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CONTACT: LISA WOSKE
(805) 756-7110

Cal Poly Arts Brings Turtle Island String Quartet to the Clark Center March 21

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA - Considered to be the singular force in the creation of bold, new trends in chamber music for strings, the Turtle Island String Quartet presents "Art of the Groove" at the Clark Center on Friday, March 21, at 8 p.m.

Cal Poly Arts presents the ensemble - hailed as "irreverent, classy and smart" (Albuquerque Journal) - in conjunction with the Clark Center Association.

The Turtle Island String Quartet (TISQ) features David Balakrishnan (violin, Baritone violin), Evan Price (violin), Danny Seidenberg (viola), and Mark Summer (cello).

"This unique, jazzy four-piece continues to entertain with its distinctive brand of tight, impressive bow-entry in motion." (Billboard Magazine)

TISQ endeavors to strike a balance with the emotional immediacy associated with jazz and the brilliant conceptualization associated with classical music. People Magazine claims the group "stands tradition on its civilized ear."

Formed in 1985 with its name derived from creation mythology found in Native American folklore, TISQ gained renown for fusing the classical quartet aesthetic with 20th century American popular styles. Their unique sound and sensibilities -- once termed as "alternative" chamber music -- are now firmly established in the mainstream music world.

The evening's program will feature TISQ's arrangements of pieces by composers such as Leonard Bernstein, George Gershwin, Dave Brubeck, Thelonius Monk, Pat Metheny, Bach, Chick Corea, Vivaldi, Egberto Gismonti, Beethoven, Paquito D'Rivera, Ravel, Tchaikovsky, and Frank Zappa.
The repertoire will also feature TISQ's own compositions which integrate jazz, western classical, American fiddle styles, rock, rhythm and blues, World Beat, Afro-Cuban, and Indian classical music.

Tickets for the performance are $28 & $34, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

This performance is sponsored by American Airlines/American Eagle, and co-presented by KCBX FM 90.1.

This program is funded in part by the California Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.