

For Immediate Release: August 18, 2004

Contact: Ellen Gitelman
617-426-6668

“Rhythms of Peace” Concert at the Payson Park Church to Commemorate 9/11 Attacks at 7:30 PM

BELMONT, MA—The Payson Park Church in association with WindmillLane Entertainment presents “Rhythms of Peace,” a benefit concert featuring peace-inspired folk and rock music, traditional West African drumming, classical Japanese music, and globally inspired choral music at 7:30 PM on Saturday, September 11, at the Payson Park Church (365 Belmont Street) in Belmont. The concert commemorates the third anniversary of the September 11 attacks with proceeds to benefit the United Church of Christ’s Sudan/Darfur Crisis Relief Fund as well as the church’s Music Ministry.

The event is the first in a series of four concerts. The other concerts include (all start at 7:30 PM):

- Mark Rosen and Friends, Oct 30th
- Celtic Tones, featuring Sue and Steve Lindsay, March 5th
- Springtime Pops featuring Julia Madeson and Celebration Songs, June 3^d

The opening set of this concert features the group “Susan Cohen, Dennis Sullivan and Friends,” with original folk/rock compositions by Belmont resident Susan Cohen. The second half of the concert features African, Japanese, and Middle Eastern drumming by Ayakano Cathleen Read and the Agbekor Society, as well as samba, reggae, jazz, spiritual, and gospel music by members of the Payson Park Church Choir.

Influenced by the music of such folk and folk rock musicians as Tom Paxton, Phil Ochs and Bob Dylan, Susan Cohen has been writing and performing songs for children and adults since she was 15. By day she is one of Boston’s leading immigration attorneys. She will perform many of the songs that she wrote after the tragedy of September 11, such as *Proud American*. It not only reflects her own experience in New York that day while on the way to a meeting across from the World Trade Center, but also the tragedy that befell the country. Ultimately, it is a positive song about the enduring human spirit, celebrating the way people came together for each other.

-more-

As founder of Windmill Lane Entertainment, Dennis Sullivan has been producing public and private concerts and musical theatre, as well as booking dance and concert orchestras in the Greater Boston area since 1980. He has also presented educational workshops and children's concerts in virtually every community in the Boston area. As a performer Dennis has toured, recorded and appeared on television with groups such as the Boston Symphony, the Metropolitan Opera, and the Boston Pops. He is currently in his 25th season as timpanist for the Boston Classical Orchestra, founded by the late Harry Ellis Dickson.

Ayakano Cathleen Read began studying Yamada School Koto music in 1969. On January 7, 1974, she became the first non-Japanese to join the shachu (musicians' guild) of Nakanoshima Kin'ichi, and was given the performing name of Ayakano. She has performed widely in the United States, Japan, and Africa and currently teaches at Tufts University, where she teaches koto, shamisen and voice. Ms. Read has a Ph.D. in ethnomusicology from Wesleyan University.

Formed in 1979, the Agbekor Society is a group of friends who enjoy playing traditional African music. The Society is modeled after the community drum-and-dance clubs found in West Africa. A core of the group's members studied with Professor David Locke at Tufts University.

Suggested admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. For further information, call the church office at 617-484-1542 or Windmill Lane Entertainment at 781-643-1331 or visit www.WindmillLaneEnt.com.

###