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## Altan Returns to the PAC with Traditional Irish Music

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly Arts presents the popular Celtic quartet ALTAN in a special return engagement on Thursday, February 28 at 8 p.m. in the Christopher Cohan Center.

"They're poised for greatness and under no circumstances should they be missed in concert." (Irish Echo, New York)

"Thought by many to be the finest traditional Irish combo working today, Altan seamlessly blends dazzling instrumental prowess...with...gorgeously delicate vocals." (Chicago Weekly)

No Irish traditional band in the last dozen years has had a wider impact on music lovers throughout the world than Altan. Their sound ranges dynamically from the most sensitive and touching old Irish songs all the way to hard-hitting reels and jigs.

Their heartwarming live performances have moved audiences from Donegal to Tokyo to Seattle with the band's unwavering commitment to bringing the beauty of traditional music – particularly that of the Donegal fiddlers and singers – to contemporary audiences.

Altan has always believed that Irish traditional music is a modern music in every sense and that music's growing influence and popularity have proved them right.

"The appeal of Altan centers on the fact that they see no differences or divisions in music. As such, they have managed to cross the all- important cultural barriers between folk and world and rock music." (The Sunday Tribune, Dublin)

The strength of the band is the music and personality of band founders, Belfast flute-player Frankie Kennedy and Gweedore singer and fiddler Mairead Ni Mhaonaigh. Altan's commitment to good-natured fun is second only to their commitment to musical excellence.

Altan's international status and success led them to sign in 1996 with Virgin Records; they were the first Irish band of their kind to be signed by a major label. The band gained gold and platinum albums in Ireland and toured large venues throughout the world, with tours in Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, as well as regular successful U.S. tours.

"The hottest group in the Celtic realm these days." (The Boston Globe)

General public tickets for the performance are \$32 & \$38, with student discounts available on all seats, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

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Order on-line at www.pacslo.org.

Sponsored by Mitch and Marianne Wolf, with additional support provided by KCBX 90.1 FM

For more information on all Cal Poly Arts events, including audio and video samples, please visit <a href="https://www.calpolyarts.org">www.calpolyarts.org</a>.

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