

High-resolution downloadable images of Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Poco, moe., Rusted Root, and Louisiana Swamp Romp Artists are available on Wolf Trap's Web site: http://www.wolftrap.org/Media_and_Newsroom/Photos_for_Publication.aspx

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Wolf Trap Packs the First Weekend of June with Country Tinged Roots-Rock, Jam Bands, and Its 19th Annual Louisiana Swamp Romp Festival

Vienna, VA—Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts kicks off the month of June with three consecutive evenings featuring multi-act live performance. Country influenced roots rockers **Nitty Gritty Dirt Band** take the stage with support from **Poco** on Friday, June 6, followed by jam band heroes **moe.** with special guest **Rusted Root** on Saturday, June 7. Wolf Trap's **19th Annual Louisiana Swamp Romp** featuring **The Wild Magnolias, Pine Leaf Boys, Balfa Toujours,** and **Nathan Zydeco & The Zydeco Cha Chas** closes the weekend on Sunday, June 8.

Nitty Gritty Dirty Band w/ Special Guest Poco

Friday, June 6, 2008 at 8:00 p.m.

\$40 in-house; \$25 lawn

In their first Wolf Trap performance since 2002, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band brings their signature blend of bluegrass, country, rock 'n' roll, and roots-rock to the Filene Center stage. Formed in California in 1965, the now-legendary Nitty Gritty Dirt Band helped to transform folk-rock into a new genre of country-rock, influencing bands like Alabama and the Eagles. Probably the group's best-known song, their cover of Jerry Jeff Walker's "Mr. Bojangles," was a *Billboard* Top 10 hit that launched their careers after the release of 1970's *Uncle Charlie & His Dog Teddy*. *Uncle Charlie* was the beginning of a new sound for the group, rooted in their jug band origins but with a country influence absent of the vaudeville-style numbers that highlighted their earlier releases.

In 1971, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band arrived in Nashville at the suggestion of manager Bill McEuen to record what was to become their most prestigious work to date. In collaboration with Roy Acuff, Mother Maybelle Carter, Doc Watson, Earl Scruggs, Merle Travis, Bashful Brother Oswald,

Norman Blake, and other country and bluegrass giants, Nitty Gritty hit the studio to record 1973's groundbreaking three-disc album, *Will the Circle Be Unbroken*. The album was a rousing multi-genre success, achieved platinum status, and paved the way for two subsequent volumes.

Their latest album, 2004's *Welcome to Woody Creek*, won a Grammy for the track "Earl's Breakdown." With over 5000 concerts, 30 albums, dozens of charted hits, and hundreds of television appearances including *The Tonight Show*, *American Bandstand*, and *Saturday Night Live*, the group "is an outstanding affirmation of faith in music...that never goes out of style," praises *Rolling Stone*.

Poco

Supporting Nitty Gritty Dirt Band in their Wolf Trap debut, the guitar, bass and drum trio that comprises Poco hits the Filene Center stage firmly entrenched as a pioneer of the country rock sound. Armed with 24 original albums and multiple anthology collections, the band boasts a comprehensive catalog of roughly 50 releases. Known for various lineup incarnations throughout the years, the group came about as a bi-product of Buffalo Springfield's breakup in the late 1960's. Originally comprised of songwriter and rhythm guitarist Richie Furay, bassist Jim Messina, and pedal steel guitarist Rusty Young, their first release, 1969's *Pickin' Up the Pieces*, was part of a rising new genre uniting country and rock music.

Later albums include *Legend* (1979), which reached the *Billboard* Top 20 on both the country and pop charts; *Shoot for the Moon* (1989), which reached No. 10; and their latest, *The Wildwood Sessions* (2006). After forty years, members Young, Paul Cotton (guitar), Jack Sundrud (bass/vocals), and George Lawrence (drums) are still active in writing and recording music, and touring festivals and top rock venues across the United States.

moe. with Special Guest Rusted Root

Saturday, June 7, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

\$32 in-house; \$28 lawn

Currently touring behind their 2008 release *Sticks and Stones*, moe. returns to Wolf Trap for an evening of jam-band influenced improvisations and mellow guitar rhythms channeling the likes of the Grateful Dead, Phish, and Dave Matthews Band. This talented group of experimental musicians began humbly on the college bar circuit in upstate New York while founder, vocalist,

and bass player Rob Derhak attended the University of Buffalo. As a solo performer on the campus party circuit, Derhak recruited guitarist Chuck Garvey and drummer Ray Schwartz to perform contemporary pop and classic rock covers under the moniker, Five Guys named Moe. It was with the addition of guitarist Al Schnier in 1991 that the name was changed to moe., which has since amassed a large and loyal following through their persistent touring.

Throughout the group's seventeen years, the band has remained open to different philosophies and new sounds as member lineups have shifted. In 1992, when percussionist Jim Loughlin replaced Schwartz, moe. transitioned towards a looser, more improvisational style with beginning traces of their trademark psychedelic oscillating guitar sound. With Loughlin on board, the group released its debut album, *Headseed*, in 1993. In 1996, drummer Vinnie Amico joined the band and *No Doy*, which included the 45-minute jam session "Meat," was released on Sony's 550 Music label. Firmly established as a quintet, the band has been a staple at music festivals, including several years at Bonnaroo, and hosts three festivals of their own: moe.down, snoe.down (which makes annual contributions to local and national nonprofits), and Summer Camp.

Now on their own label, Fatboy, the band has released hits including 2000's double-disc *L*; 2001's *Dither*, which reached the Top 20 on *Billboard's* Top Independent Albums chart; the groundbreaking 2002 release *Wormwood*, a 60-minute flow of continuous music recorded live but carefully studio-produced that deftly captured the improvisational essence of the jam band in a live setting; and 2007's intricate *The Conch*, which hit No. 1 on *Billboard's* Top Heatseekers. The band calls their latest album, *Sticks and Stones* (2008), an "experiment in rock and roll." A departure from the continuous flow of *Wormwood*, the album's songs were written and recorded simultaneously in the studio. *Rolling Stone* enthuses, "The result is a concise, punchy good time, emphasizing the songcraft inside moe.'s improvising mettle."

Rusted Root

Formed in Pittsburgh in 1990, Rusted Root merges bluegrass rock with strong percussion influences from Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America to create their one-of-a-kind and highly recognizable sound. The sextet is comprised of Michael Glabicki (vocals, guitar), Liz Berlin (vocals, percussion), Patrick Norman (bass, vocals), Jim Donovan (drums, percussion), John Buynak (percussion, winds), and Jim DiSpirito (percussion). After the release of 1990's

Cruel Sun, the group was signed by Mercury Records and released the platinum selling *When I Woke* in 1994, introducing the world to their smash-hit single “Send Me On My Way” which garnered the band massive nationwide recognition through extensive college radio play and inclusion in several feature films. Rusted Root followed up *When I Woke* with 1996’s *Remember*, which reached the *Billboard* Top 40 within a week of its release. The new millennium brought 2002’s *Welcome to My Party* and their sixth and most recent album, *Rusted Root Live*, released in 2004.

Wolf Trap’s 19th Annual Louisiana Swamp Romp With The Wild Magnolias, Pine Leaf Boys, Balfa Tujors, and Nathan & the Zydeco Cha Chas

*Sunday, June 8, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.
\$25 General Admission*

Now in its 19th season, the Louisiana Swamp RompSM continues in its tradition of Mardi Gras fun and flamboyance with four top tier bands that truly embody and exude the spirit and culture of the Louisiana people. The event begins mid day on Sunday and lasts well into the evening, with full sets from each act designed to provide a true French Quarter experience.

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Tickets can be purchased by calling 1 (877) WOLFTRAP; or online at www.wolftrap.org. For more information, call Wolf Trap at (703) 255-1868.

Wolf Trap is metro accessible! Our environmentally friendly shuttle travels from the West Falls Church metro stop every 20 minutes two hours prior to show time. For more information, please visit, http://www.wolftrap.org/Plan_Your_Visit/Access_by_Metro.aspx