led the two men to a number of cultures from around the world in their exploration of music, rhythm and sound.

In 1978 the group made their first recording "Moonbath," which became the springboard for the first "Ancient Future" record, "Visions of a Peaceful Planet," which in-

cludes five other songs.

Their first concert appearance was made in 1979 at the now defunct Sleeping Lady Cafe in Fairfax, CA.

From there, the group began to evolve through a number of phases ranging from the natural rhythms of a frog pond to an Asian fusion period when Montfort was introduced to China's top gu zhenzhi (Chinese Zither) master Zhao Hui.

He was so captivated by the sound of her music that Montfort used the experience as a base for the "Asian Fusion" record, recorded in the winter of 1992.

Other recordings include "Natural Rhythms," which was released in 1981 and later received NAIRD "Indie" awards in World Music and Album Cover Design.

In 1986 the group signed a record deal with Narada Records, and the following year, "Quiet Fire" was released.

In 1988 "Ancient Future" recorded "Dreamchaser" which was released that November and in 1990 the group recorded "World Without Walls" which was released that October.

In 1993 "Asian Fusion" was released on Narada/Equinox and in 1994 "Natural Rhythms" was released on CD to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the first "Ancient Future" concert.

Over the years the sounds of Jazz, rock, chamber music, Asian music, Gamelan music, Indian rhythm and classical music, as well as other musical sounds from cultures around the world, and in fact, nature itself, have found a place in the "world fusion music" of "Ancient Future."

Thursday's performance will mark the second time that "Ancient Future" has performed in Siskiyou County; the first being at the 1991 Sacramento River Jazz Festival in Dunsmuir.

The "Ancient Future" concert is set to get underway at Saint Barnabas Church in Mount Shasta at 8 p.m. Advance tickets are selling for \$8 at Mountain Top Music in Mount Shasta. Tickets will be \$10 at the door.

The concert is sponsored by the Shasta Whole Arts Network. For more information call 926-3705.



"Ancient Future", a "world fusion music" band will perform live in concert Thursday at 8 p.m. at Saint Barnabas Church in Mount Shasta. Tickets for the event

are on sale at Mountain Top Music and at the door the evening of the concert.