



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley
National Park

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Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release – Friday, February 17, 2012

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Harmonia Brings Folk Music of Eastern Europe to Cuyahoga Valley

Brecksville, Ohio – *Harmonia* brings the traditional songs and instruments of Eastern European Gypsy bands to the stage at Happy Days Lodge when they play Friday, February 24, as part of the Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Concert series. The concert begins at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. *Harmonia's* performance is presented by Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, celebrating the cultural legacy of the Cuyahoga Valley. The series is sponsored by Courtyard Marriott-Akron/Stow, 89.7 WKSU, Lloyd L. & Louise K. Smith Foundation, and Cable 9.

Admission is \$17 adults, \$12 Conservancy members, and \$5 children ages 3 - 12. General seating. Advance sales are available until 3 p.m. on Friday for that weekend's show by calling 330-657-2909. You can create your own subscription series—enjoy three great Cuyahoga Valley Heritage Series concerts for one low price! No cash refunds, but tickets may be exchanged up to 10 days before the concert. Series prices: \$45 adults, \$30 Conservancy members, and \$15 children ages 3 - 12.

Harmonia presents the traditional folk music of Eastern Europe, ranging from the Danube to the Carpathians. Its repertoire reflects the cultures of this region: Hungarian, Slovakian, Ukrainian, Romanian, Croatian, and Gypsy. They have been called "obscenely talented" by the Folklore society of Washington, D.C. and "a musical gem" by National Public Radio. The ensemble uses authentic folk instruments as varied as accordion, upright bass, violin, panflute, and cimbalom (a 125-string hammered dulcimer). Capturing the emotion, depth, fire and passion of Eastern Europe, *Harmonia's* rhythms move in a heartbeat from mellow and dissonant to loud and frenzied. In addition to being outstanding musicians and polished performers, band members are equally adept at explaining their music and culture.

Happy Days Lodge, located at 500 West Streetsboro Road (State Route 303) in Peninsula 44264, 1 mile west of State Route 8, is a restored Civilian Conservation Corps structure that provides a rustic ambiance for folk and traditional concerts, theater, lectures, and special event rentals. For more information on rentals, call the Conservancy at 330-657-2909 ext. 119.

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The Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park is a nonprofit organization created to engage public support for the park and provide services to enhance public use and enjoyment of the park. For more information about the Conservancy and its membership program, visit www.conservancyforcvnp.org or call 330-657-2909.

CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron, Ohio. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information visit www.nps.gov/cuva or www.dayinthevalley.com or call 330-657-2752 or 800-257-9477.

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