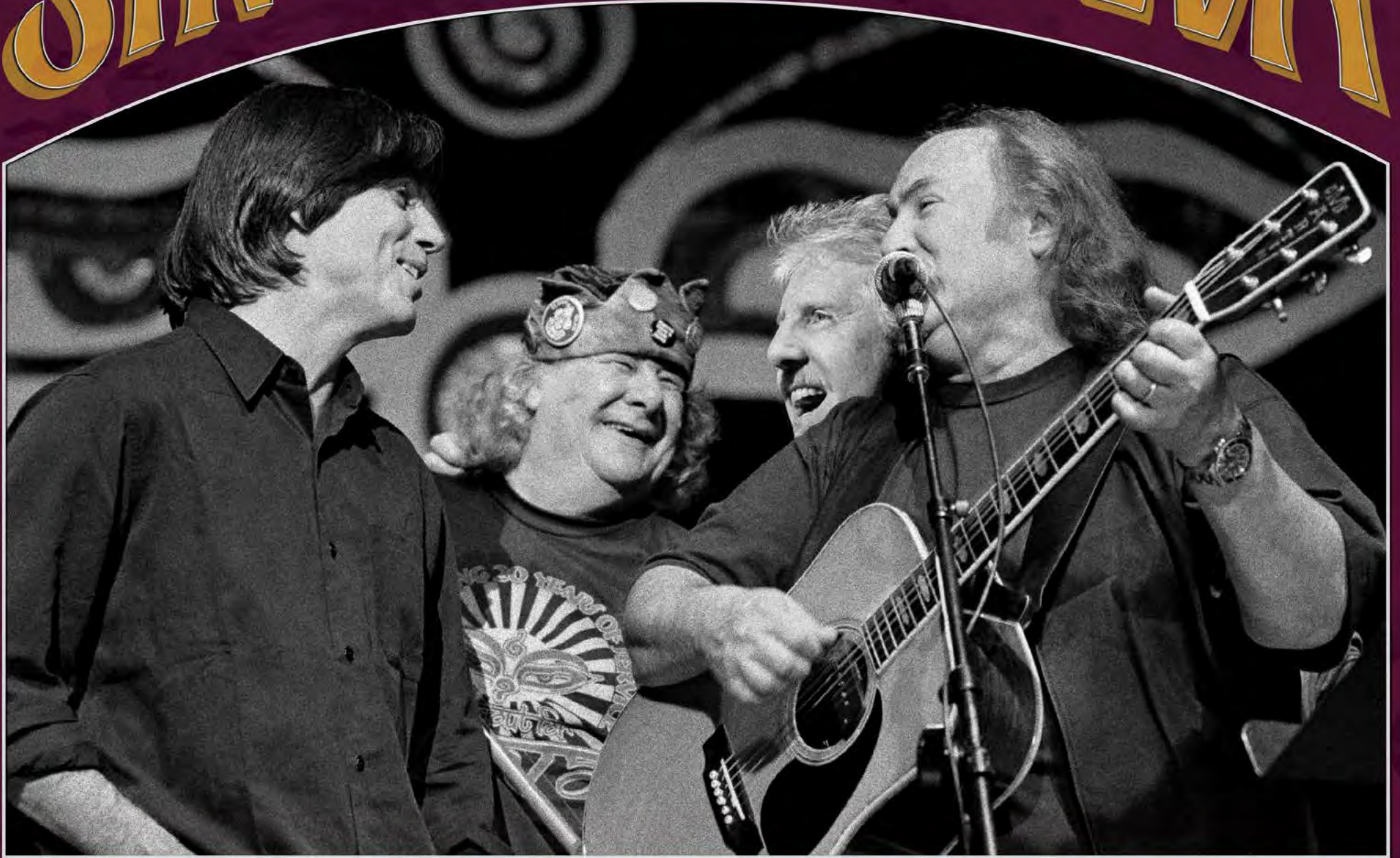


SING OUT FOR SEVA



40 YEARS OF MUSIC FOR SOCIAL CHANGE



SING OUT FOR SEVA



40 YEARS OF MUSIC FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Graham Nash

Jackson Browne

Wavy Gravy

Bob Weir

LIMITED EDITION OF 500 / NUMBER _____

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FOREWORD BY JACKSON BROWNE



MUSIC HAS ALWAYS been good for raising us up. Raising awareness, raising money, and raising expectations.

Growing up in the sixties, we got used to hearing music that was made to bring people together in the face of adversity. There were songs I heard being sung at marches and demonstrations in the civil rights movement, and some of those same songs had their origins in the labor movement of the thirties. Some were from gospel. Black gospel and white gospel. The folk songs we learned came from many periods in history, and contained the struggles of the people who made them, out of a need to tell their stories and face their doubts, and to chart a course that aligned with the course our forebears had taken, bringing us here.

Maybe rock culture owes the idea of the benefit concert to George Harrison and Ravi Shankar and the Concert for Bangladesh at Madison Square Garden in 1971. But benefits had already been happening on a smaller scale for generations. What may have been new though – was the idea that a benefit concert had the potential to inform people who might otherwise not hear about the particular need it was answering. As Ravi Shankar said of the Concert for Bangladesh, "In one day, the whole world knew the name of Bangladesh."

I was one of the organizers of the MUSE (Musicians United for Safe Energy) concerts in 1979, only eight years after that. Our five nights at Madison Square Garden were infused with the inspiration and the expectations that had solidified in the minds of a whole generation of environmentalists – we could raise funds for grassroots organizations and at the same time raise awareness of the ideas and principles of a clean energy future.

Seva had its beginning in 1978, it is a cousin of those first two benefit concerts in its mission and its ideals, but it has been much longer lasting, and has achieved much further reaching results. Nearly 5 million people's eyesight has been restored by doctors, musicians and clowns! You have to ask yourself – what might an enlightened government do?

My first connection to Seva was meeting Wavy Gravy at the blockade of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in 1981. People who were non-violently blocking the construction workers from entering the plant were arrested; the women were held in the San Luis Obispo Men's Colony, and the men held at Cuesta College, in the basketball gym. As the bus of detainees I was in rolled up to a fenced off area, we could see a large group of all those who had already been detained singing freedom songs and chanting chants from the civil rights era and the anti-war movement. The welcoming spirit and the display of resistance and solidarity I experienced as we were off-loaded and processed was exhilarating.

In the middle of it all was Wavy Gravy, with a megaphone, dressed as Santa Claus.

Every night, Wavy would present a variety show put on by the detainees, called the Tornado of Talent, some of which was scholarly, some of it satirical; all of it germane to the struggle we were engaged in, culturally, politically or spiritually. The guards allowed me to send someone to get a guitar from my car trunk. I sang some songs, and over the next few days the guitar got passed around.

John Trudell, the Native American rights activist and poet, arrived at the gym the day after I was arrested, and we spoke for a few minutes through the chain link fence. He asked how he could get in there. I told him he had to go through non-violence training and join the demonstration. He had been in many demonstrations and confrontations with police as a leader of the Indians of All Tribes Occupation of Alcatraz, and as National Chairman of the American Indian Movement. But he didn't join the blockade or demonstrate. He went up to a highway patrolman at the barricade and asked him how he could get arrested. The officer, with his mirror shades, said "Don't cross the line," and John smiled and stepped over the line.

Inside, he gave several talks, and cast the struggle against nuclear power as a part of the greater resistance against the corporate structure of the United States. After a couple of those talks, he was removed to a different part of the detention facility and sequestered from the rest of the anti-nuclear demonstrators. The guards and police officials were concerned that his speaking – which was known by law

enforcement to be very effective, would plant greater seeds of resistance among the entirely white environmentalists who made up the blockade.

But how do you defend the country against subversion posed by a guy dressed as Santa Claus?

To Wavy's unofficial title - 'Clown Saint Misbehavin' - I think we must add Revolutionary.

I have played at quite a few Seva benefit concerts over the years, the first one in 1982. That you can make music on one side of the world, and on the other side people are cured of blindness, is a kind of miracle. That miracle is performed by hundreds of people working in concert for a common ideal. If there is a cure for our blindness, shouldn't it be available to everyone?

For us musicians, to join each other in serving the common good is a reprieve from the insistence of a career's demands, and the tyranny of our own stature. And what's more - we get to play with artists we may never otherwise have had the chance to play with.

Studies show that approximately 80% of blindness can be prevented or cured with nearly half being able to have their sight restored by a simple cataract surgery. For many people, to be given their sight back is to be given their lives back. It's wonderful to be involved in something as tangible as that.

INTRODUCTION BY LARRY BRILLIANT, SEVA CO-FOUNDER



THE MOST IMPORTANT thing about the Seva Foundation is that nearly five million people have been touched by its work. That's what it's all about. Looking back at how it all began; the question is; how do you start an organization that is stronger than ever 40 years after it was founded? That's unusual. Let's take a look back on where and how the magic happened. It turns out music was a big part of things from the start.

There are a lot of "origin myths" about Seva, but really the seed of Seva goes back to 1970, we had just finished the Medicine Ball Caravan, a movie produced by Warner Bros. documenting a series of free concerts staged during a month-long road trip. We were all living in hippie buses, and we drove from San Francisco to Washington DC and then flew to London. We did a Pink Floyd concert in Canterbury, and then 40 of us on two buses drove east on the fabled "hippie trail." It took us almost two years and when we reached Nepal, we went trekking.

We marched up about 70 miles into the Himalayas from Pokhara on what is now known as the Annapurna Circuit. We must've looked like Martians, I mean we certainly didn't look like anything the Nepalis had ever seen before - we were a clown, a doctor and our wives. Wavy would entertain the children while I doctored people along the trail. The people were so kind to us that we made a silent pledge, if ever our life circumstances changed and we had the means, we wanted to give something back. The mountain people in Nepal had so little, but shared so graciously everything they had with us. It was such a moving experience.

When we came back to the US, I became a professor at the University of Michigan, my wife Girija got her PhD there. We decided that being a professor and a grad student was kind of boring compared to being a hippie on a bus trip with the

Grateful Dead and Pink Floyd, or working to eradicate smallpox in India, or living in an ashram with Maharaji. We wanted to do something like the eradication of smallpox again, but this time, instead of doing it with PhD's and diplomats, or people who had spent their lives in the bureaucracies of the UN, we wanted to do it with our friends. So we started this group called the Seva Foundation, Seva means service in Sanskrit, but it implies service to God by serving humanity.

By now it was 1978 and we were struggling with what our mission was going to be. I wanted to work on diarrhea because it was the major cause of childhood mortality in the world. Wavy immediately said, "We're going to work on diarrhea, great. I'll do a benefit concert and we'll call it 'No Shit.'" So the idea of Seva actually began with plans for a benefit concert, although I got talked out of doing diarrhea because so many of the people at that first meeting wanted to work on blindness.

We had this notion of conflating the idea of sacred vision, the idea of you have a vision, or you are a visionary, with actual sight using your eyes.

I had written an article about our experience in the smallpox eradication program and living with Maharaji in a magazine called Quest, titled "Death for a Killer Disease." The magazine was distributed to people who were mostly Christians and a lot of people liked it and sent us cash in little envelopes. From that we had almost \$40,000, so we decided that we would call all of the people back together that we'd written about in the magazine and ask them how to spend the money. Sister Angela Rose, an eye doctor who became a nun, said she had a friend visiting from India, Dr. Venkataswamy, and asked if she could bring him. This was the first Seva meeting. It was held outside of Ann Arbor, Michigan, we were a mix of scientists, public health experts and hippies, including Ram Dass, Wavy Gravy and Danny Rifkin, the manager of the Grateful Dead.

Meanwhile, Dr. Nicole Grasset, a public health expert and exceptional human being who I worked with eradicating smallpox in India, got invited to a meeting in New Delhi that the World Health Organization was putting on to discuss "What Shall We Do Now After Smallpox Has Been Eradicated." The meeting was held in the WHO office in New Delhi. They had a series of inspirational speakers. The keynote speaker was Sir John Wilson. He had been blinded at the age of 12 by a chemistry class explosion.

Sir John gives this charismatic speech, and Nicole turns to Dr. Pokhrel from Nepal and says, "Maybe we could do something about blindness" and he replied "Yes, we should do it scientifically and start off with a survey. There's never been a national survey of anything in Nepal, and there's never been a national blindness survey anywhere in the world." Nicole said, "But how much will it cost?" He answered "Well, you'll have to have a helicopter because you can't get from place to place by walking, it would take years."

Sitting on the other side of Nicole was the representative from the Netherlands who offered to pay for it. So the government of the Netherlands funded us and we did that blindness survey in Nepal and we learned, to our surprise, that the accepted wisdom that the major causes of blindness: glaucoma, where the pressure in the eye increases and kills the retina, and trachoma, an infectious disease on the front of the eye caused by a bacteria, were wrong. The truth was that the major cause of blindness was cataracts, causing two-thirds of all blindness. The only way to deal with cataracts is to operate, which put us in the business of hospitals and surgeons and curative medicine, whereas we were hippies, we wanted to do preventative medicine and public health and give them vitamins and get the shit out of the water. But we got ourselves in a situation where we promised that we would help get rid of unnecessary blindness, and the unnecessary blindness that we found was from cataracts.

The next big Seva meeting was in 1979 in Marin County. Many of the same people came to that meeting. Steve Jobs also joined us. He drove from his Apple board meeting, wearing a three-piece suit, a big shift from the barefoot, shaven head hippie I knew in India when he was 19. Jobs arrived two hours late and he was impatient with us, he said, "You guys say you want to work on blindness, you'll have to hire a world-class marketing guru, and it's going to cost a lot of money."

We replied, "No, we're a voluntary organization, and we're the first volunteers." I'm thinking, here's Dr. Venkataswamy who's done 100,000 sight-restoring eye operations. Here's Nicole Grasset who's eradicated smallpox, here's Ram Dass who wrote the most popular book of the 1970's, here's Wavy Gravy who's loved by everybody and was the Master of Ceremonies at Woodstock, and Steve Jobs, you're telling us that we don't have the fire power. But he just wouldn't stop and people became very irritated with him. As I was the convener, I was responsible for kicking him out, and I did.

About two hours after I kicked him out, his Reed roommate, Bob Friedland, came to me and said, "Steve's still here." I said, "What do you mean, he's still here?" Bob said "He's in his new Mercedes in his three-piece suit in the parking lot crying." I said, "Why?" He said, "Because you kicked him out." So I went out there and I said, "Steve, it's okay." He replied, "No, I was an asshole." I repeated "No, it's okay." He replied "Larry, you don't understand. There's two people inside my head right now."

Steve had read that article that we wrote and while other people sent us \$5 in the mail, he sent us \$5,000. So now he said, "I came all the way from my first Apple board meeting with our new venture capitalists and I carried with me that same way of being in the world, of being outcome oriented and not caring about the people in front of me. And I just treated everybody in that room, whom I admire so much, like shit." I said, "Steve, it's okay. Come on back in, it's fine." He said, "Okay, I'm going to come back in, I'm going to stay

five minutes and I'm going to go around and look everybody in the eye and apologize and then I'm going to leave because I've got the hippie in my head and I've got the new high-tech CEO in my head and I've got to figure this thing out." He came back into the room and he apologized to everybody. I said, "Steve, Wavy's going to do our first benefit concert in a couple of days at the Oakland Auditorium and the Grateful Dead are going to play." Steve said, "I love the Grateful Dead!" I said, "Have you ever met them? Please come, let me introduce you to them. Meet everybody and come on backstage. I think it'll all be okay."

The first Seva benefit was held on Dec. 26th 1979. I was backstage with Dr. V, Wavy and Ram Dass, when Bill Graham came up to Wavy and said, "Wavy, I just heard this is a benefit, why am I the last to know?" Wavy said, "Well, everybody knows this is a benefit for the Seva Foundation to eradicate blindness in Nepal." Bill Graham yelled at Wavy for not telling him it was a benefit and then he handed him an envelope. Wavy opened it up and it was a check for \$10,000. Wavy looked at Bill and Wavy's eyes were bigger than a real clown's eyes and he said, "What is this for?" Bill Graham said, "Because you did not ask me."

Then I went out into the crowd to find Steve. As we were walking up the steps we ran into Jerry Garcia and I got to introduce Steve Jobs to Jerry Garcia, which was wonderful. Then Steve came back and talked to Dr. V. and Wavy and Ram Dass and it really was all okay. My friendship with Steve began then and he gave us money, computers and technology help along the way.

In some ways that first concert was as much the beginning of Seva as anything else. It forever set our destiny. Seva is synonymous with concerts. Out of the hundreds of millions of dollars that Seva has raised over the years, a big percent of that is because of the concerts, directly and indirectly. But it's more than that, it is the community that comes together to listen to the music. It's the playfulness that Seva developed because we were so concert-centric.

We developed a little bit of a swagger because we knew that we could make people happy and we knew that we could make our donors happy. In a way, it all kind of runs together. Our donors and volunteers care deeply about blindness, they love music, they love the spirit of Seva, they love the community of Seva, they love listening to Ram Dass and talking about God and trying to figure out the politics of our era, but always with a combined focus on getting rid of needless blindness.

Wavy has always said, "Put your good where it will do the most," and I think Seva's been such a success in the last 40 years because we figured out how to use all the pieces on the chess board, all the arrows in the quiver, all the tools in the toolbox. But first and foremost, our identity was forged by music and concerts and the spirit that brought us.



1979-1988

THE FIRST SEVA BENEFIT

WE ALL CAME together at Walden Woods, which was this abandoned summer camp in Michigan. Folks flew in from all over the free world out of Larry Brilliant's rolodex. Which included me and my wife Jahanara. We wanted to do something to help alleviate some of human suffering. And Nicole pitched us to take on unnecessary blindness, because approximately 80% of people with blindness can be prevented or cured, about half of whom could have their sight restored with a simple cataract surgery that cost about \$10 back in those days. What an opportunity to put our good where it will do the most.

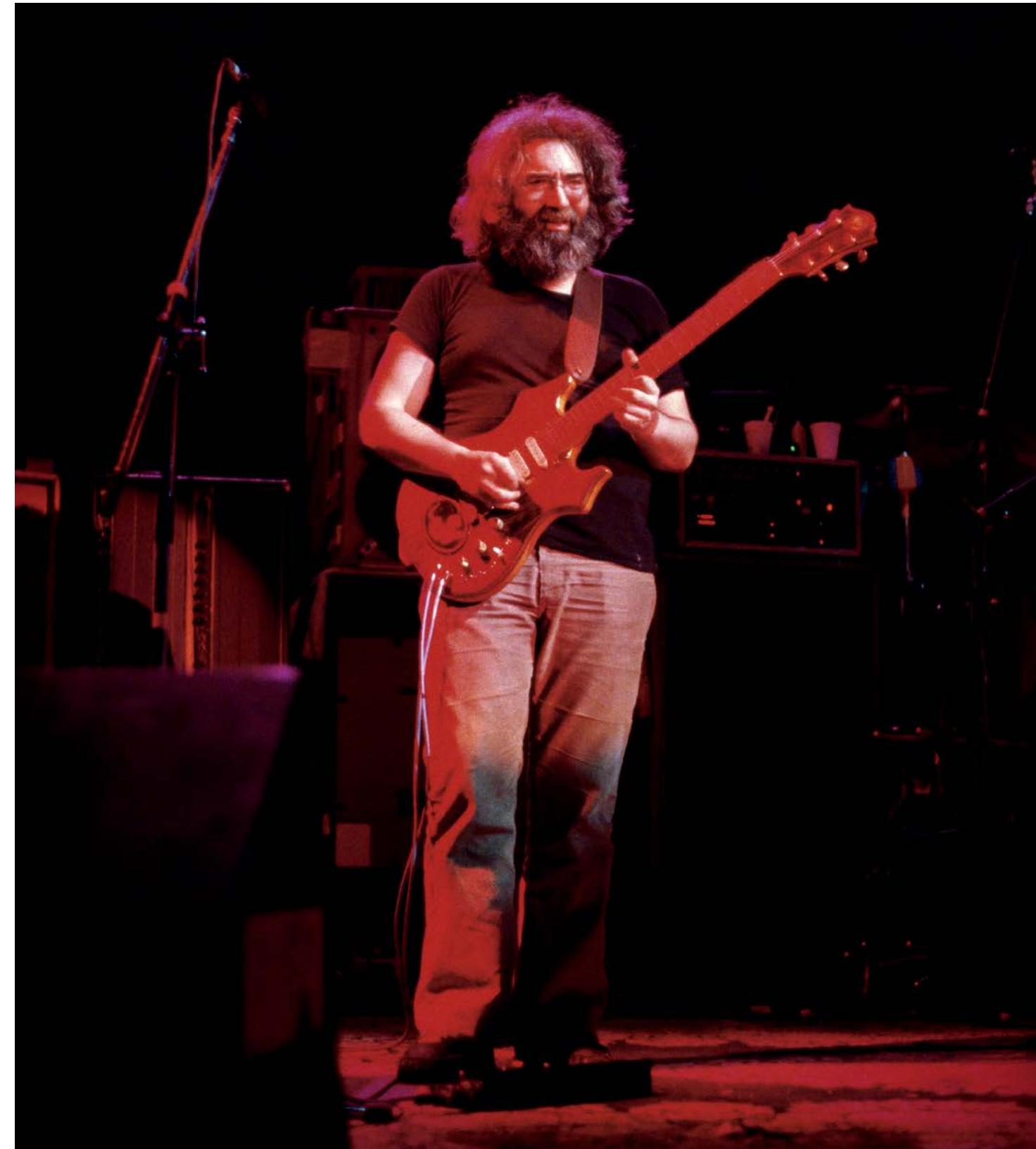
At that meeting, I was chosen to attempt to secure a rock and roll band for a benefit concert, i.e. the Grateful Dead. Lots of luck with that. Everybody, when they get a great organization says ooh, we should get The Rolling Stones or some big-time rock & roll band to do a benefit and then they start phoning around and discover that it's not so easy, in fact, it's darn right impossible. I, however, because of my early days in the acid tests and at Woodstock was lucky enough to have had access to the stars. So, I was at the airport in Detroit headed back to the Bay Area, and I climbed on an plane and who should be there but the Grateful Dead, and they didn't have any parachutes. It was kitchen synchronicity. So I began pitching the band, starting with the drummers, which were an easy task, and Jerry just said "might as well" like he always did when the cause was righteous, and everybody else climbed onboard, and that was the birth of the first Seva show. Bob Weir got really involved with Seva and even joined our advisory board. Ram Dass also did a lot of events for Seva in the early days. Whenever we needed money for years and years, he would do a speaking tour and raise great sums of money for Seva to continue. BY WAVY GRAVY, SEVA CO-FOUNDER



The Grateful Dead, A Benefit for Seva

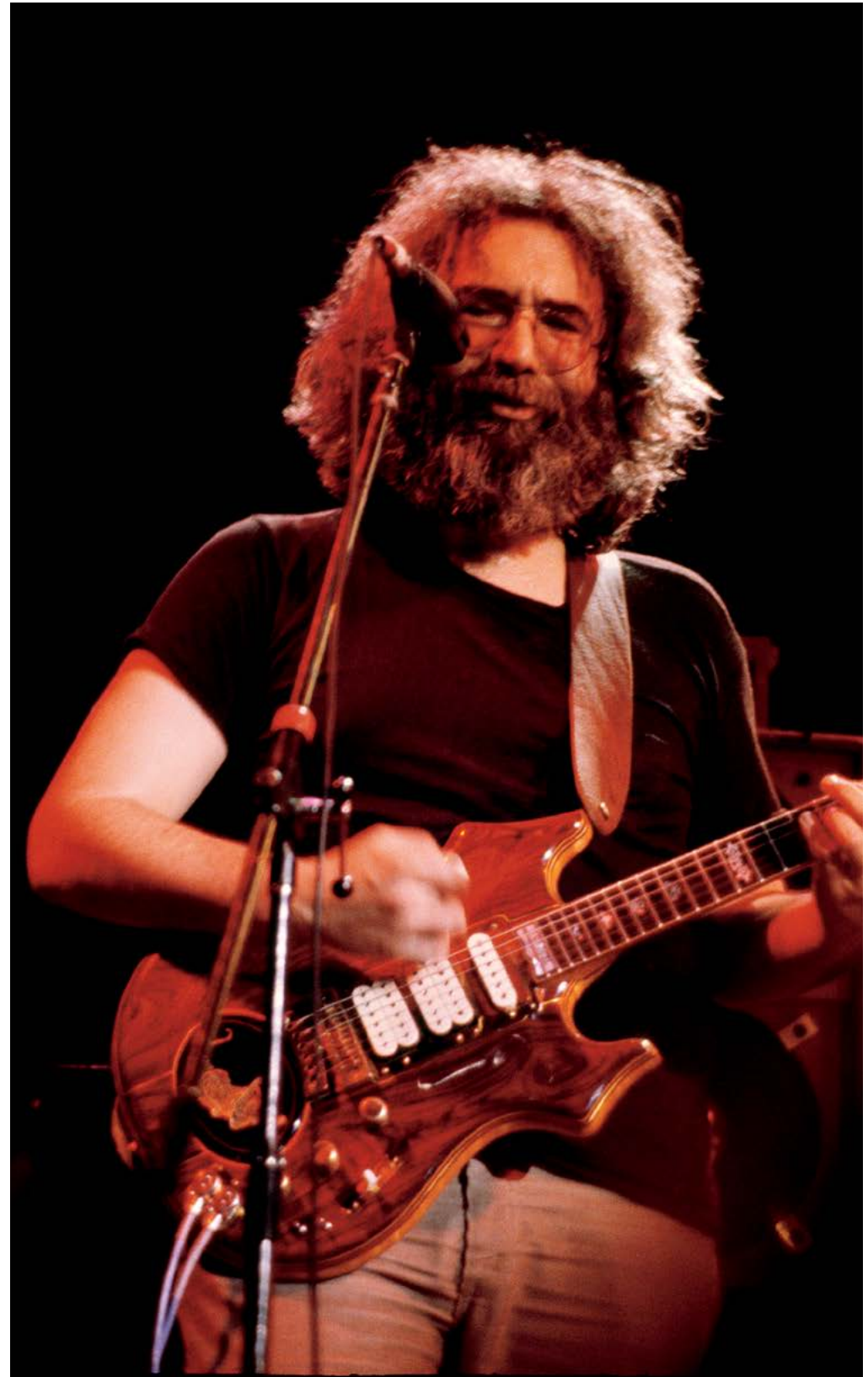
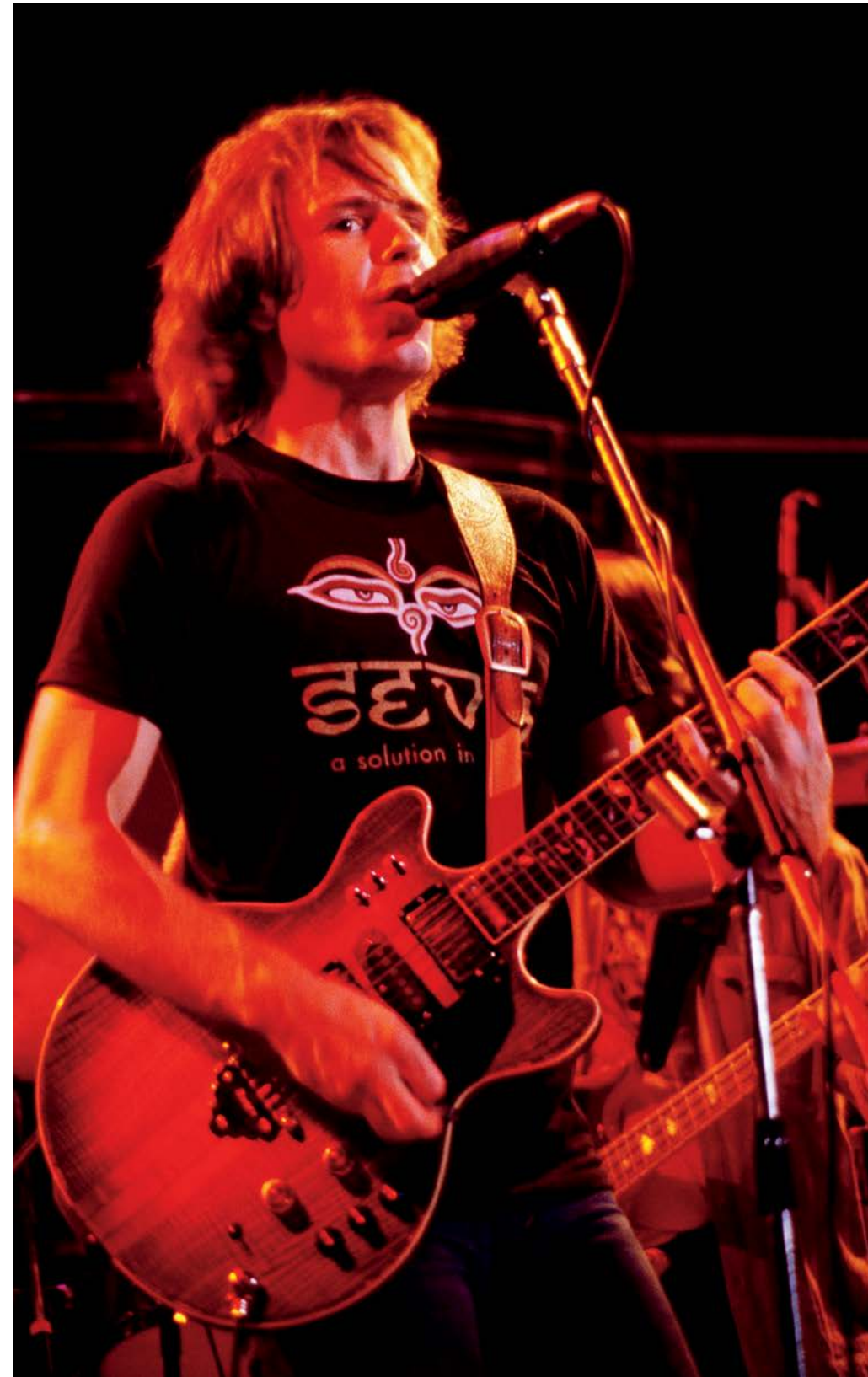
DECEMBER 26, 1979 | OAKLAND AUDITORIUM | OAKLAND, CA

The Grateful Dead



“Over the years the Grateful Dead and extended family have had the opportunity to profoundly benefit millions of people around the world through Seva’s sight programs.”

— BOB WEIR
LIFETIME HONORARY
SEVA BOARD MEMBER



Sing Out for Sight

SEPTEMBER 19, 1980 | CARNEGIE HALL | NEW YORK, NY

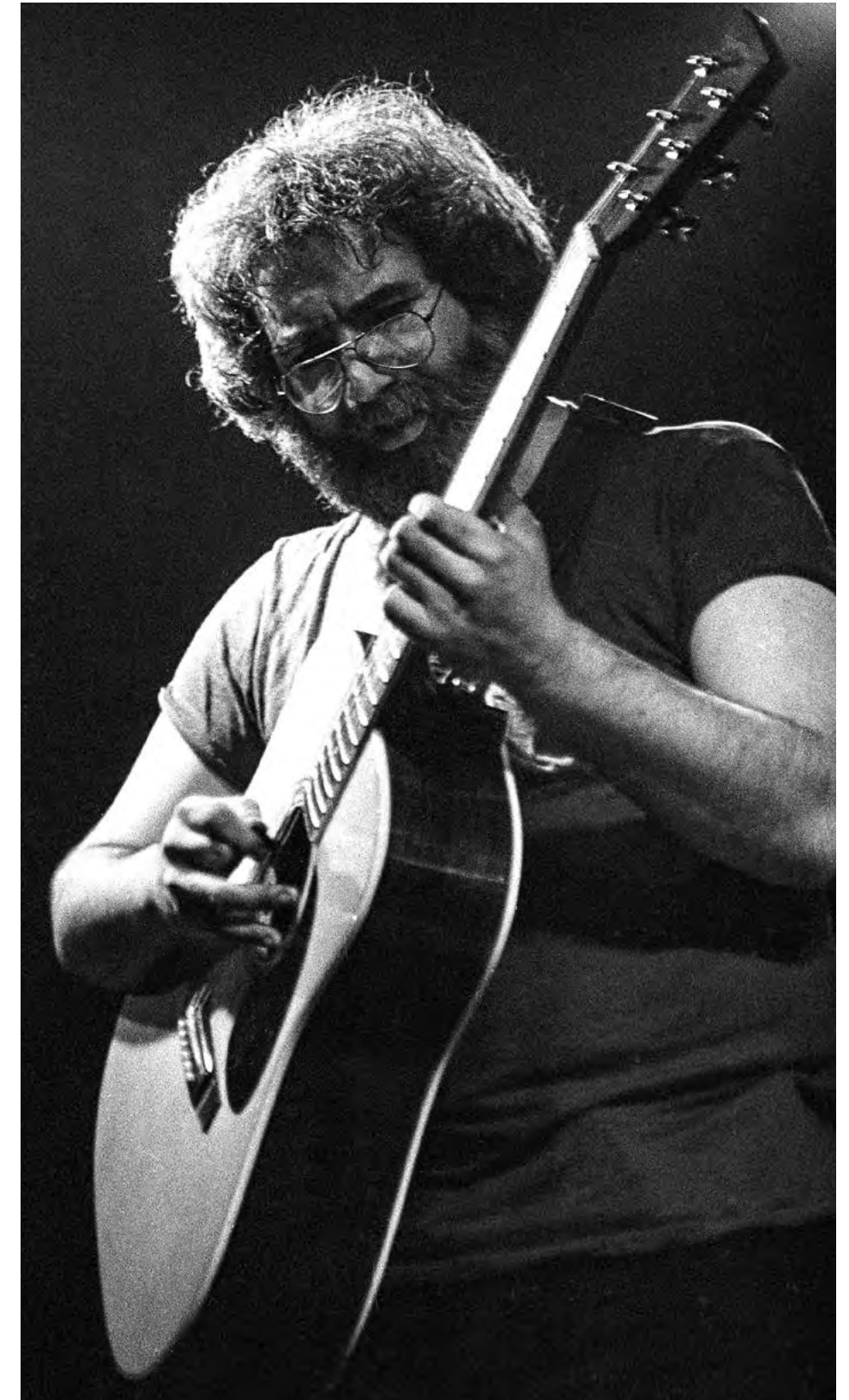
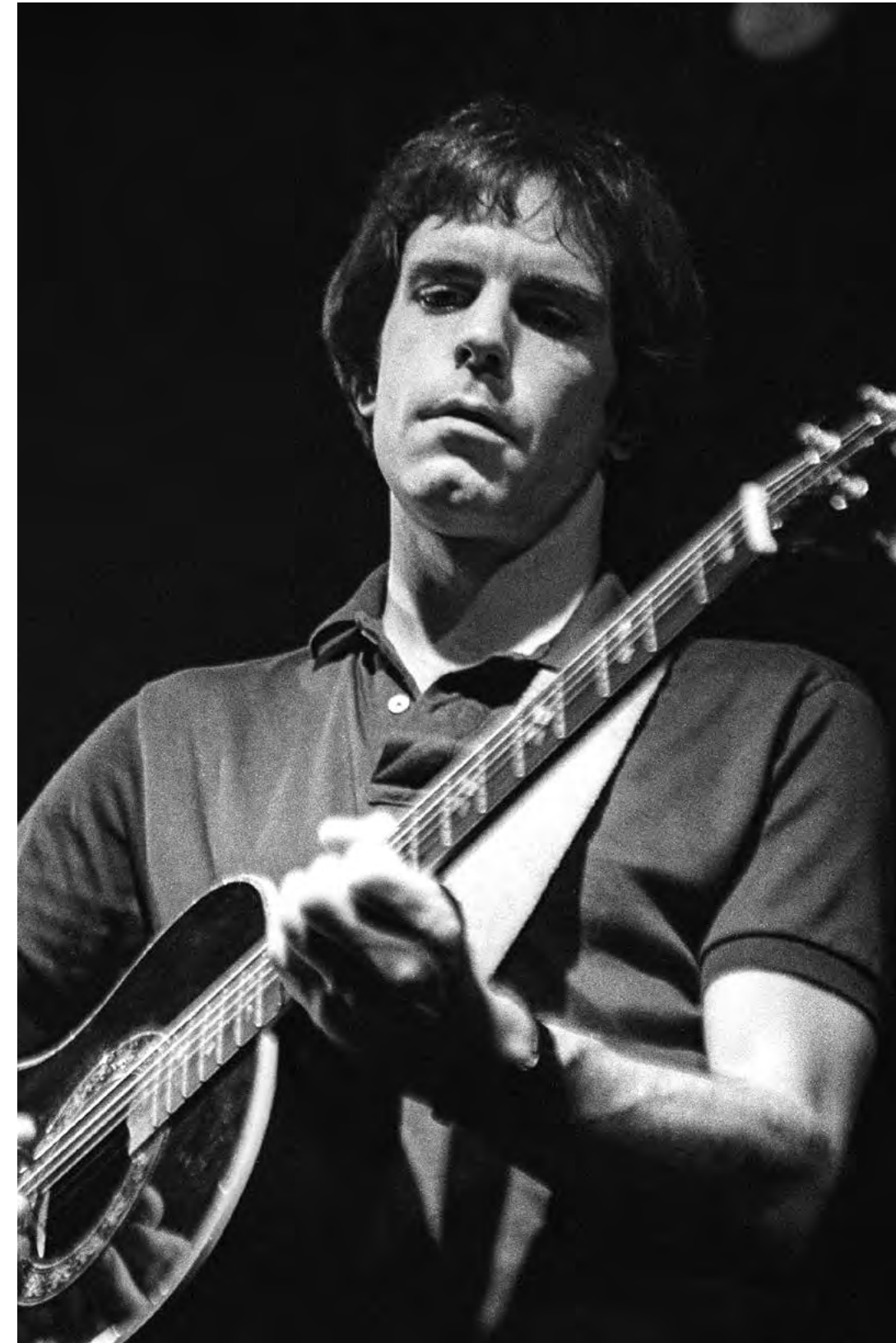
Odetta, Bob Gibson, John Herald, Tom Paxton, Peter Rowan, John Sebastian, Jeremy Steig, The Josh White Singers, Peter Yarrow, Ram Dass, Happy Traum and host Wavy Gravy



Sing Out for Sight

APRIL 25, 1981 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

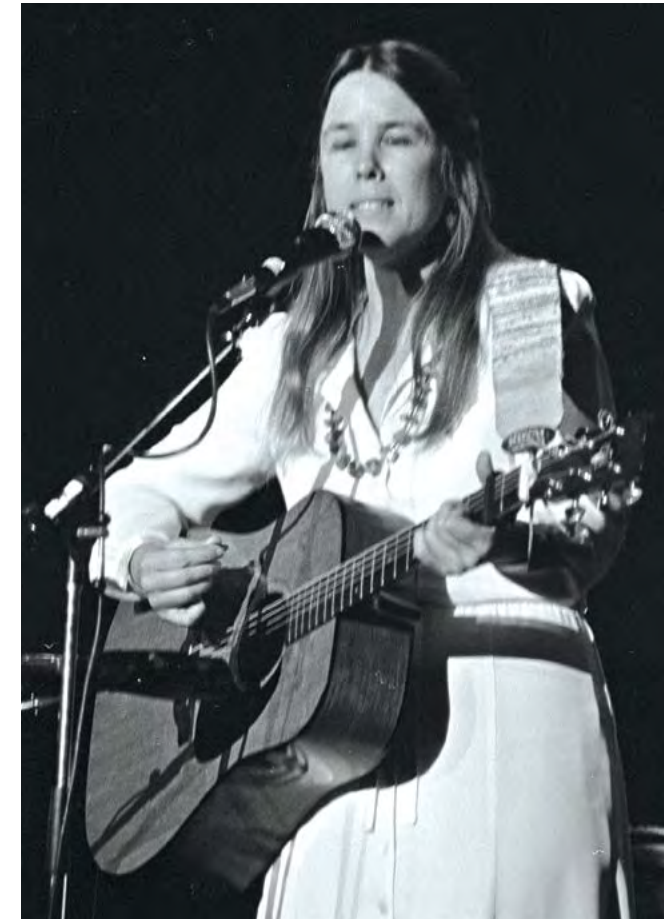
Jerry Garcia, Bob Weir, Mickey Hart, Odetta, Kate Wolf, Nina Gerber, Ford James, Country Joe McDonald, Rosalie Sorrels, Mitch Greenhill and host Wavy Gravy



Sing Out for Sight

APRIL 29, 1982 | SANTA MONICA CIVIC AUDITORIUM | SANTA MONICA, CA

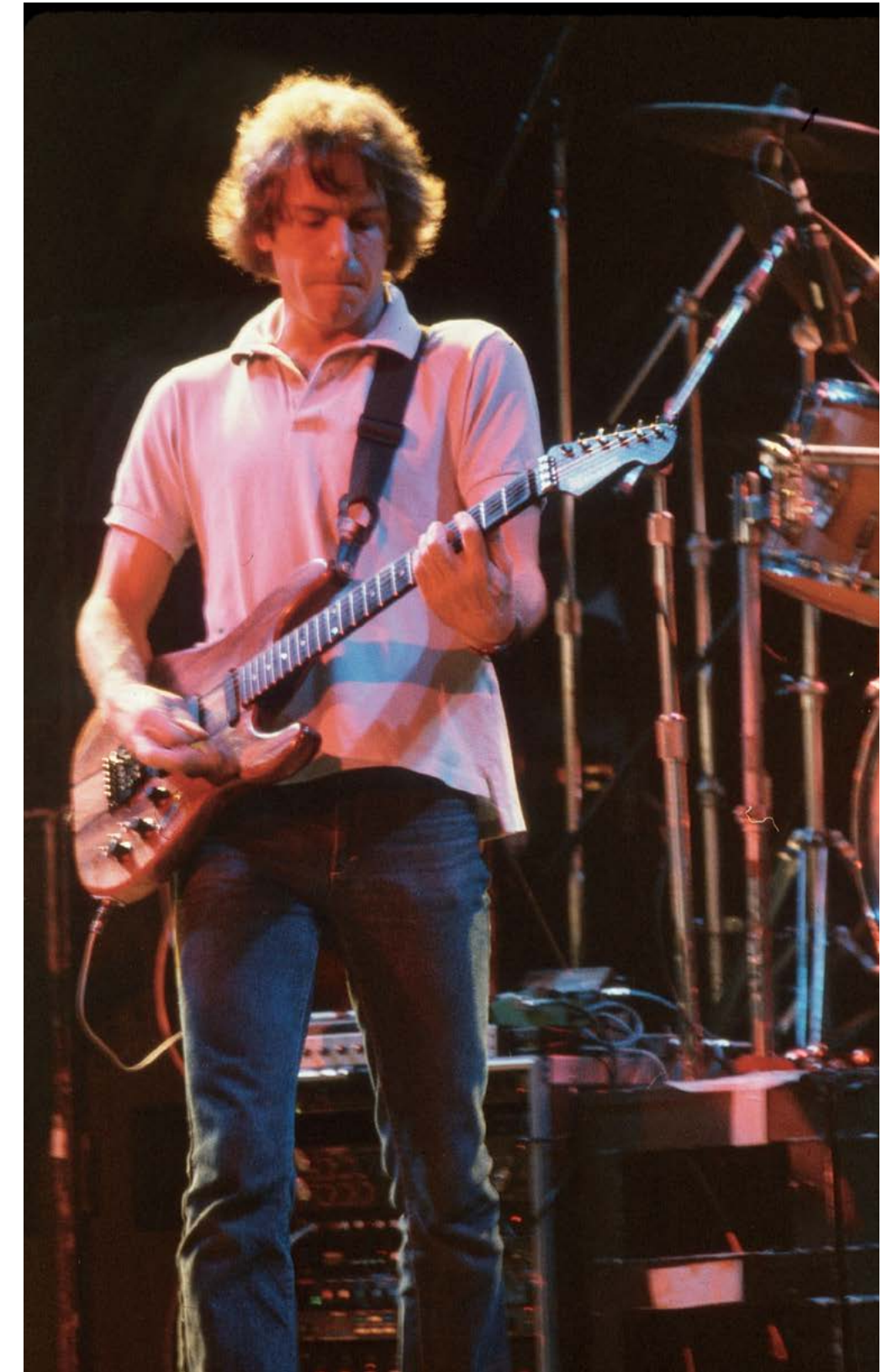
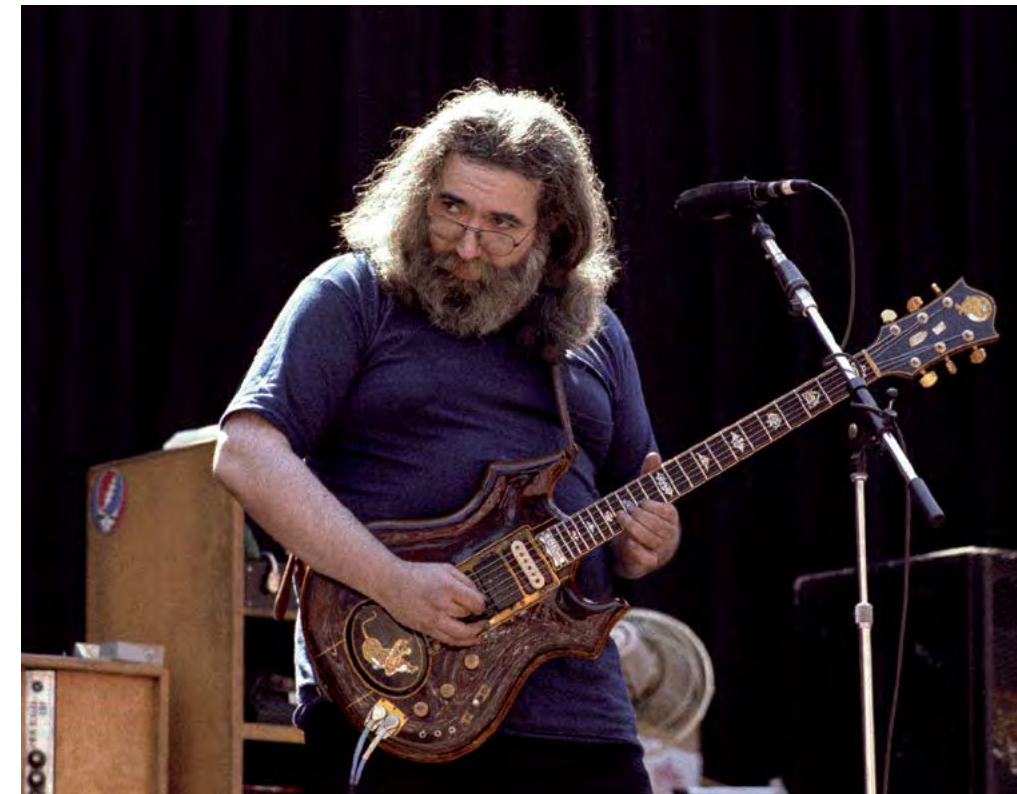
Jackson Browne, Graham Nash, Country Joe McDonald, Odetta, Holly Near, Kate Wolf, Robert Hunter and host Wavy Gravy

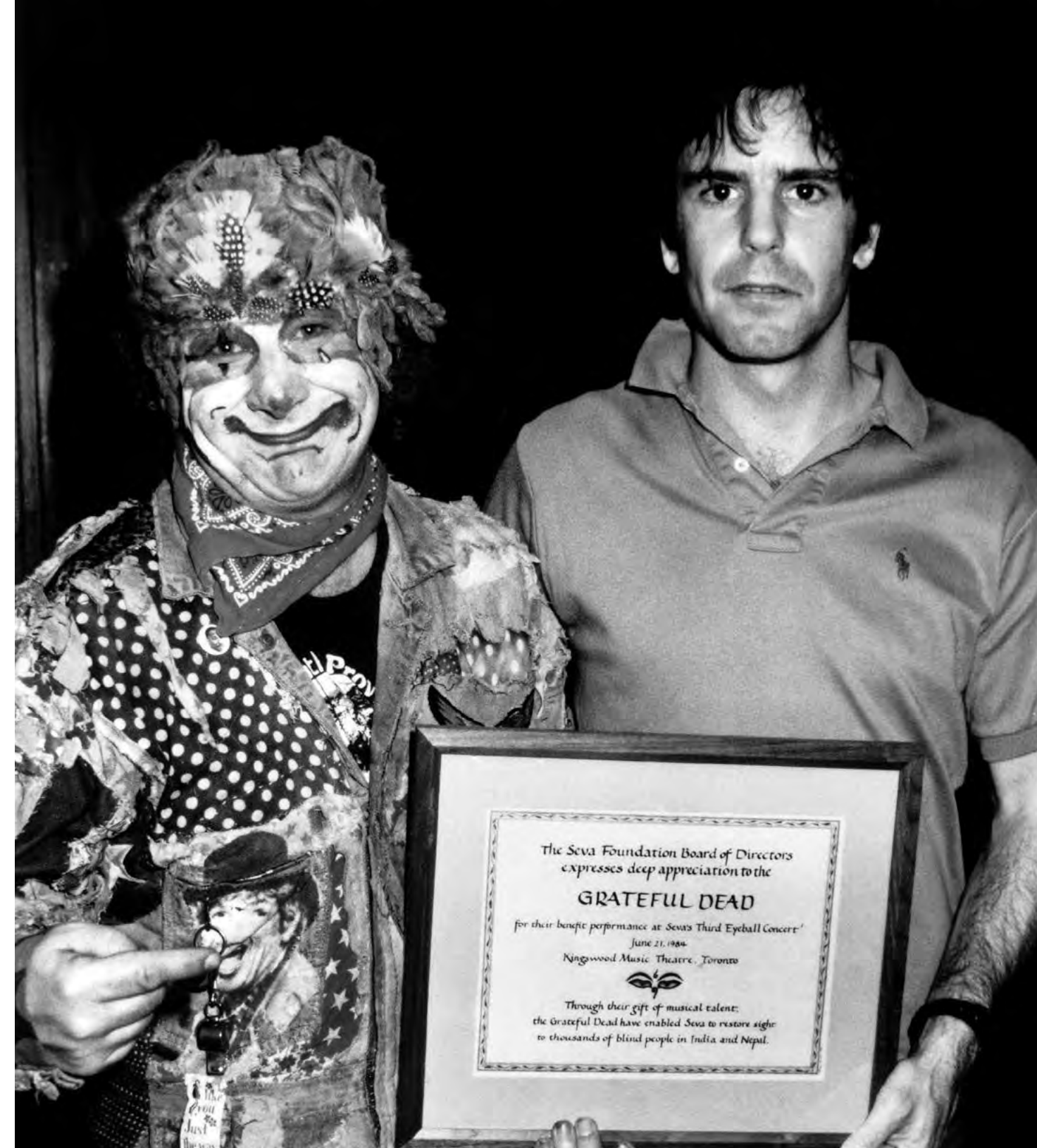


The Third Eyeball

JUNE 22, 1984 | TORONTO, CANADA

The Band and the Grateful Dead





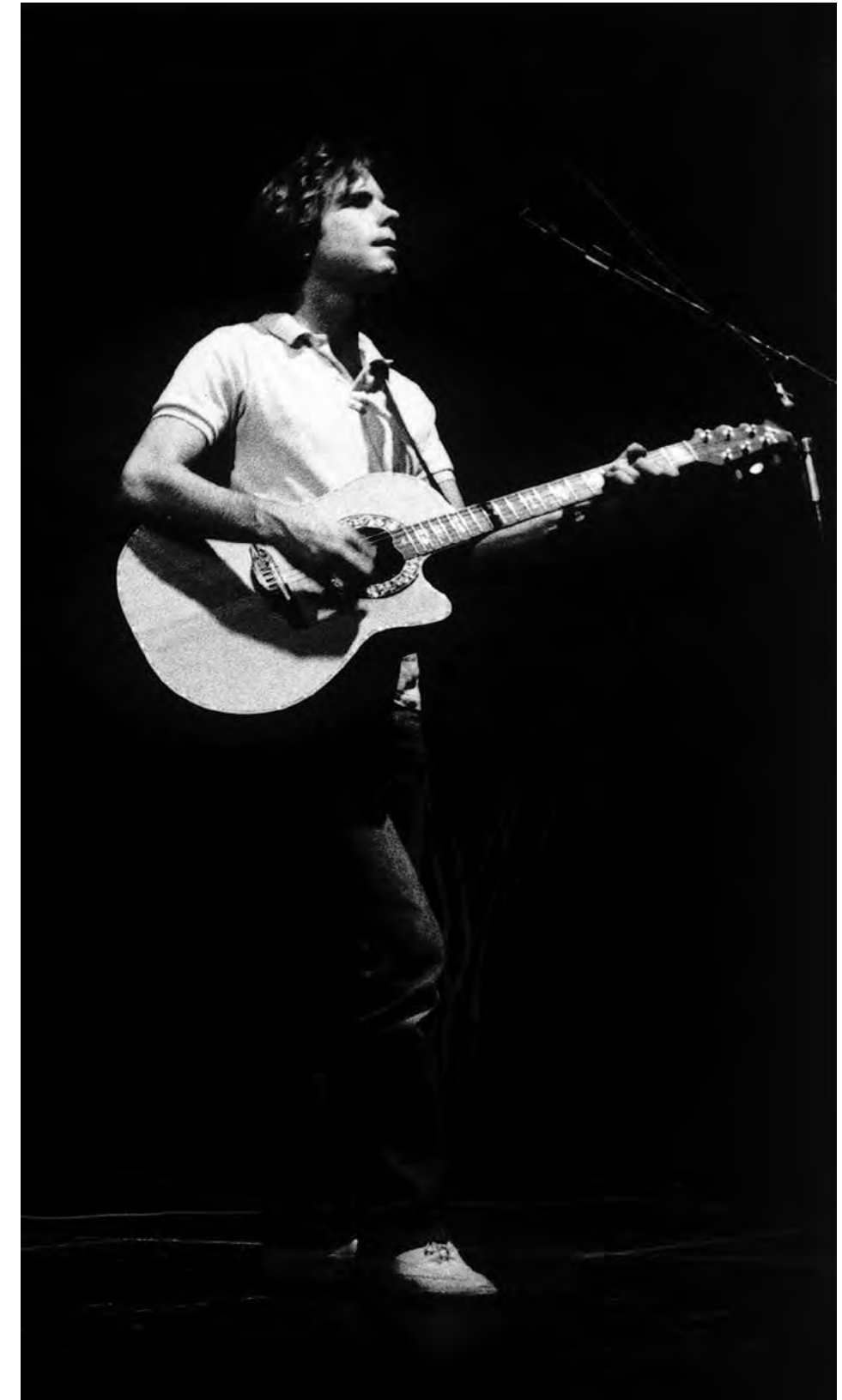
"We need magic and bliss, power and myth, celebration and religion in our lives, and music is a good way to encapsulate a lot of it."

— JERRY GARCIA

One for the Trees

MAY 5, 1985 | JULIA MORGAN THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

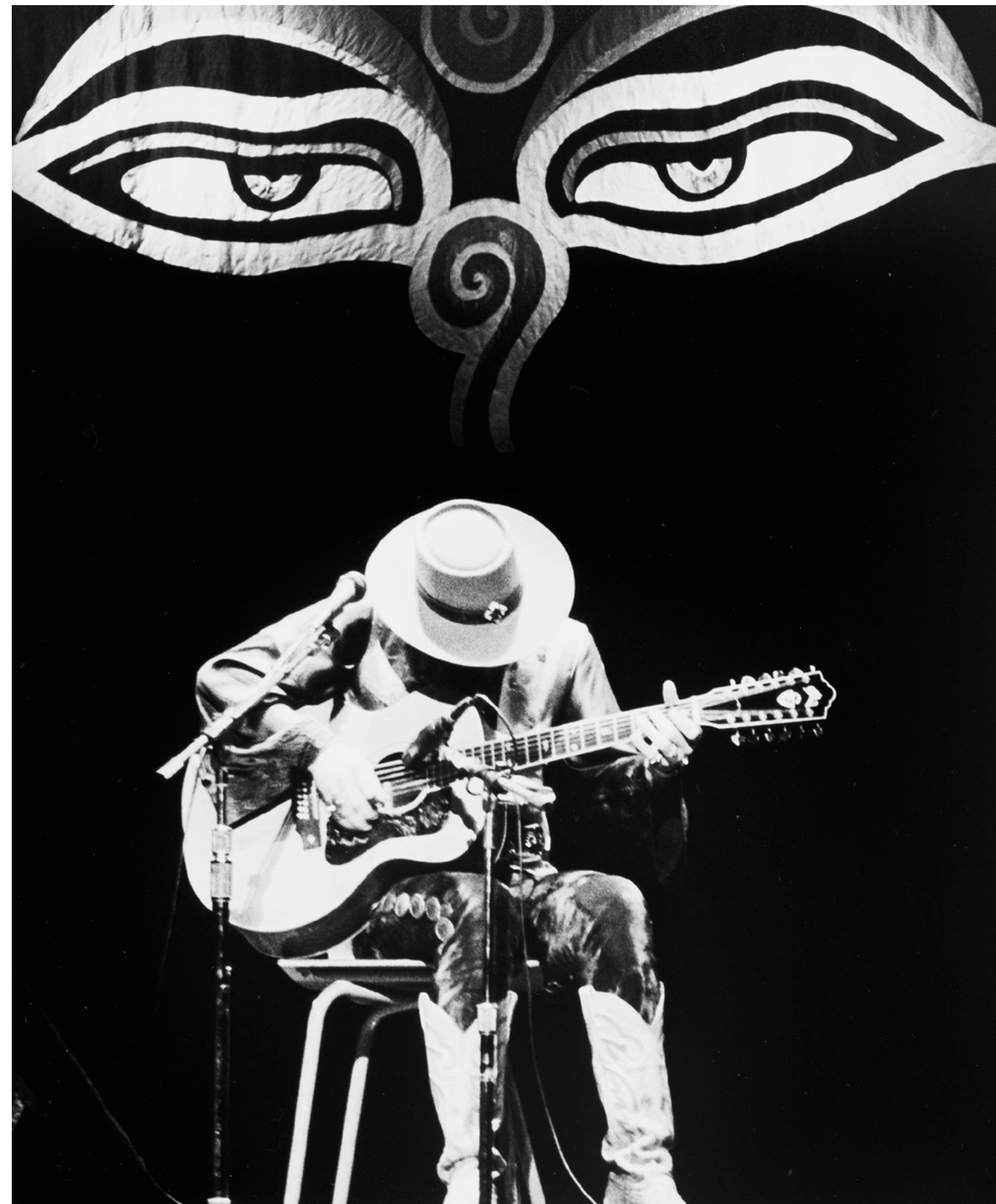
Bob Weir, Paul Krassner, Danny Kolb, Diane Di Prima, Jonathan Richman and host Wavy Gravy



Cowboys for Indians

OCTOBER 14, 1985 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

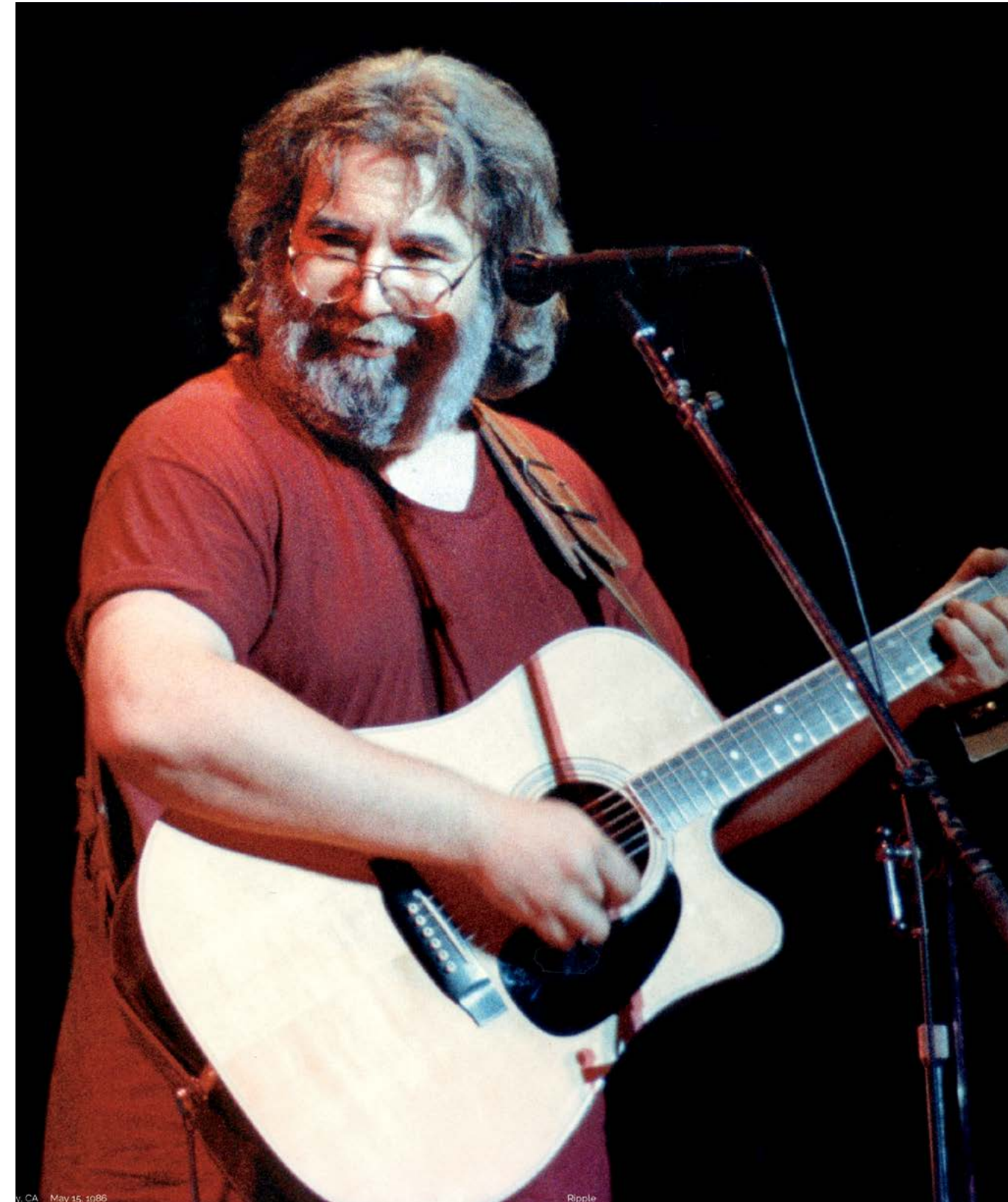
Stevie Ray Vaughn, Kate Wolf, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, David Nelson, Peter Rowan, Jerry Jeff Walker, Kinky Friedman, Floyd Red Crow Westerman, Bill Wahpepah and host Wavy Gravy



Wavy Gravy's 50th Birthday

MAY 15, 1986 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

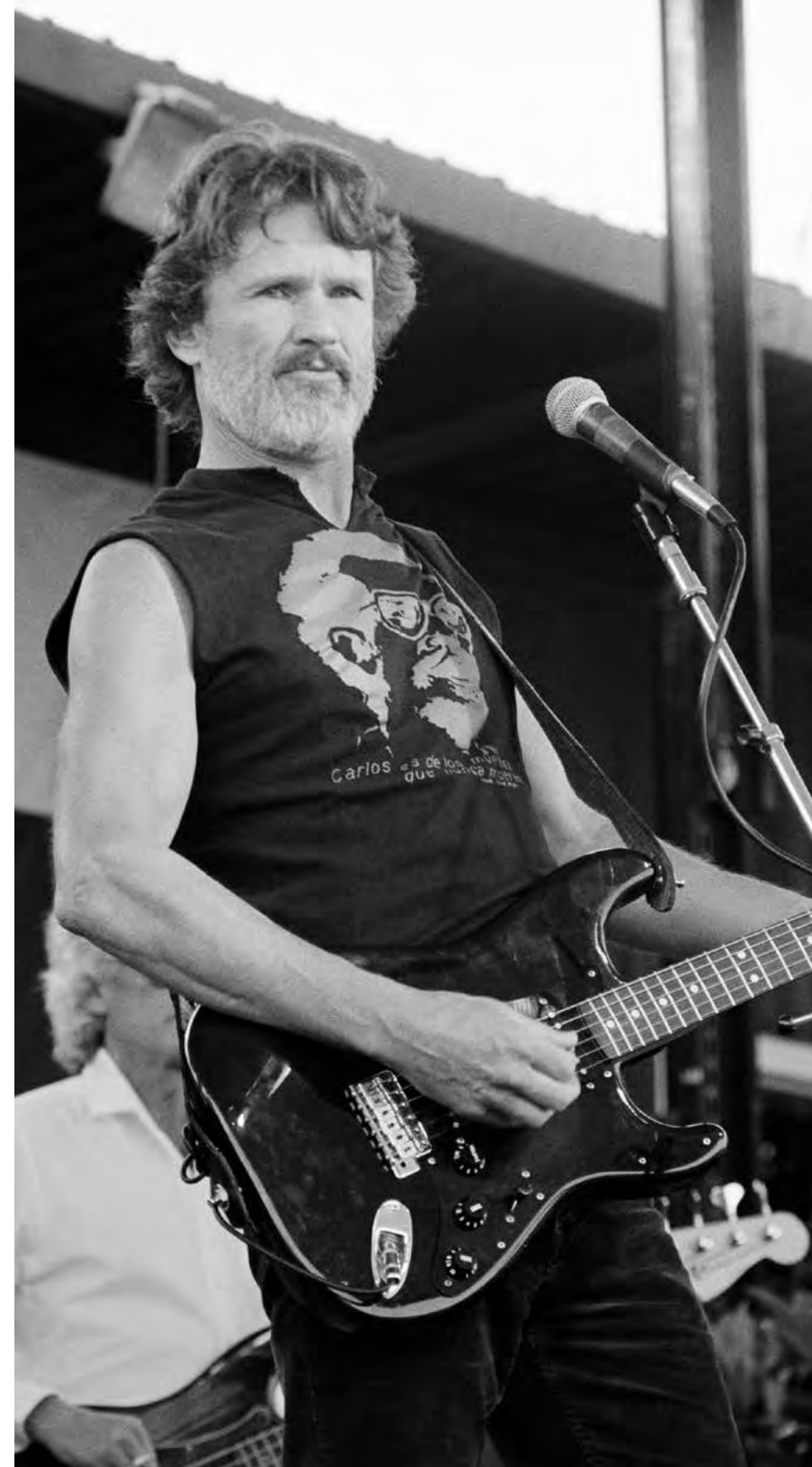
Jerry Garcia, Bob Weir, John Kahn, Mickey Hart & Shaman Tree, Jorma Kaukonen, Paul Krassner, Ken Kesey & the Thunder Machine Band, Wavy Gravy & the Wavettes



Cowboys for Indians

MAY 9, 1987 | AUSTIN, TEXAS

David Lindley, David Crosby, Stephen Stills, Jerry Jeff Walker, Timbuk Three, Jimmy Dale Gilmore, Butch Hancock, Max Gail, Peter Rowan, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Floyd Red Crow Westerman, Charlie Hill and host Wavy Gravy





“Helping people see again is a beautiful and worthwhile cause! It’s good to feel that we have helped somehow to make that happen through Seva’s tireless efforts.”

— PETER ROWAN

Helping One Another

APRIL 16, 1988 | PASADENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE | PASADENA, CA

David Crosby, Graham Nash, Jackson Browne, Bonnie Raitt, Bob Weir & Brent Mydland and host Wavy Gravy



“The collection of people that make Seva are incredibly special, they know how to get the job done. When it comes to alleviating needless suffering I don’t think I could be in better company”.

— BOB WEIR
LIFETIME HONORARY
SEVA BOARD MEMBER

Home Aid

NOVEMBER 26, 1988 | THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE | NEW YORK, NY

David Crosby & Graham Nash, Paul Simon, Carly Simon, Gyoto Monks, Maria Muldaur, Dr. John, Laurie Anderson, Mickey Hart, Baba Olatunji, Sweet Honey and the Rock, Michael Hinton, Margo Kidder, Susan Sarandon, Brooke Adams, Willem Dafoe, Treat Williams, Paul Gorman, Allen Ginsberg, Robin Williams, Ram Dass and host Wavy Gravy





1989-1998

BECOMING WAVY GRAVY

IT WAS 1969 and we were in Lewisville, Texas, on Lake Dallas. We had set up a free stage for the Texas Pop Festival. The pay stage was in a speedway about seven miles down the highway. I'm lying on the free stage and suddenly this announcement comes over the PA, "B.B. King is here and he's gonna play for free! Could we please clear the stage?" So, I'm getting up real slow, this was before one of my multitude of back surgeries, and I feel this hand on my shoulder, I look up, and there's B.B. King, and he looks down at me, and I don't know why he said it, but he says, "You Wavy Gravy." And I said, yes sir. "Well, Wavy Gravy, I can work around you." And he leans me right against his amplifier, takes out his guitar named Lucille, and from out of the wings of the stage comes Johnny Winter. And the two of them jammed until sunrise, and it's black and it's white and it's blue.

Well I kept that Wavy name, and a few years later I was teaching improvisation to neurologically challenged children at Cal State and I told the kids my name was Wavy Gravy. The classes were recorded through one-way glass by these professors, and after the class the professors came running in and they said, "Keep that name, you saved a week's orientation." In other words, Hugh Romney was kind of a boring name, it took me a while to crack through. When I became Wavy Gravy, they just wanted to get down and blow bubbles and have fun. And I have persisted with this to the present day. Eternity Now! BY WAVY GRAVY, SEVA CO-FOUNDER



Esalen's 30th Anniversary

A Benefit for Seva's Native American Programs

OCTOBER 10, 1992 | BIG SUR, CA

Arvol Looking Horse, John Trudell & Grafitti Man, Timbuk Three, Jackson Browne, Bonnie Raitt, Little Bear, Tom Nason, Charles Lloyd, Loggins & Messina, Joan Baez with Mimi Farina, Olatunji and host Wavy Gravy



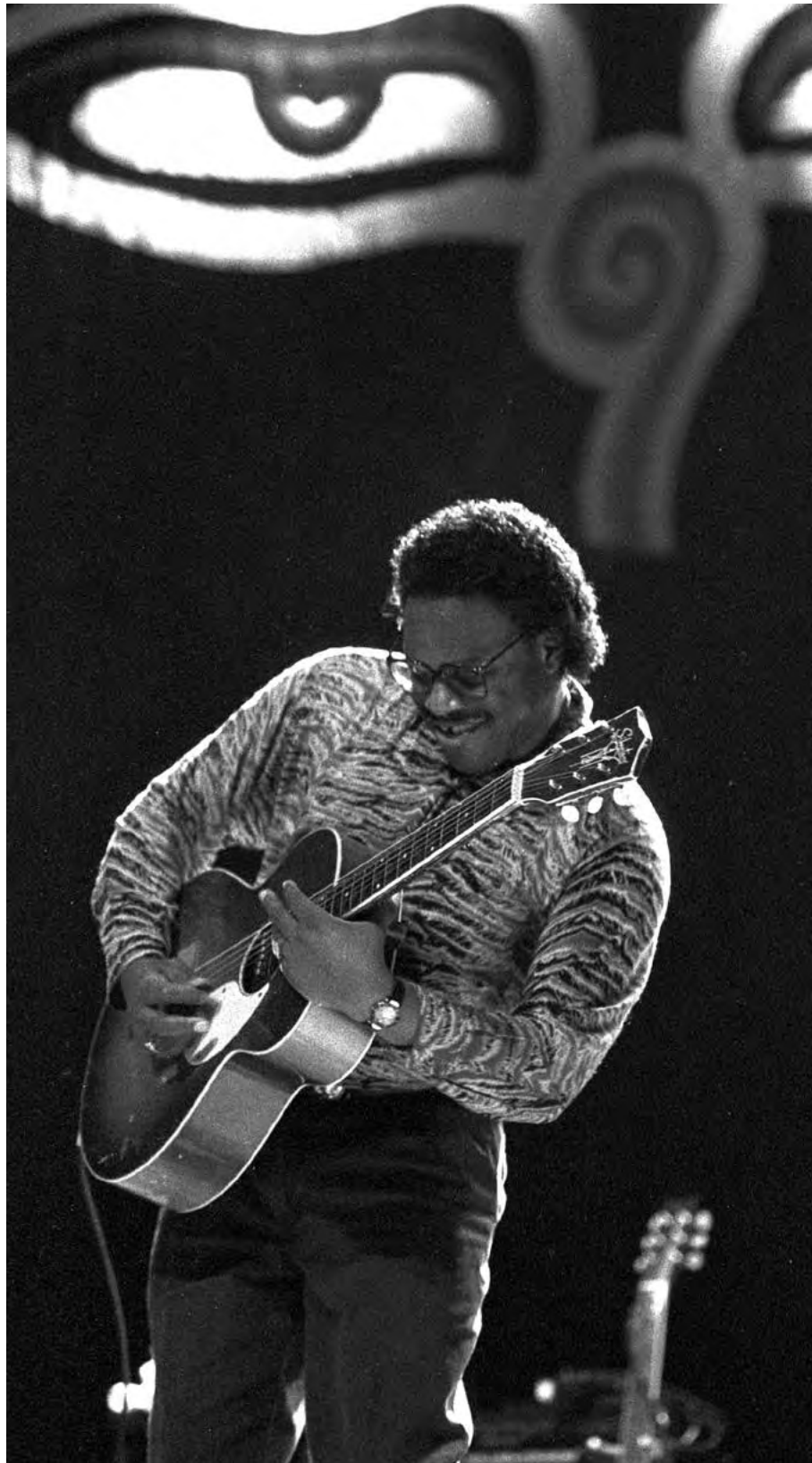
Blues Against Blindness

JANUARY 25, 1992 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

Joe Louis Walker with Big Bones, Hot Tuna with Bob Weir, Dr. John, Maria Muldaur, John Lee Hooker, Roy Rogers, Lisa Kindred and host Wavy Gravy



“Seva is absolutely committed to what they do – assisting people around the world in the right way. I am honored to have contributed to their efforts.”
— ROY ROGERS



A Musical Reunion of Old Friends

FEBRUARY 13, 1994 | MASONIC CENTER | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Arlo Guthrie, David Crosby, Graham Nash, Phil Lesh, Bob Weir, Country Joe McDonald, Jorma Kaukonen, Jack Casady, Paul Kantner, Diana Mangano, Annie Sampson, Tim Gorman, Michael Falzarano, Pete Sears, Jeff Pevar, Will Scarlett and host Wavy Gravy



“Seva...the world is a better place because of you. I am honored to have been able to contribute to the good work.”

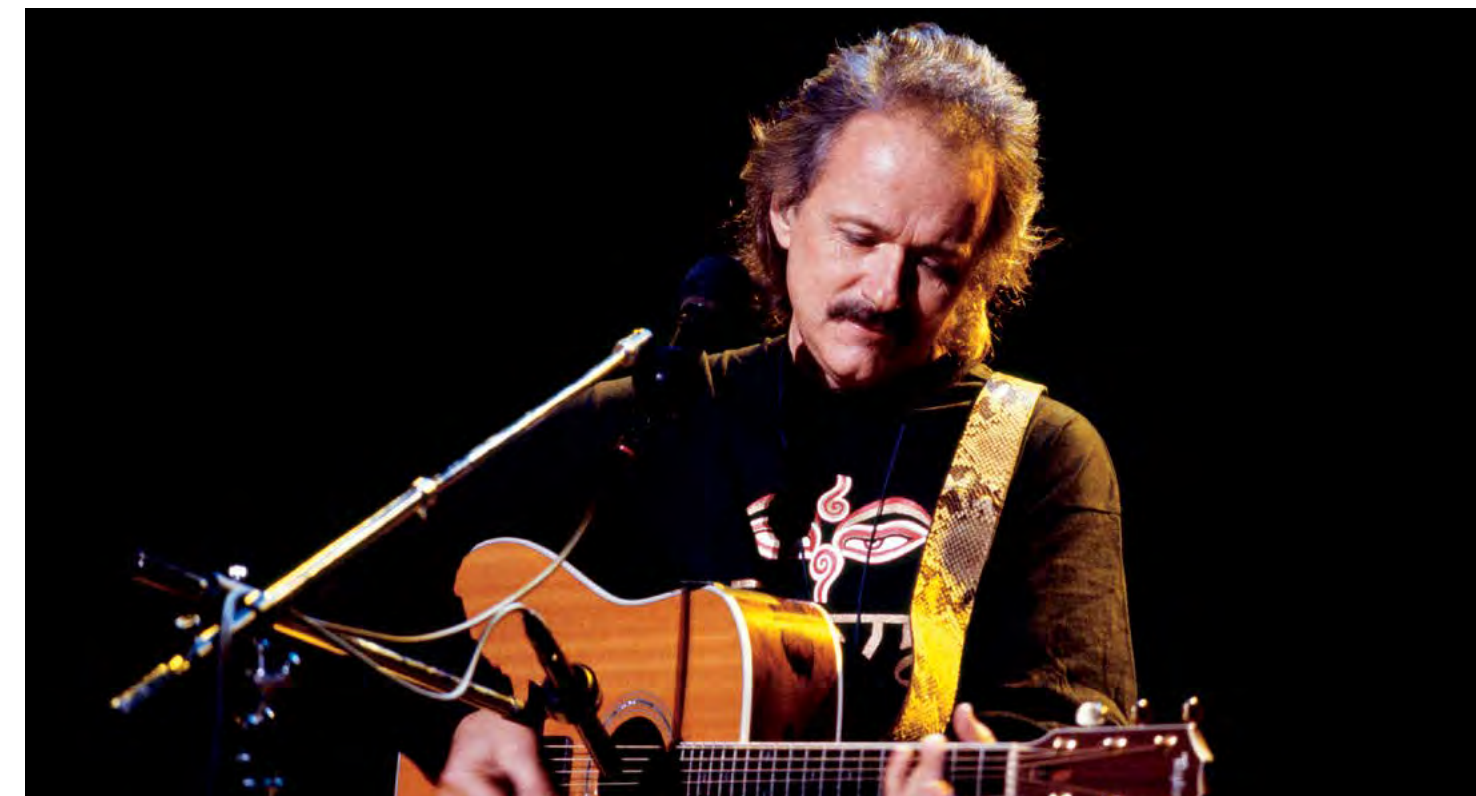
— JORMA KAUKONEN

Concert Honoring Indigenous Peoples of the Americas

FEBRUARY 10, 1995 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

United Indian Nations Dance Ensemble, Jesse Colin Young, Buffy Sainte-Marie, John Trudell & Bad Dog, Michelle Shocked, Jackson Browne and host Wavy Gravy





“Seva represents the practicing reality of human beings caring about other human beings, reaching through illusory dimensions, keeping the memory of the human being alive.”

— JOHN TRUDELL

Wavy Gravy's 60th Birthday Benefit for Just About Everything

MAY 15, 1996 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

Box Set, Maria Muldaur, John Trudell, Paul Kantner & Diana Mangano, Roy Rogers & the Delta Rhythm Kings, Bob Weir, Leftover Salmon, Clown Conspiracy and host Wavy Gravy



Sing Out for Seva

MAY 15, 1998 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

David Crosby, Graham Nash & Phil Lesh, Bob Weir & Rob Wasserman, Jackson Browne, Odetta, Dan Bern, Iris DeMent, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Charlie Musselwhite, John Trudell, Ram Dass and host Wavy Gravy





"I first became involved with Seva because of my friendship with Wavy Gravy, whom I've known and respected since 1968... When he told me what Seva's mandate was, and how they had planned to help repair the eyesight of millions of people I really wanted to help."

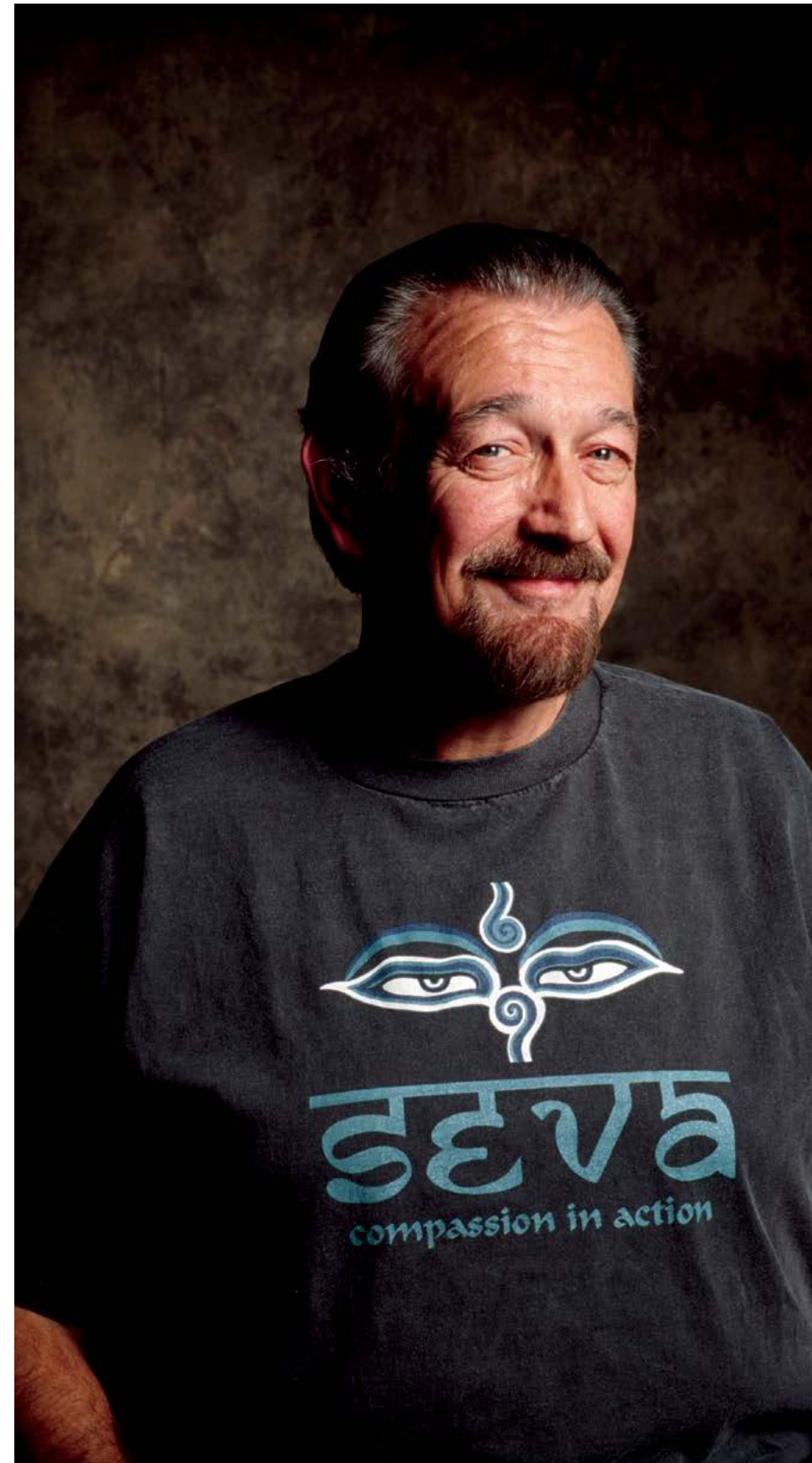
— GRAHAM NASH

Blues Against Blindness

DECEMBER 19, 1998 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

Bonnie Raitt, Bruce Hornsby, Jorma Kaukonen Trio, Joe Louis Walker & Big Bones, Maria Muldaur, Roy Rogers with Shana Morrison, John Lee Hooker, Scoop Nisker and host Wavy Gravy





1999-2008

BUBBLES FOR BUDDHA

DURING OUR FIRST trek in Nepal, we were about 100 miles from the nearest lightbulb on the way to Mustang from Pokhara. I'm blowing bubbles along the trail. That's what I brought along. I didn't bring medicine or anything like that. I brought bubbles. We'd see hundreds of kids and they would chase the bubbles across the field of reefer as far as the eye could see into the white capped peaks. They were trying to escape to the stars. We came to this monastery and all the monks are in the monastery chanting and I'm blowing bubbles in the courtyard, and the head Lama comes out and sees this bubble and falls to his knees. The monks bring me inside and they sit me on this cushion and they give me tea and tsampa, which is Tibetan oatmeal with a little yak butter and water buffalo milk, and then we all got to chanting together for hours and hours, and I got so spaced out. And as I got up to leave I handed the bubbles to this little kid named Lobsang and the head Lama snatched the bubbles away and placed them on the alter. It was later translated to me that on high holy days the Lama would blow one bubble for Buddha. Now, can you imagine being a photographer from National Geographic Magazine, sent to this remote place and there's the butter lamps and the skull cups and the dorje bells and the incense and you take your pictures and you get back to New York and you're developing them and you see, among all that amazing stuff, a dusty bottle of Wonder Bubbles. It would crack your brain. BY WAVY GRAVY, SEVA CO-FOUNDER



Wavy Gravy's 65th Birthday

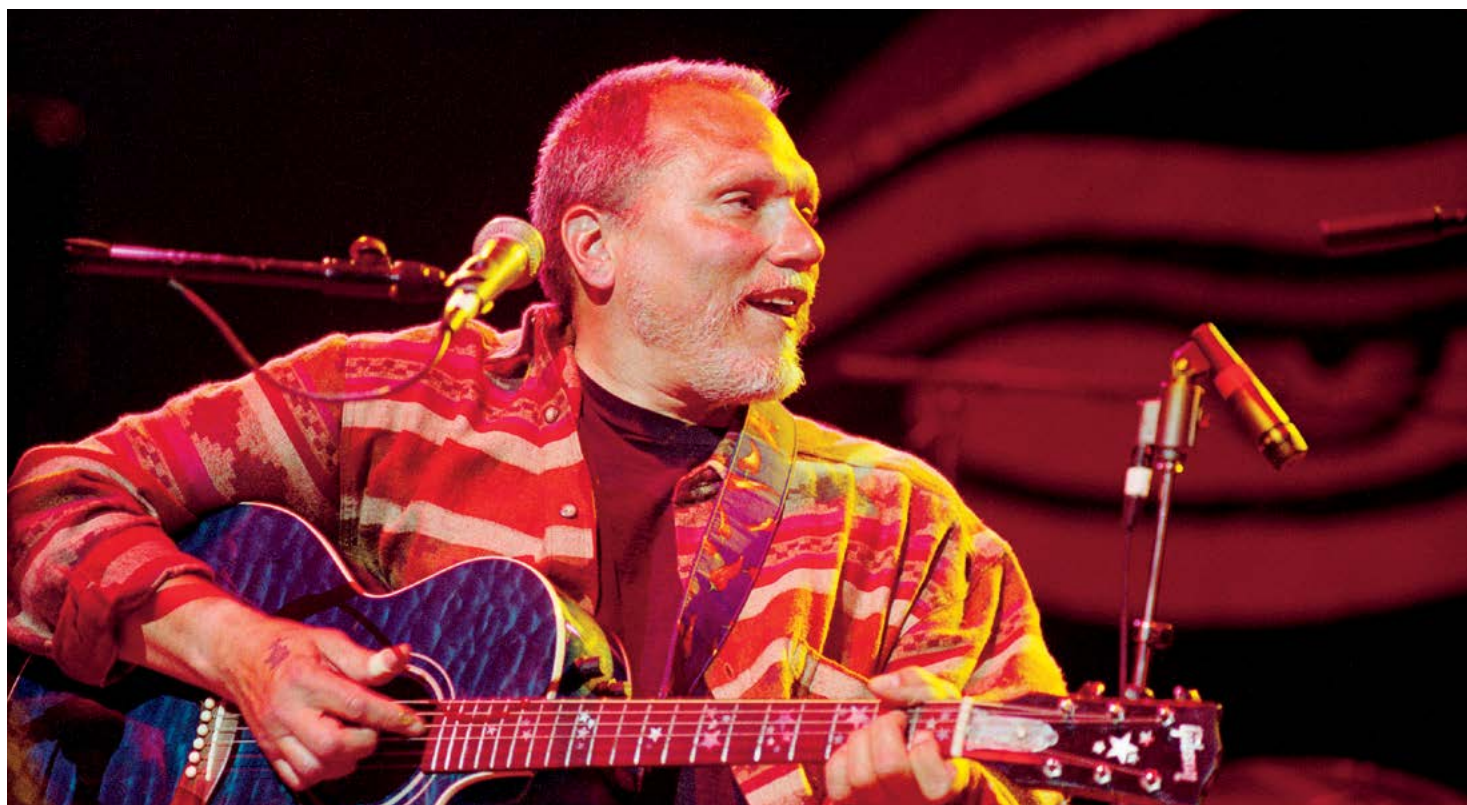
MAY 15, 2001 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

Hot Tuna, Zero, Dr. John, Maria Muldaur, Indigenous, Mickey Hart & Friends, Bob Weir, Paul Kantner with Diana Mangano, Box Set, Will Scarlet, Mr. YouWho and host Wavy Gravy



"Seva is a remarkable organization that is both international and humanitarian, and I have the deepest regard for their work. I am always happy to contribute in any way I can."

— MARIA MULDAUR



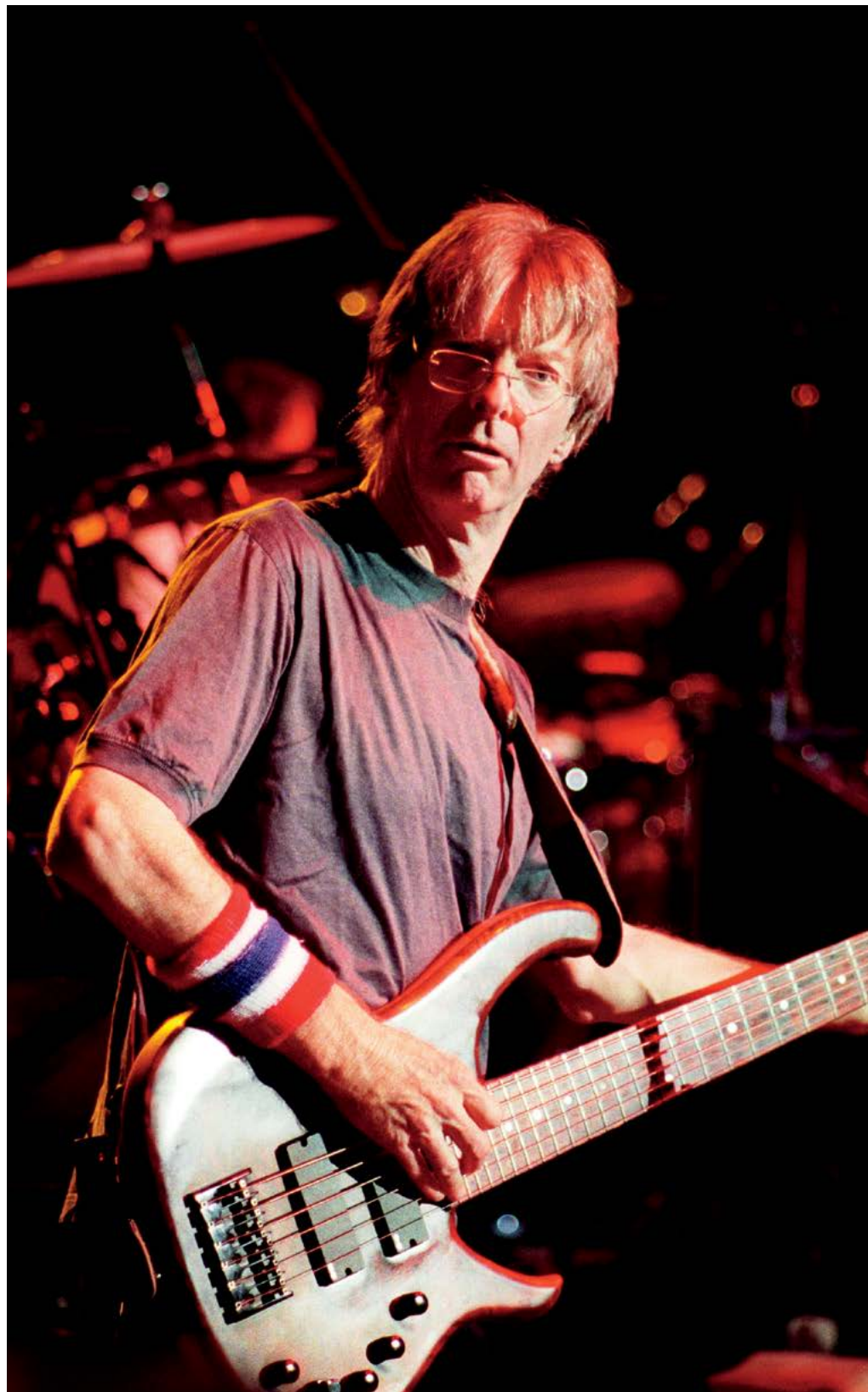
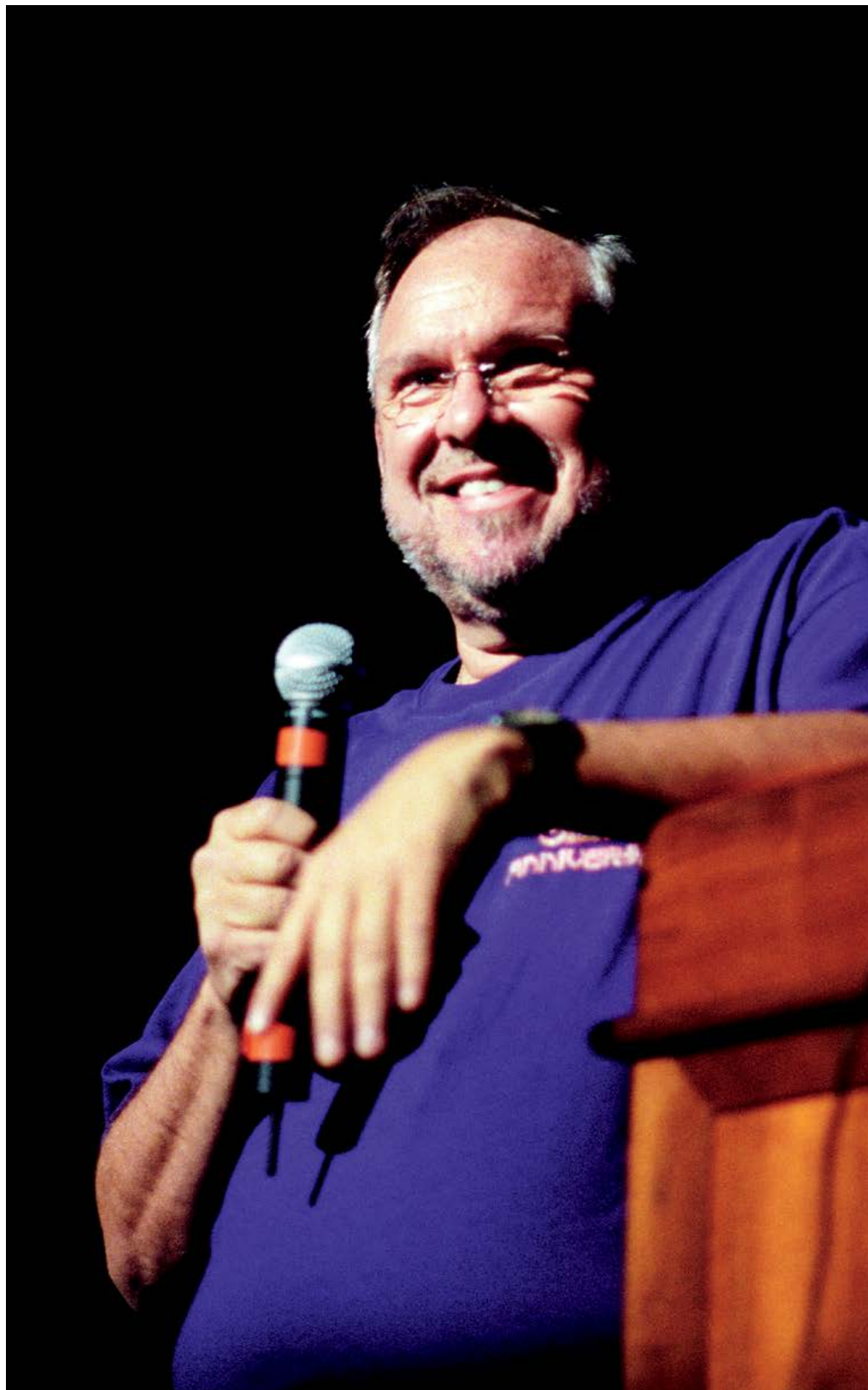
Seva's Silver Anniversary

DECEMBER 13, 2003 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER

The Dead, Jackson Browne, Bonnie Raitt, Norton Buffalo, John Popper, Steve Earle, Buffy Sainte-Marie and host Wavy Gravy







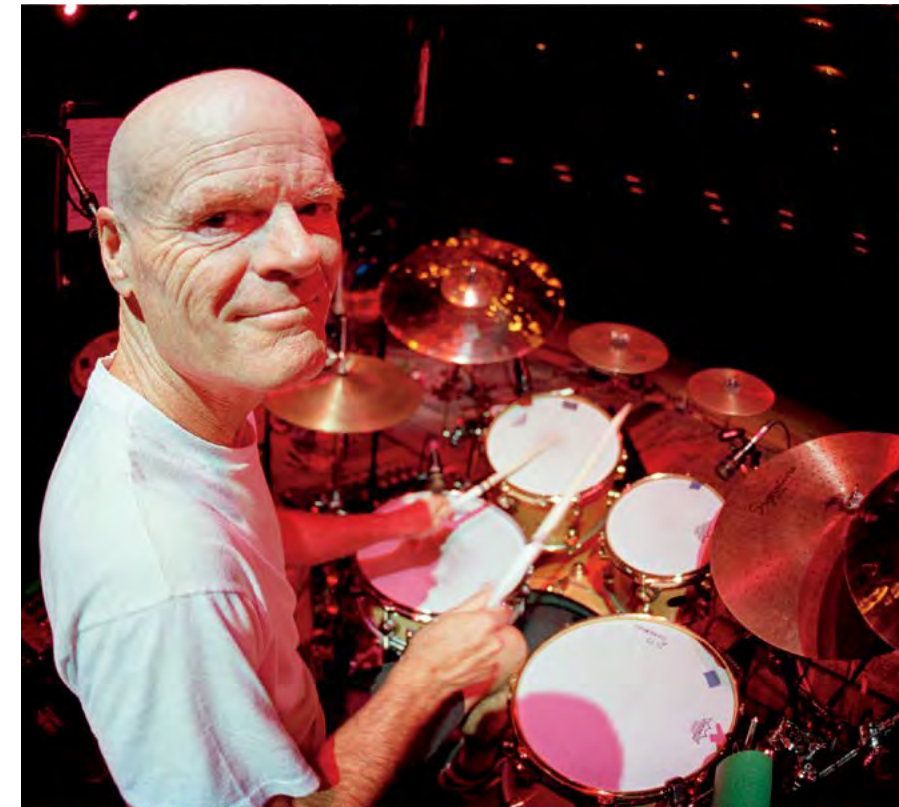
“Seva has given so much help to so many people for so many years – such a wonderful example of love in action.”

— BONNIE RAITT

Wavy Gravy's 69th Birthday

MAY 15, 2005 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

Phil Lesh & Friends, Ben Harper, Hot Buttered Rum String Band, Emory Joseph, Corinne West, Clown Conspiracy and host Wavy Gravy





Wavy Gravy's 70th Birthday

MAY 20, 2006 | BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

Ratdog, Mickey Hart with Kitaro, The Rhythm Village with Joan Baez, Gillian Welch & David Rawlings, Steve Earle, David Lindley, Linda Tillery & Nina Gerber, Clown Conspiracy, The Prescott Circus and host Wavy Gravy



"Compassion and caring for people in need – that's simply a moral necessity. But it's not always easy to do. Seva makes it easy. They know how to develop programs that truly benefit people".

— JOAN BAEZ



Wavy Gravy's 71st Birthday

MAY 18, 2007 | THE GRAND BALLROOM | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Mickey Hart & Friends, Zero with special guest Melvin Seals, Tea Leaf Green, Chris Robinson and The Wooden Family, Sikiru Adepoju, Ramblin' Jack Elliot, Baby Gramps and host Wavy Gravy





Seva Foundation's 30th Anniversary

SEPTEMBER 27, 2008 | PARAMOUNT THEATER | OAKLAND, CA

Bonnie Raitt, David Crosby, Graham Nash, Jackson Browne, Los Lobos, Ruthie Foster, Nina Gerber with special guests Elvis Costello and Hot Tuna with hosts Wavy Gravy and Peter Coyote





"It has always struck me as magical that we could make music on one side of the world and as a result, people on the other side of the world could have their eyesight restored."
— JACKSON BROWNE



2009-2018

THE HIGHEST MOMENT OF MY LIFE

I NEVER VISITED the Seva projects, because I always thought, with the cost of my airfare, the money could be used to cause more blind people to not be blind anymore. But in 2006, it came to pass that I was doing an art show in London, so I was part way across the globe, and the opportunity arose for Mrs. Gravy and I to go see first-hand some of the sight programs we've been so diligently supporting for all these years. So we climbed on a train to Kolkata, and next thing you know we're in Madurai, home of the Aravind Eye Hospital, which was founded by Dr. Venkataswamy, who was one of the heavy hitters on the Seva Board, and probably did more to cause blind people to see than anybody else alive, in my heart and mind. With the help of Seva, Aravind is now a world-renowned network of eye hospitals that has had a major impact on eradicating cataract blindness in India. We even got to go to Lumbini Eye Institute, which with the help of Seva, has evolved from a small eye clinic to one of the leading and most successful eye care centers in Nepal. And it was built right by where Buddha was born. I actually got to dress up in a doctor's suit and go into the operating room and watch a cataract be removed and an intraocular lens inserted into the eye of the poorest of the poor. It was absolutely the highest moment of my entire life. BY WAVY GRAVY, SEVA CO-FOUNDER



Seva Holiday Party

DECEMBER 12, 2009 | THROCKMORTON THEATER | MILL VALLEY, CA

David Nelson Band, Moonalice, Peter Rowan and the Rowan Brothers and host Wavy Gravy



Sweethearts for Seva

FEBRUARY 14, 2010 | BIMBOS 365 CLUB | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Joan Baez, Steve Earle, David & Tracy Grisman, Tuck & Patti, Mr. YouWho, hosts Wavy Gravy and Jahanara Romney





*"In Hindi, Seva means
selfless service. In English
it's Wavy Gravy."*
— STEVE EARLE



Wavy Gravy All-Star Jam

JUNE 16, 2010 | GREAT AMERICAN MUSIC HALL | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

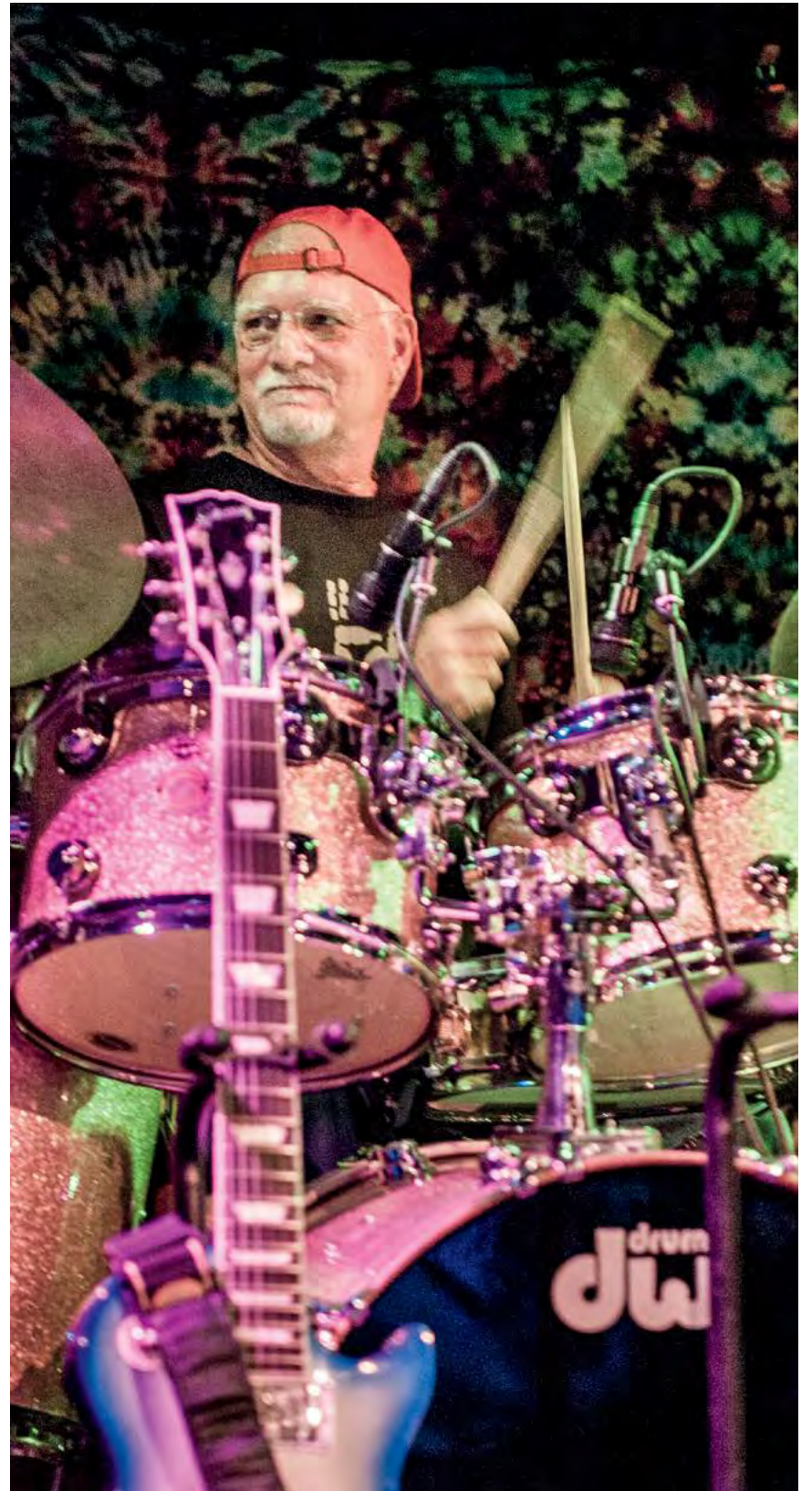
Steve Kimock, Mark Karan, Billy Kreutzmann, Melvin Seals, Papa Mali, Dan Lebowitz, Dave Brogan, Bo Carper, Reed Mathis, Matt Hubbard, Bobby Vega and host Wavy Gravy





“Seva is a magical transformative power in people’s lives on both sides of the glass. Love is a service done. Thank you Wavy!”

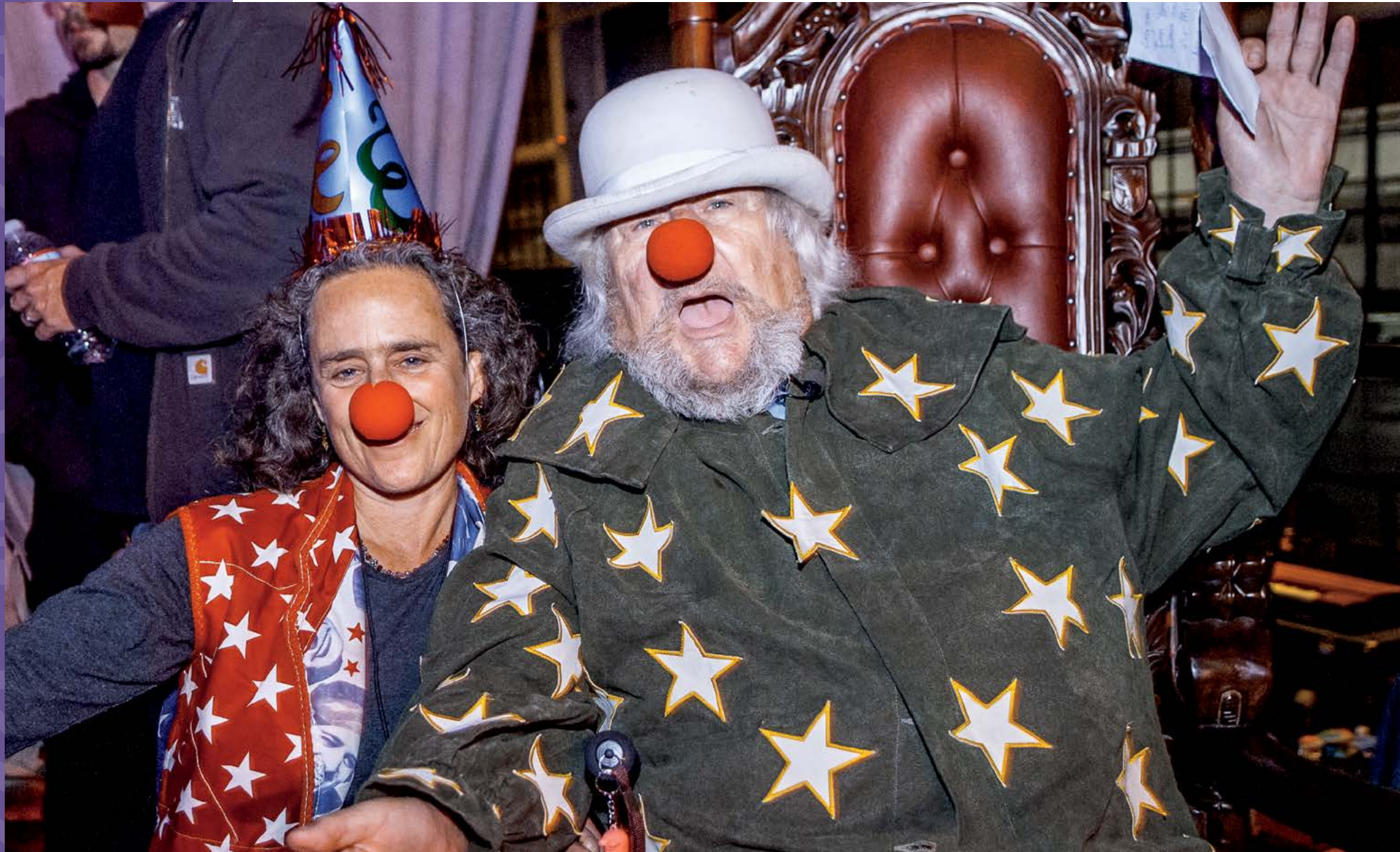
— STEVE KIMOCK



Wavy Gravy's 75th Birthday Boogie

MAY 14, 2011 | CRANEWAY PAVILION | RICHMOND, CA

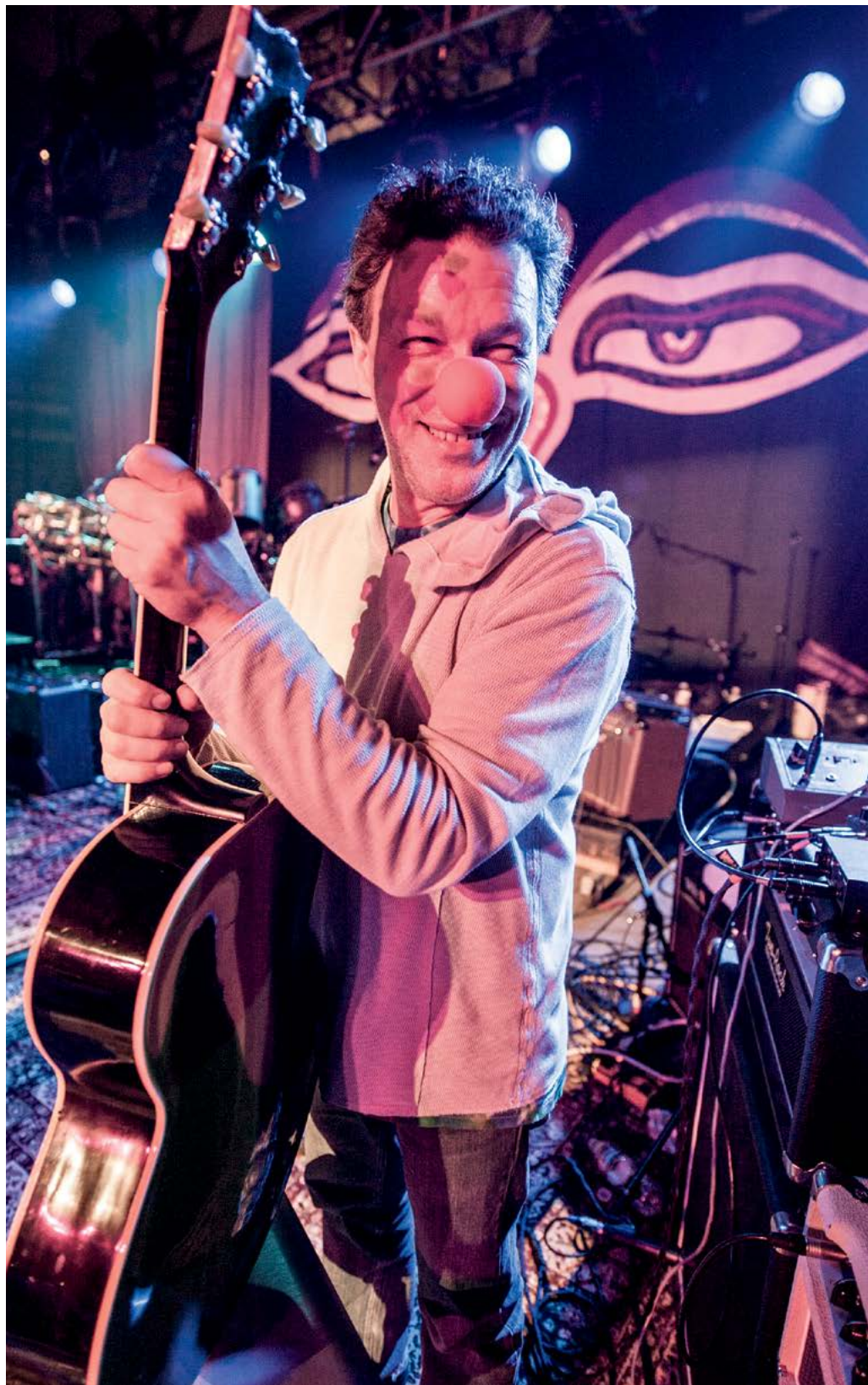
Bob Weir & Friends, Mickey Hart Band, Zero, The Chris Robinson Brotherhood, Hot Buttered Rum, Ace of Cups, special guests: Henry Kaiser, Barry Melton, Snookie Flowers, Barry Sless, Mark Karan, Robin Sylvester, John Molo, Jeff Chimenti, Nicki Bluhm, Bobby Vega, Dave Schools, Pete Sears, Clown Conspiracy and host Wavy Gravy





"For over 40 years, Seva has given the gift of sight. Just think of it, for only \$50 per eye, Seva has restored vision in nearly 5 million eyeballs."

— MICKEY HART



Wavy Gravy's 75th Birthday Benefit for Seva

MAY 27, 2011 | BEACON THEATRE | NEW YORK CITY

Crosby & Nash, Jackson Browne, Ani DiFranco, Dr. John, Bruce Hornsby, Steve Earle,
Buffy Sainte-Marie, Jorma Kaukonen, Steve Kimock and Wavy Gravy





*"Seva brings its expertise
in curing blindness
to American Indian
communities by
providing access to
care while respecting
the dignity and traditions
of the people."*

— BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE

A Benefit for Seva

JANUARY 21, 2012 | SEBASTOPOL COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTER |
SEBASTOPOL, CA

Zero, David Nelson & Friends and host Wavy Gravy



7 Walkers

MARCH 27, 2012 | LAGUNITAS BREWING COMPANY | PETALUMA, CA

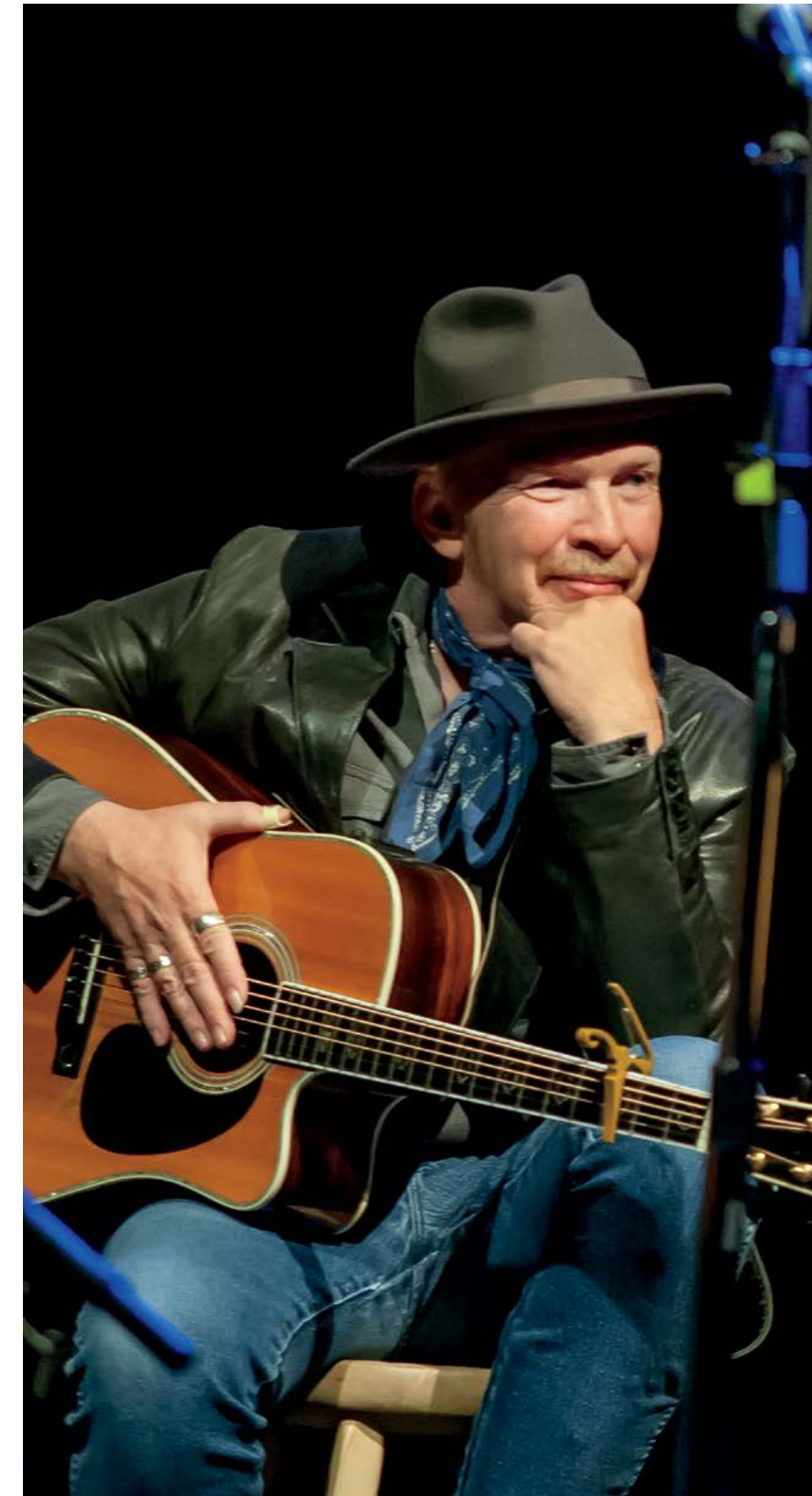
Billy Kreutzmann, Papa Mali, George Porter Jr., Matt Hubbard & Reed Mathis with host Wavy Gravy



Sing Out for Seva

MAY 20, 2012 | RIO THEATER | SANTA CRUZ, CA

Steve Earle, John Trudell, Peter Rowan, Nina Gerber, Jim Lauderdale, Dave Alvin, Jeremy Goodfeather
and host Wavy Gravy



Seva's 35th Anniversary

FEBRUARY 19, 2013 | MYSTIC THEATER | PETALUMA, CA

Leftover Salmon, David Nelson Band, Hot Buttered Rum and host Wavy Gravy





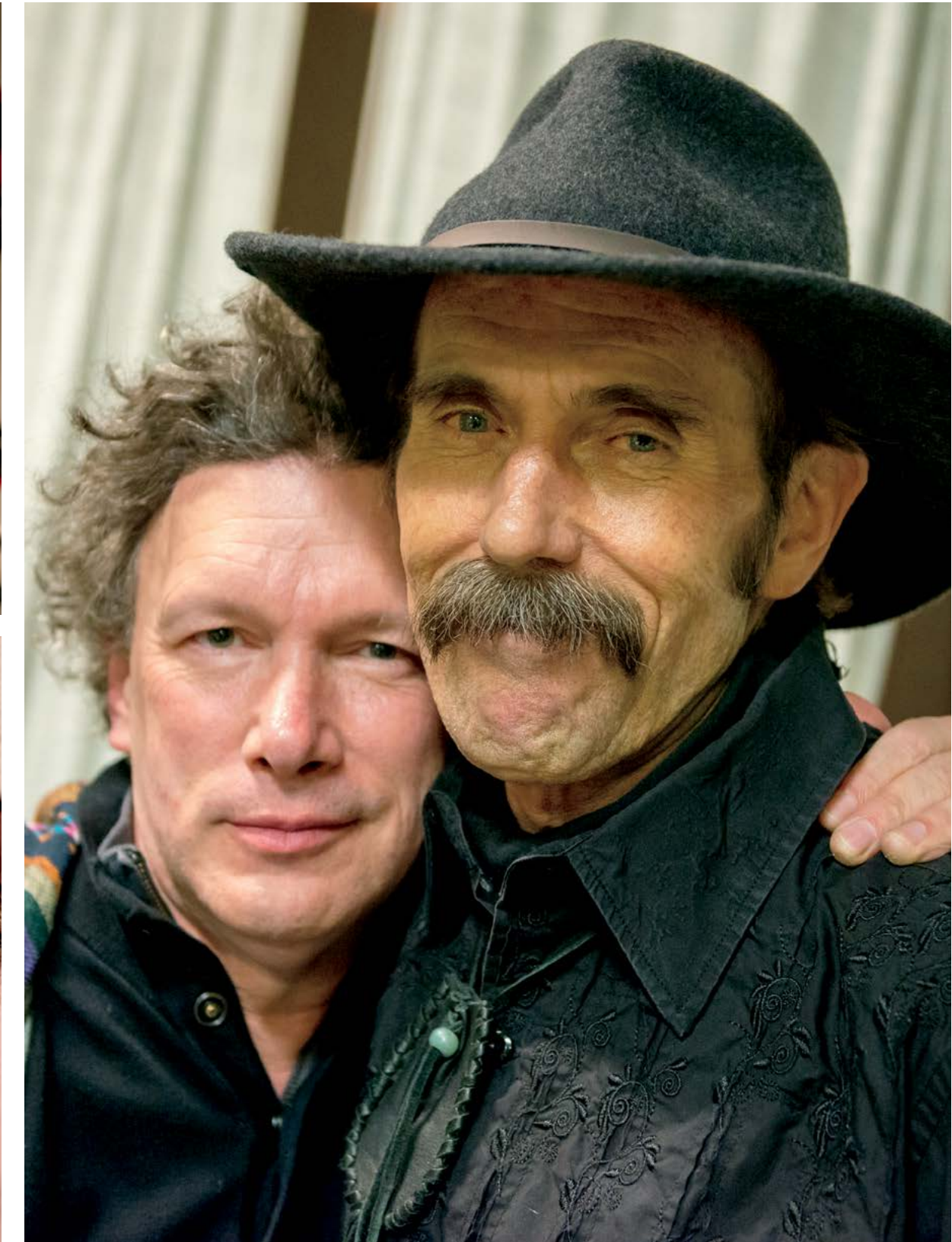
*"Sight makes the beauty of the world apparent.
Seva has surely made the world a more beautiful
place for millions of people across the globe.
Their work is invaluable and one of the noblest
endeavors underway."*

— VINCE HERMAN

Zero for Seva

APRIL 6, 2013 | SEBASTOPOL COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTER | SEBASTOPOL, CA

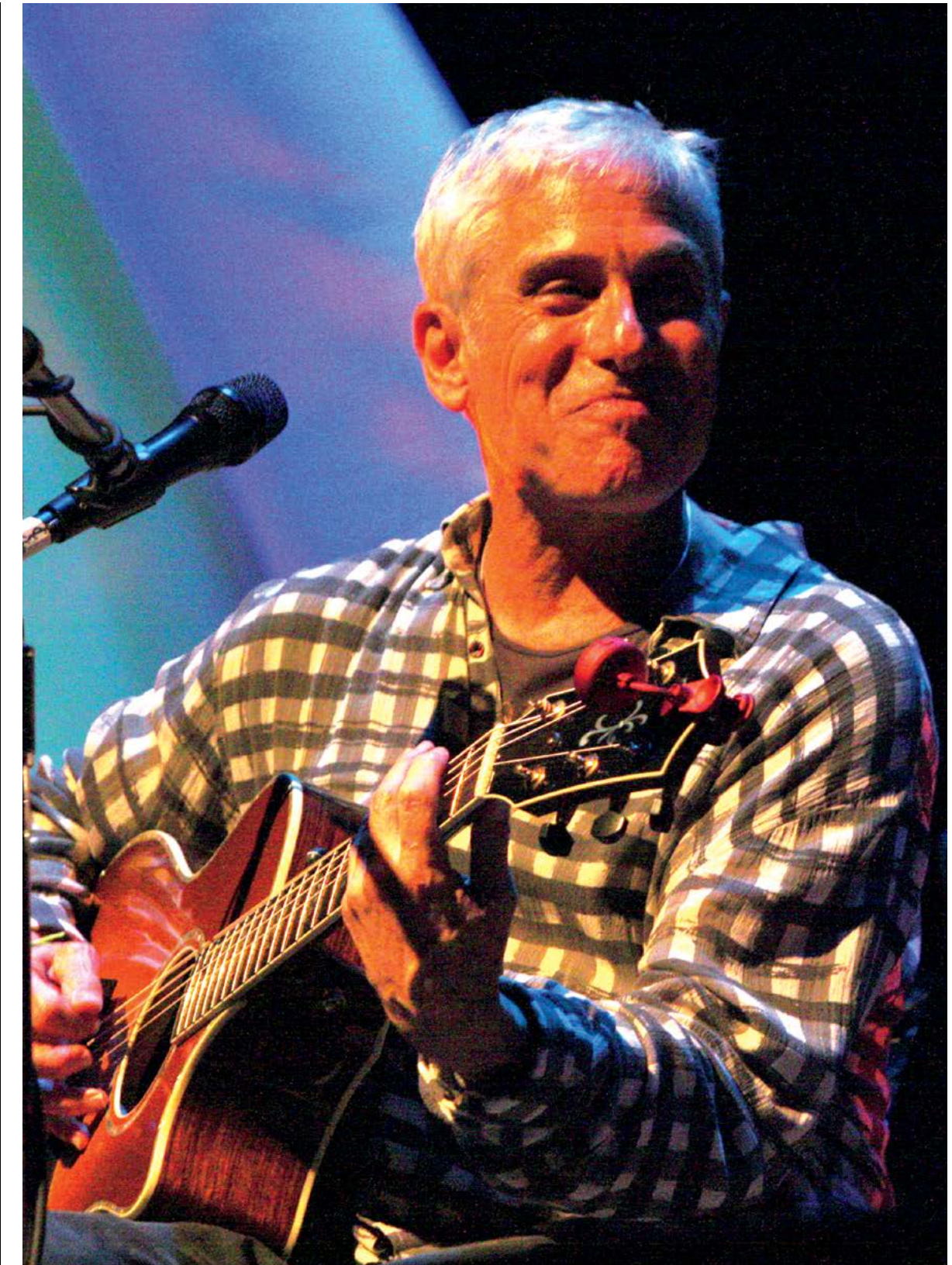
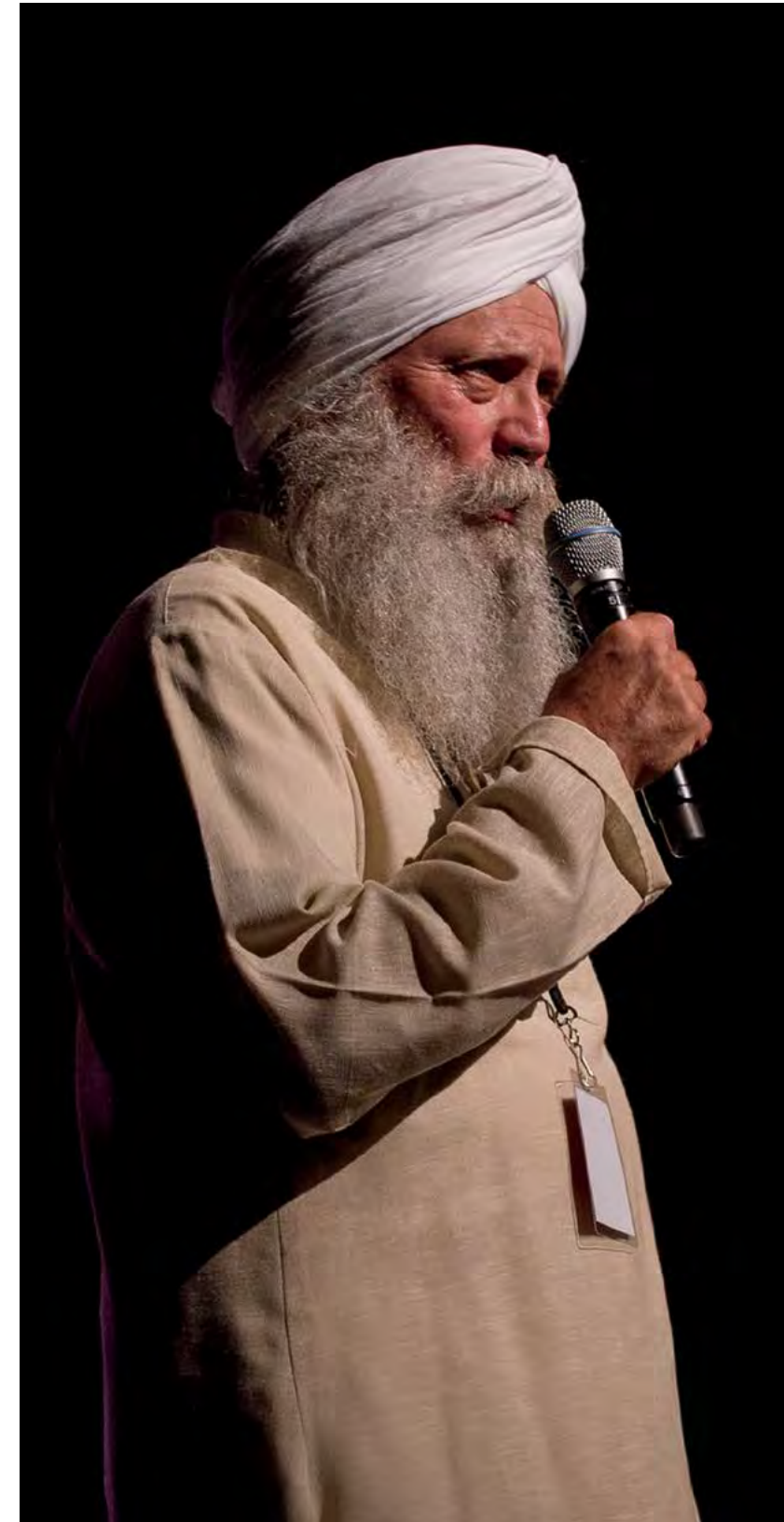
Zero with host Wavy Gravy



Seva Kirtan

MAY 27, 2013 | PALACE OF FINE ARTS THEATER | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Snatam Kaur, Jai Uttal, C.C. White, Shimshai, with hosts Wavy Gravy, Jack Kornfield and Larry Brilliant





*"Problems,
Troubles, Fears
We've all got 'em
Vision, Courage, Will
To get past them
Breath, Smile, Laugh
Look in their eyes
Enemy, Fighting,
Separation
Dissolves in the Light
of God's Love"*

— SNATAM KAUR

Seva's 35th Anniversary Gala

NOVEMBER 2, 2013 | JULIA MORGAN BALLROOM | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

The Blind Boys of Alabama with hosts Peter Coyote, Wavy Gravy and Larry Brilliant





"Seva takes the impulse towards generosity and turns it into compassionate action that helps people in real need. I honor my friends and relations by supporting Seva – and the entire world benefits."

— PETER COYOTE



Seva's 35th Anniversary

NOVEMBER 2, 2013 | THE FILLMORE | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Hot Tuna, The Blind Boys of Alabama, Dumpstaphunk and host Wavy Gravy





Larry Brilliant's 70th Birthday

Benefit for Seva

MAY 3, 2014 | GREAT AMERICAN MUSIC HALL | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Jason Mraz with special guests Bob Weir, Salman Ahmad & friends





A Benefit for Seva

JUNE 30TH, 2014 | MYSTIC THEATER | PETALUMA, CA

The Chris Robinson Brotherhood, The Fall Risk, Corinne West Band and host Wavy Gravy



"Wavy Gravy is one of the real pioneers of the psychedelic movement. He has stood behind his values his entire life, and shown us all how to do that."

— CHRIS ROBINSON

Blues Against Blindness

DECEMBER 12, 2014 | GREAT AMERICAN MUSIC HALL | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

The Blues Broads, Elvin Bishop, Roy Rogers & Carlos Reyes, special guest Terry Haggerty and host Wavy Gravy





"Sonny Boy Williamson must have had Seva in mind when he wrote 'Eyesight to the Blind'—they've done so much for so many around the world—it's an honor to be involved."

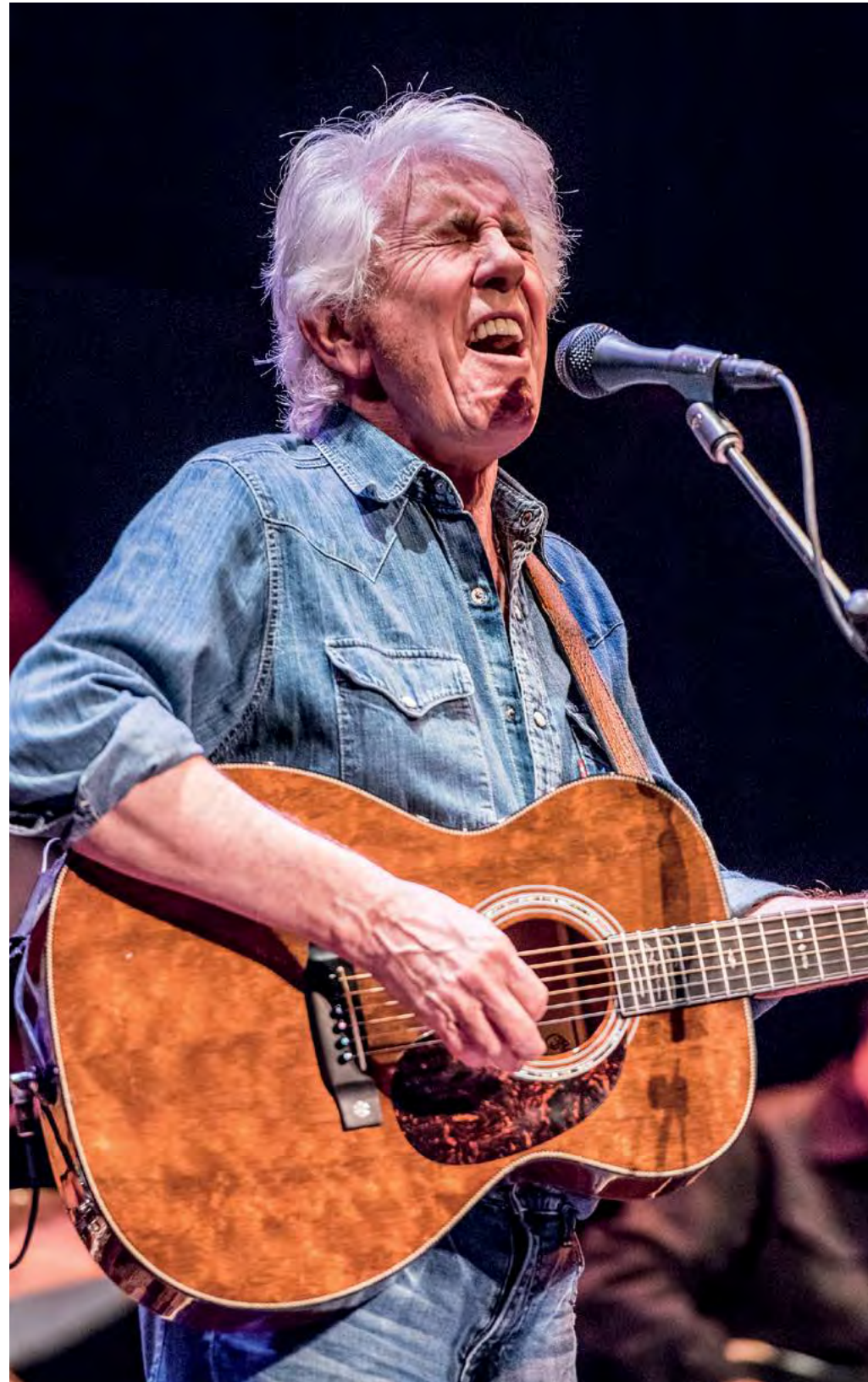
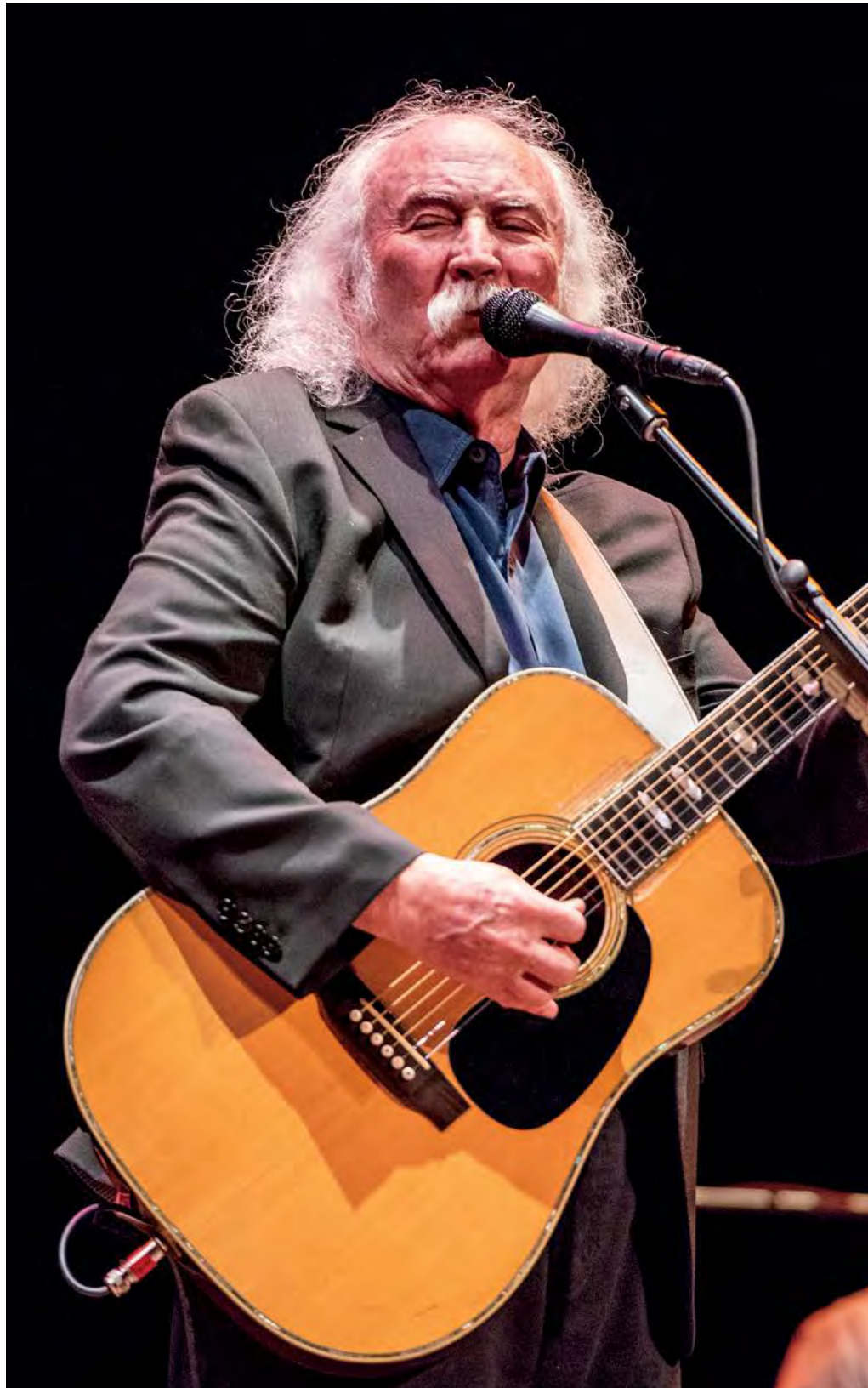
— ELVIN BISHOP

Crosby & Nash, A Benefit for Seva

APRIL 11, 2015 | THE NOURSE THEATRE | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

David Crosby & Graham Nash, Joel Rafael and host Wavy Gravy





"I am proud to be one of the many who have followed Wavy and his friends down this particular yellow brick road."

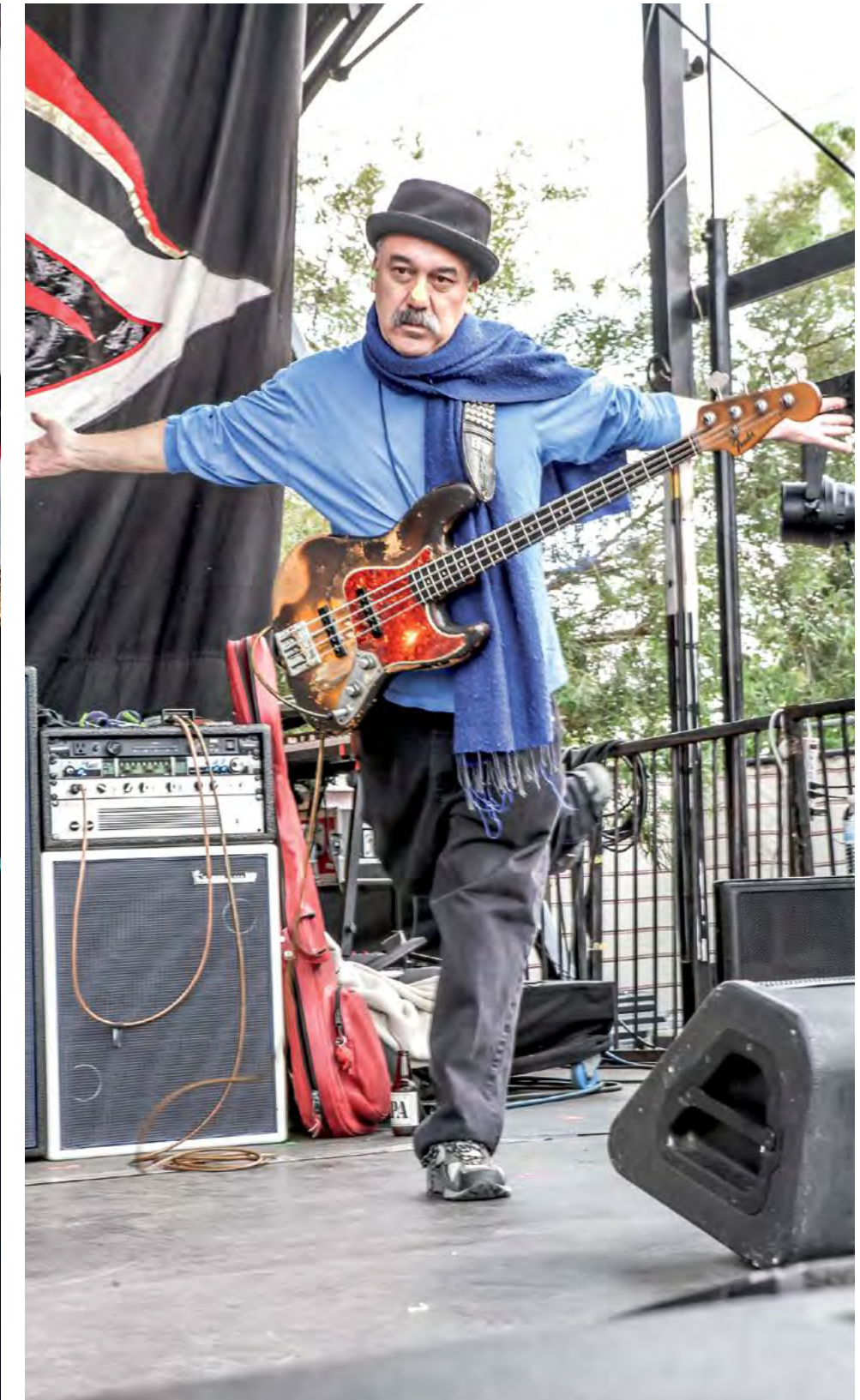
— DAVID CROSBY



Wavy Gravy's 79th Birthday

MAY 17, 2015 | SONOMA MOUNTAIN EVENT CENTER | ROHNERT PARK, CA

Edward Sharpe & The Magnetic Zeros, Steve Kimock & Friends, The California Honeydrops,
Hot Buttered Rum with special guest Vince Herman and host Wavy Gravy





Sing Out for Sight

OCTOBER 10, 2015 | SWEETWATER MUSIC HALL | MILL VALLEY CA

Bob Weir with Steve Kimock, Robin Sylvester & Jay Lane, Salman Ahmad & Samir Chatterjee
and host Wavy Gravy



Wavy Gravy's 80th Birthday Party

MAY 15, 2016 | SWEETWATER MUSIC HALL | MILL VALLEY CA

Steve Kimock & Friends, ALO, Doobie Decibal System Duo and host Wavy Gravy



"This old clown has had the joy of working with children for more than 40 years. Our future shines in their eyes. Restoring a child's eyesight is one of the most important acts of kindness you could give."

— WAVY GRAVY
SEVA CO-FOUNDER





Wavy Gravy's 80th Birthday

MAY 22, 2016 | SONOMA MOUNTAIN EVENT CENTER | ROHNERT PARK, CA

Yonder Mountain String Band, Steve Earle, John Popper, New Riders of the Purple Sage, T Sisters, Hot Buttered Rum, Achilles Wheel, Dead Winter Carpenters, Grateful Bluegrass Boys



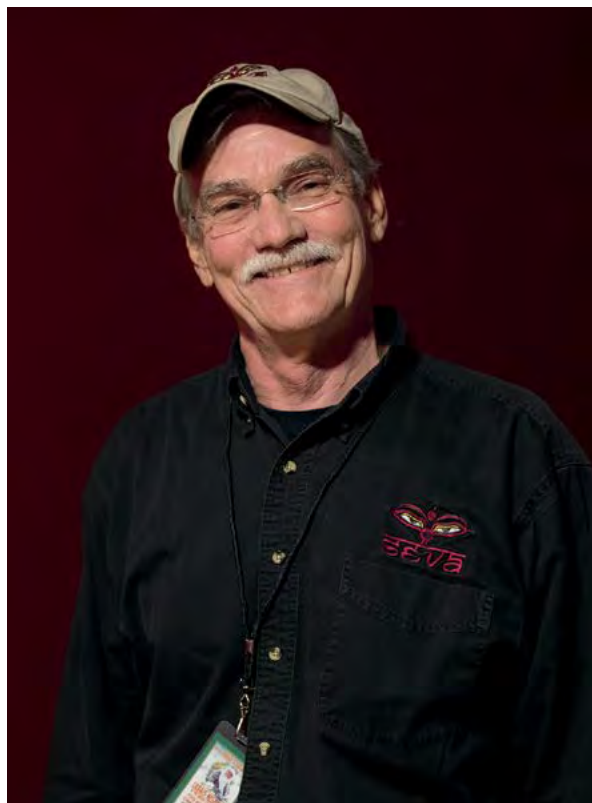


Seva Holiday Extravaganza

DECEMBER 17, 2016 | UC THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real, Poor Man's Whiskey, Corinne West, Mr. YouWho and host Wavy Gravy

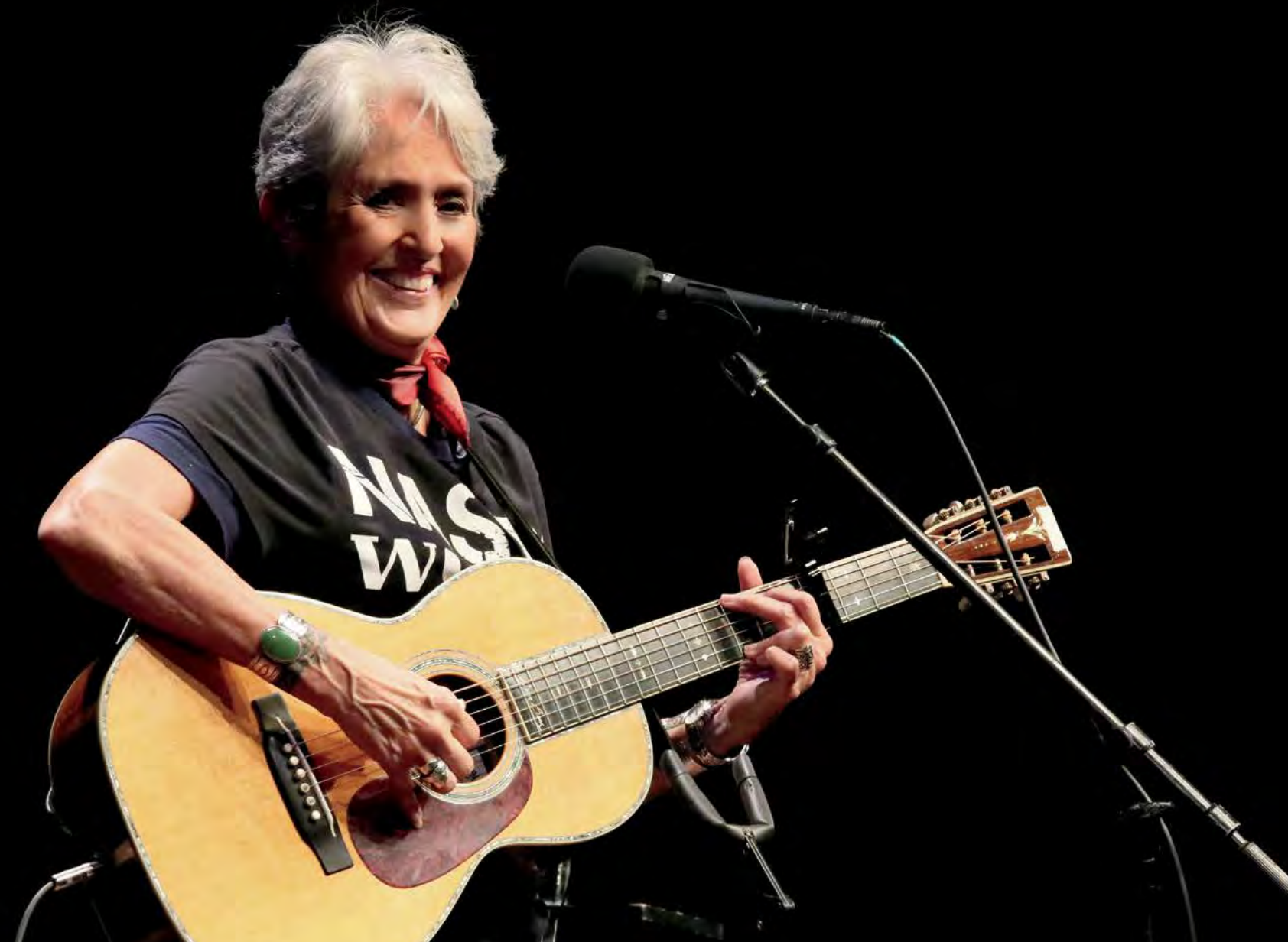


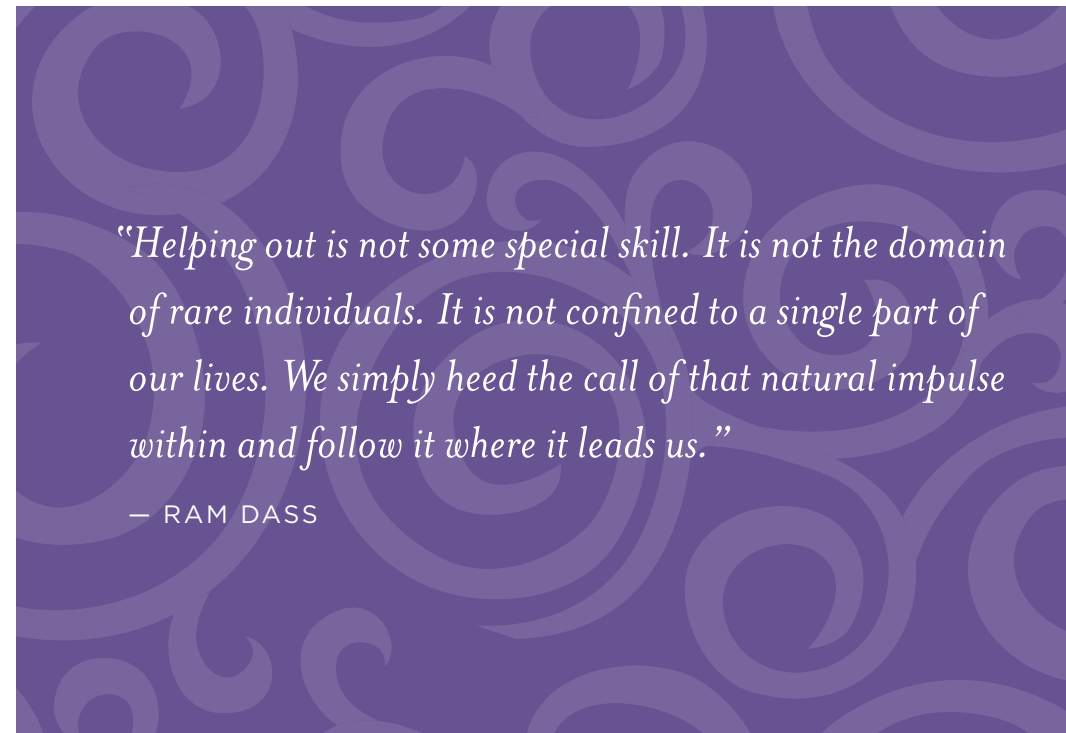
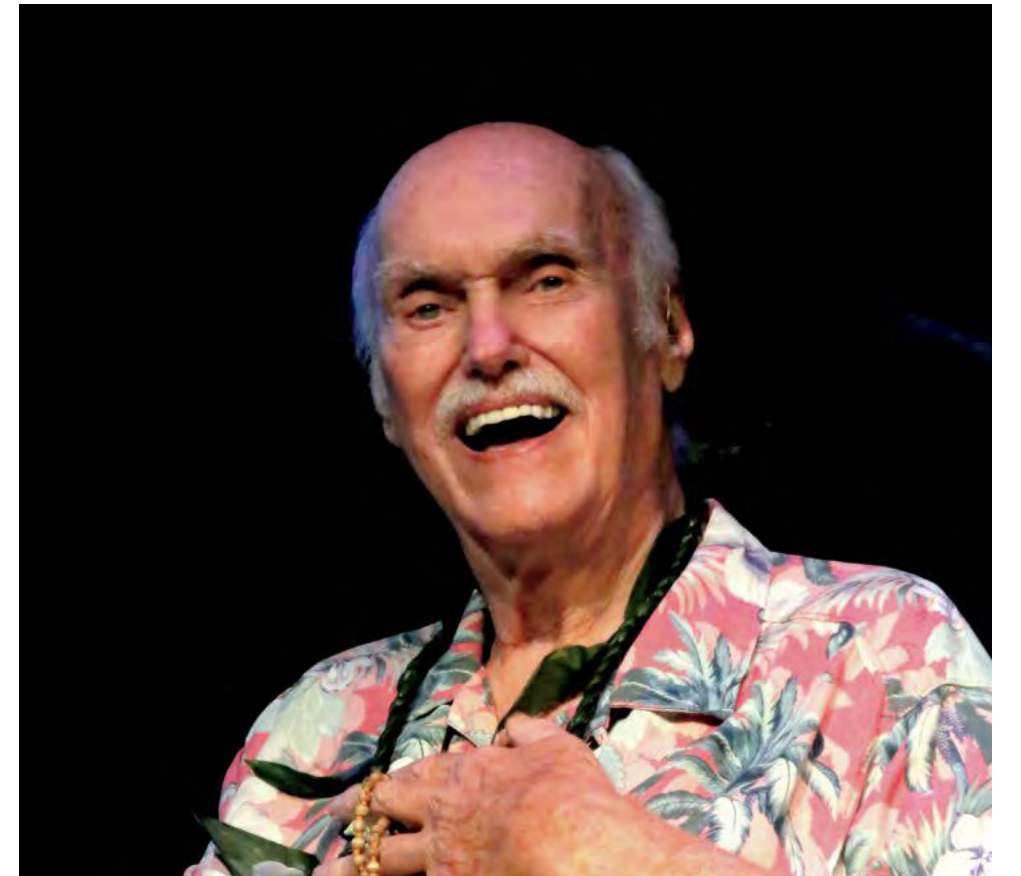


Sing Out for Seva — A Concert to Honor Ram Dass

MARCH 4, 2017 | MAUI ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTER | KAHULUI, HI

Jackson Browne with Greg Leisz, Joan Baez, Krishna Das, special guest, Kris Kristofferson and host Wavy Gravy

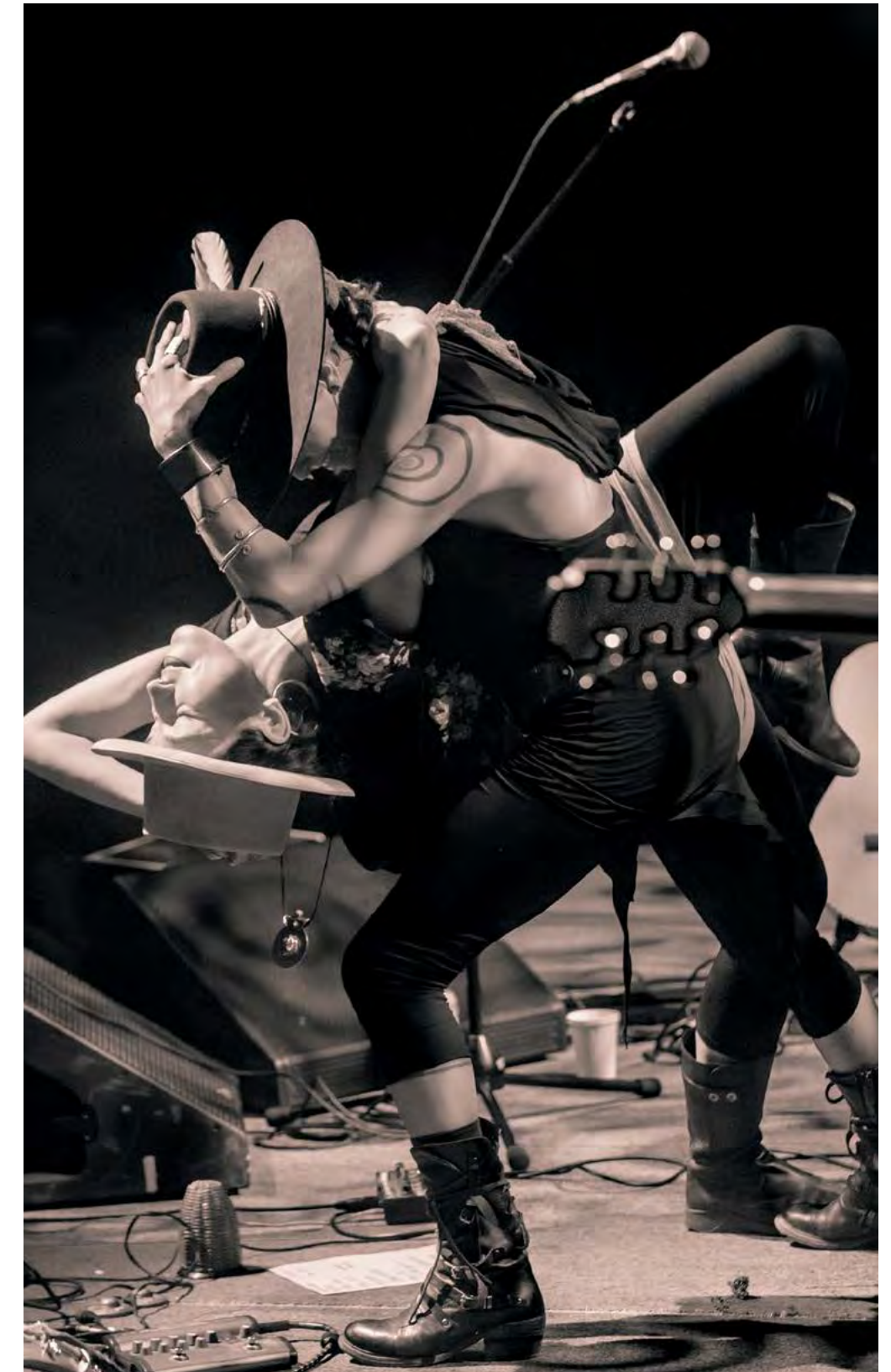




Seva's 40th Anniversary Celebration

JUNE 2, 2018 | UC THEATER | BERKELEY, CA

Rising Appalachia, Dead Winter Carpenters, The Sam Chase & The Untraditional with host Wavy Gravy





Seva's Programs

TRANSFORMING LIVES BY RESTORING SIGHT

SINCE 1978, Seva has been working to build sustainable eye care programs that, to date, have helped to restore sight for nearly five million children and adults around the world.

By restoring sight and preventing blindness, people are able to take better care of their overall health, contribute to their communities, and lift themselves and their families out of poverty.

There are an estimated 253 million people who live with visual impairment: 36 million are blind and 217 million have moderate to severe visual impairment. Thankfully, 75% of all blindness and visual impairment can be prevented or cured.

Seva brings high-quality eye care to the farthest corners of the globe, helping people who are traditionally underserved. We take pride in working with marginalized communities, women and children to ensure the power of sight is within everyone's reach.

Most eye care treatments change lives right away. A pair of glasses brings the world into focus. A 15-minute cataract surgery restores sight and independence. Medication for eye infections prevents decades of blindness and suffering. High-quality eye care creates an immediate and lasting impact. By preventing blindness and restoring vision, children can go to school, and adults can return to work. When more people are able to lead productive lives, entire communities have a chance at a better future.

For many years Seva also supported a variety of programs including emergency relief for Guatemalan refugees, a community self-development program in Guatemala and Mexico, diabetes prevention, garden projects, healthy food programs, weaving and cultural survival in Native American communities, as well as homeless action programs in the US. In 2006, we decided to focus our efforts where they would do the most good and since Seva is one of the leading innovators in blindness prevention, our work is now focused in that field.

Seva's programs are supported by the generosity of our donor community, as well as from the proceeds of our benefit concerts and events. Seva co-founder, Wavy Gravy, has helped to organize and has emceed all of our events over the past 40 years, Wavy always takes a moment to point out to the audience that "each ticket sold means that someone on the other side of the globe won't be bumping into to stuff. With your \$50 donation, we can cure someone of blindness".

We call the work we do *Compassion in Action*, and we would not be able to do it without your support. Together, we will reach our goal, that no one shall suffer with blindness or visual impairment if it can be prevented or cured.



Asia

SEVA PROGRAMS



IN 1979, a Seva helicopter landed in a remote village high in Himalayas of Nepal. The team on board was there with one mission, to learn more about what the causes of blindness were in this remote country where so many people lived without access to modern hospitals or eye clinics.

Over the course of the following two years, the team would make hundreds of similar stops as part of Seva's Nepal Blindness Survey, which was both Seva's very first project and also the first nationwide epidemiological survey of blindness ever conducted.

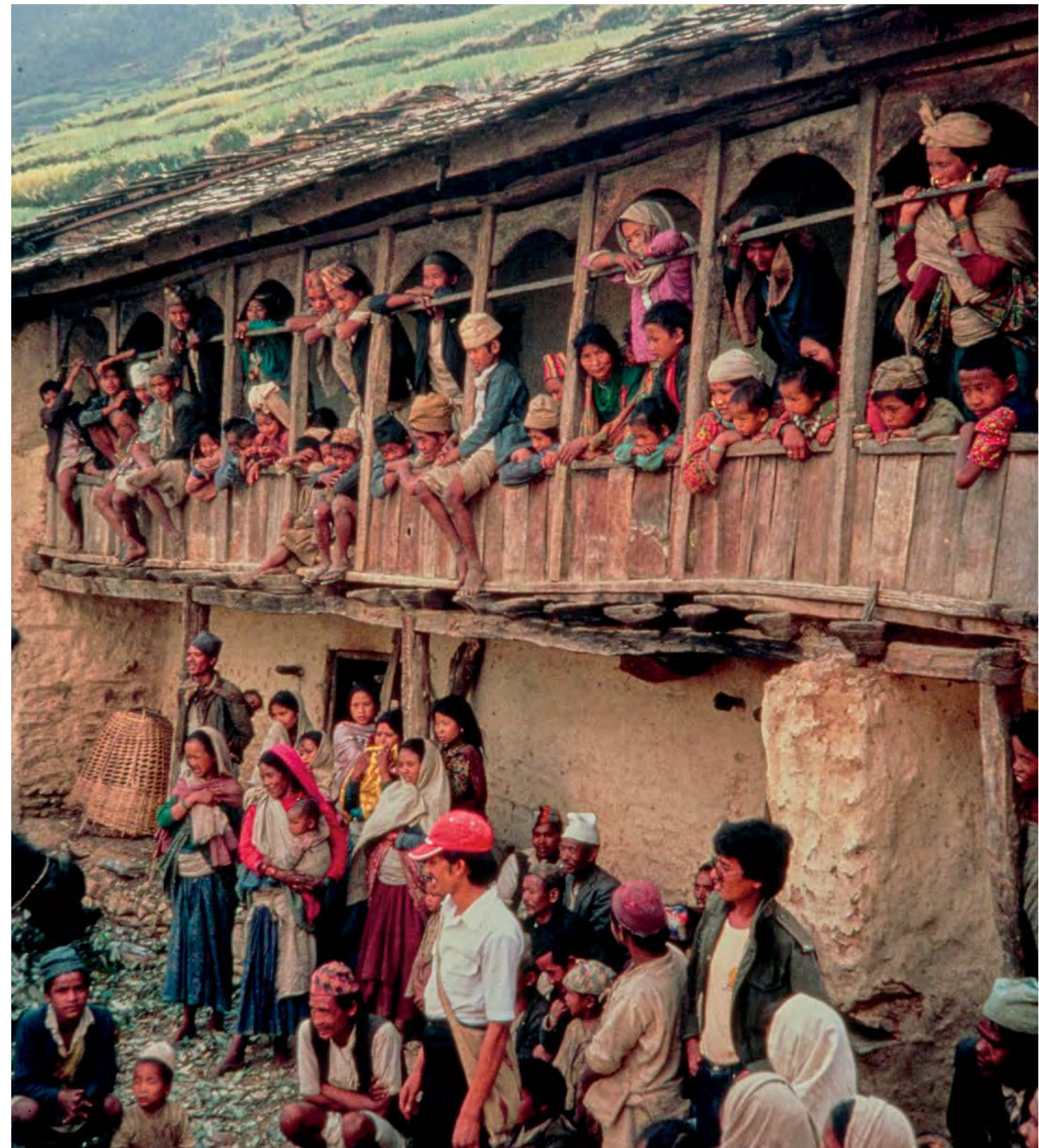
The Nepal Blindness Survey was incredibly important because it confirmed that most blindness could be prevented or cured. This laid the foundation for what has become decades of investment by Seva and our partners in building a robust eye health infrastructure throughout Asia.

In the years since, Seva has expanded its programs throughout Asia, opened permanent regional field offices in Nepal and Cambodia, helped to found state-of-the-art hospitals like the Lumbini Eye Institute, invested in outreach and school screening programs, trained thousands of eye health practitioners, and touched the lives of millions of people who had previously been living without access to high-quality eye care.





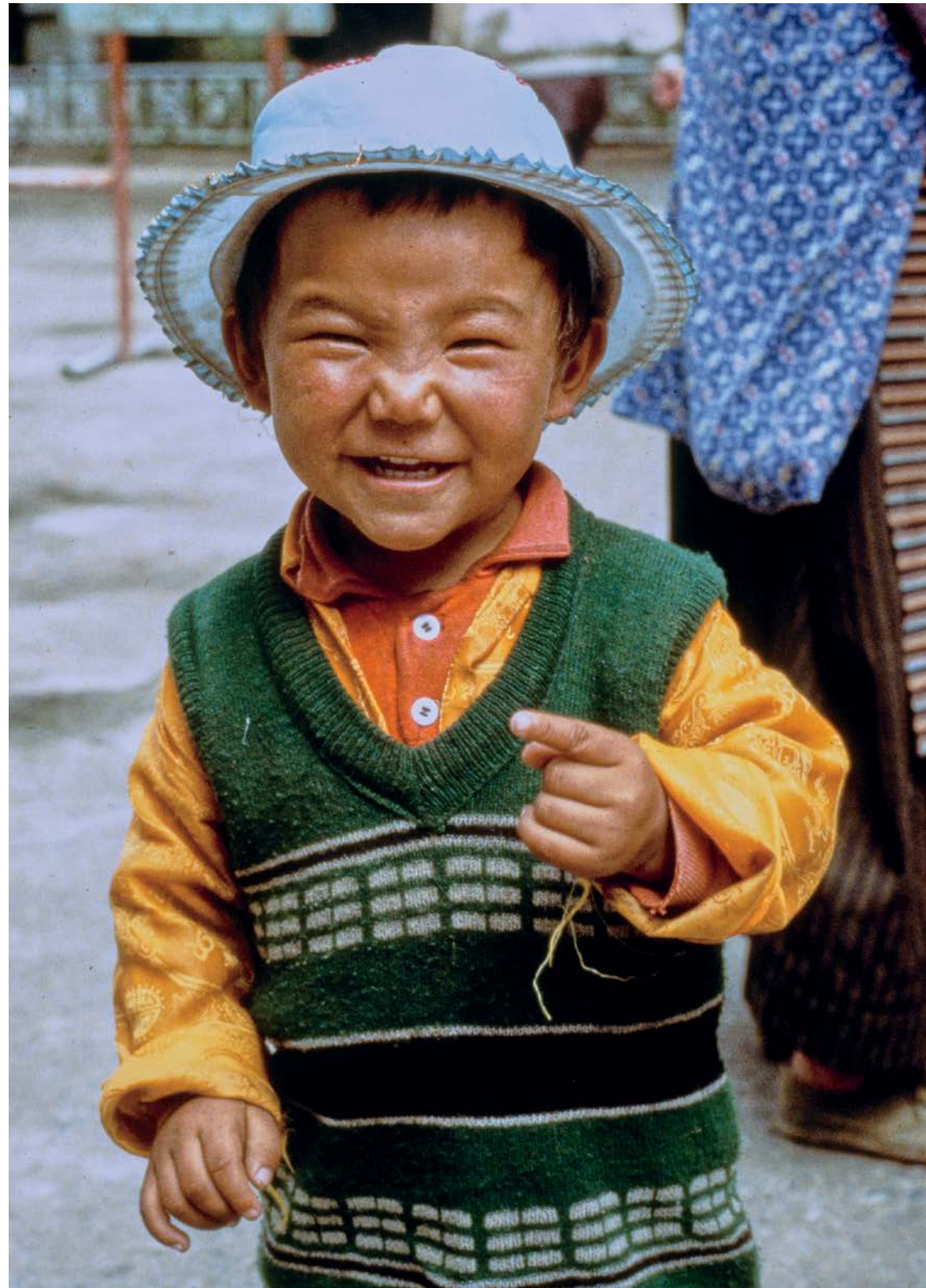




"I admire Seva's spirit of innovation. Seva is constantly looking for new ideas that can benefit the world, especially the poor, and they aren't afraid to try something that no one has ever tried before."

— DR. MUHAMMAD YUNUS
NOBEL PRIZE WINNER







India

SEVA PROGRAMS



IN THE YEARS before the founding of Seva, many of our key founders, including Drs. Larry and Girija Brilliant, Ram Dass, and Steve Jobs (honorary founder) lived and studied in India as part of their individual spiritual journeys. While in India, Larry and Girija joined the smallpox eradication program, which to date is the only disease ever to have been successfully wiped off the planet. That remarkable campaign provided them with an expert epidemiologic knowledge of India, a love for the country and its people, and a desire to do it all again. Round two, they would soon learn, would be to return and attempt to tackle blindness.

At the time Seva was founded, one of our co-founders, Dr. Venkataswamy (Dr. V), had just recently established a small eye hospital called Aravind in Madurai, India. Dr. V was a disciple of Sri Aurobindo, an Indian philosopher, saint, and one of the 20th century's most revered spiritual leaders, who dedicated his life to the idea of service. Aravind was founded on this principle of service, and was providing high-quality eye care to all patients who came to its door regardless of their ability to pay.

Seva's first project in India was to support Dr. V's vision by investing in Aravind's unique approach. Forty years later, that has more than proven to be one of Seva's smartest decisions as Aravind has grown to become the largest eye care system in the world with locations throughout India. Aravind also is one of our most important global partners as we work together to eliminate avoidable blindness, restore sight, and increase access to high-quality eye care. Today, Seva partners with nearly 50 eye hospitals in India.

“Intelligence and capability are not enough. There must also be the joy of doing something beautiful. Being of service to God and humanity means going well beyond the sophistication of the best technology, to the humble demonstration of courtesy and compassion to each patient.”

- DR. G. VENKATASWAMY
SEVA CO-FOUNDER









सेवा संघ ट्रस्ट जानकी





The Americas

SEVA PROGRAMS



OVER THE COURSE of our 40 years of service, Seva's eye health programs have had a major impact throughout the Americas. From providing glasses and eye exams to Native American children in New Mexico to outreach programs that reach underserved communities in Guatemala, Seva and our partners are working everyday to implement important eye health programs.

In years past, under the leadership of our Community Self-Development and Native American Community Health programs, we have also supported a variety of meaningful initiatives that served indigenous communities and included projects that focused on clean water, midwifery, diabetes education, community gardens, literacy, language preservation, and cultural preservation.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and partners, Seva continues to serve marginalized communities in the Americas through our American Indian Sight Initiative and eye health programs in Central and South America.





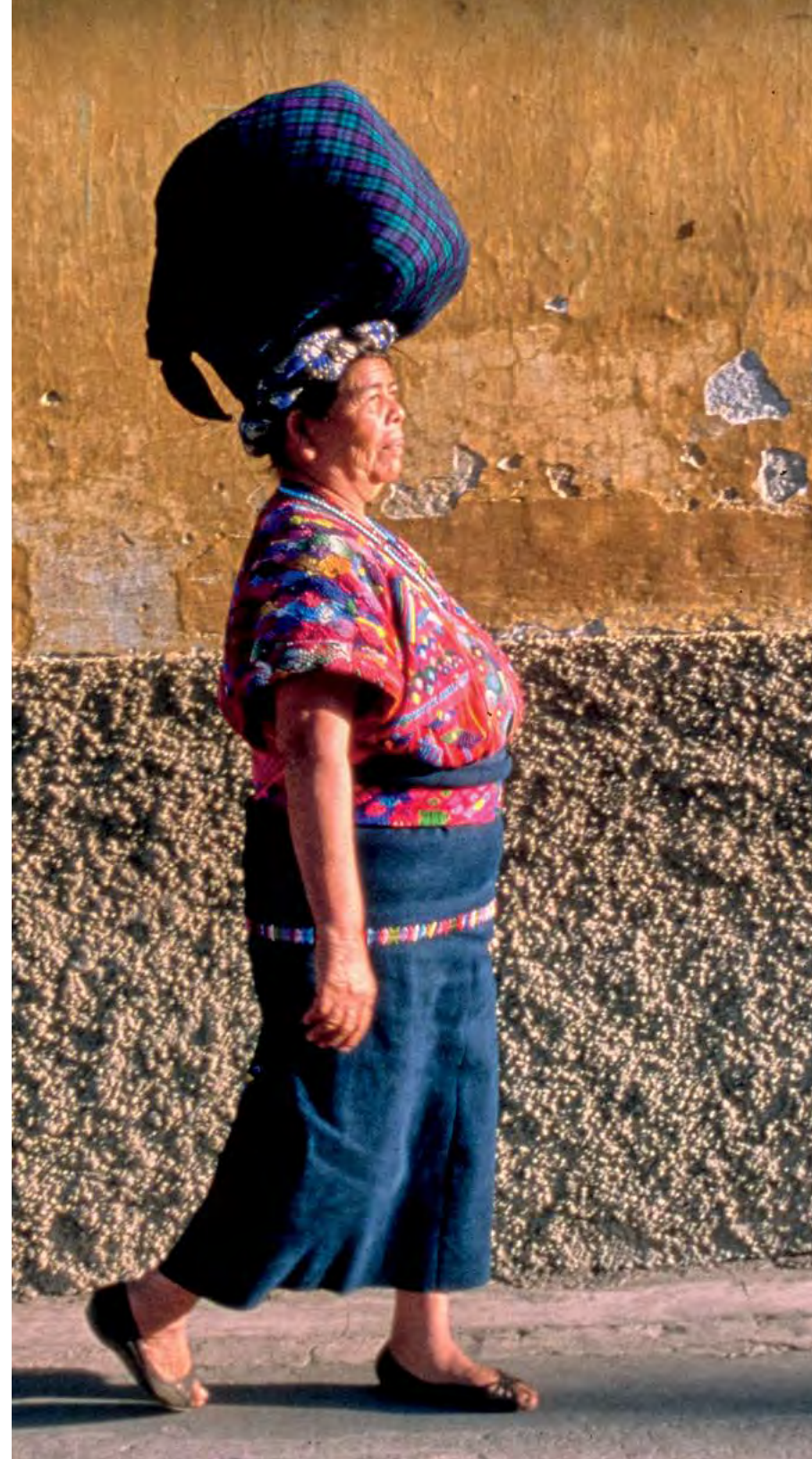


"For nearly 40 years, Seva has been at our side, listening, advocating and training our women to deliver health services to our people on the reservation. I respect the support they have shown me and other Native women leaders in empowering Native families."

— MADONNA
THUNDER HAWK









Africa

SEVA PROGRAMS



THROUGHOUT AFRICA, there are far too many areas that do not have access to a single trained eye care worker or ophthalmologist. Seva is focused on changing this by working to bridge these major gaps. Our programs support and strengthen eye health services throughout the continent, and we are having a big impact.

In order to increase the access to trained eye health workers, Seva was a key partner in the establishment of the largest community ophthalmology training center in Africa, the Kilimanjaro Center for Community Ophthalmology. Thousands of eye health professionals have received training through KCCO as part of our joint mission to reduce the prevalence of blindness throughout Africa.

In Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Tanzania and Uganda, Seva's Global Sight Initiative is investing in outreach programs and building the capacity of hospitals and clinics so that they can provide more affordable and accessible eye care services that are available to everyone in need.



"The majority of people in our region live hand to mouth, and would have to travel as far as 100 miles to reach our hospital. In the past, we had not been able to conduct outreach activities due to lack of funding. With Seva's support, this is now possible."

— DR. KUZENZA, TANZANIA









AFTERWORD BY MIRABAI BUSH



"I once was lost, but now I'm found, Was blind, but now I see."

IT WAS amazing grace that these fabulous musicians raised money for Seva to help us restore sight in many parts of the world, but they did much more than that. They inspired us, their music changed the world by changing us. Music heals; the Blues awaken compassion. They reminded us that we were part of a global awareness that fused art, spirit, vision, human suffering, compassionate action, and love. They fulfilled a basic human need. They made us happy.

We set out to eliminate unnecessary blindness in Nepal in five years. We restored sight to many people, but we didn't eliminate it. We felt like maybe we'd failed. We needed songs to fill the air. Those concerts reminded us that we were part of something much bigger. It was good to set ambitious goals, but we also needed to trust in the unfolding. We could operate from humility and joy, remembering what Neemkaroli Baba said to Larry Brilliant when he sent him to work on ending smallpox: Love everyone, and serve everyone. That's it. Think this through with me, let me know your mind. Wo, oh, what I want to know is, are you kind?

We kept listening. Well, the first days are the hardest days, don't you worry any more, 'Cause when life looks like Easy Street, there is danger at your door. The first days were hard but we re-grouped. We changed our understanding of what was needed and what was possible. It was never Easy Street after that, but we never gave up. And we always had the right soundtrack.

Years later, in 1988, Robin Williams did a reading with Ram Dass at Home Aid, Seva's concert at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, when we were

working to support activists on housing and homelessness. He said, "Music is God's little reminder that there's something else besides us in this universe. Harmonic connection between all living things everywhere, even the stars." We are all connected.

For 10 years, I worked on the Seva Guatemala Project with Jahanara Romney and Sunanda Markus and others. We arrived there just after the terrible violence in the eighties. Four hundred villages had been burned by the Army, and many of the men and boys had been killed. We entered that time of sad stories with tears of rage, tears of grief—sad malnourished barefoot children, overwhelmed Mayan widows in their still beautiful woven huipiles, untended corn fields. I need a miracle! We worked with them, building compost piles, planting new kinds of beans, rolling tortillas on the floor, building sheds for goats, learning to watch people's eyes as well as listen to their words. It was brutal, being in the midst of so much suffering with our aching calves, tired eyes, broken hearts. But there were moments that kept us going.

One night in a high mountain village, the elders brought out their homemade corn liquor and we unwrapped our raisins and nuts, and they asked us how we got there. They had never met, never seen, anyone like us. Why did we come? Because Jahanara heard you needed help, we said. They tried to absorb that. We tried to explain. We said we felt connected to them. They were silent. We sat in silence too for a while, until Don Vicente unwrapped a marimba that was stored in the corner of the room. He began to play. I thought of Wavy's ektar, with its single string. One note at a time, there became songs to fill the air. Music—the language we all understood. There we were, fellow human beings, moving to the sound of the marimba, smiling, knowing. We might have been at a Dead concert. Or a church. Doing what comes naturally, down in the garden, where no one is apart. Deep down in the garden, the garden of your heart. When it was over, we all knew better why we were there. And why we should stay.

And that's what those forty years of music did for us. Hunter Thompson says that music is fuel. That was it—they gave us fuel to keep going, to continually ask ourselves what we were doing, to work out the rhythmic and harmonic changes in the projects, to get up every time we fell, and to celebrate our interconnection—and, most of all, love. Because without love in a dream, it will never come true.

I can still hear Joan Baez: *"I was singing with my sisters I was singing with my friends And we all can, sing together 'Cause the circle never ends."* For Seva, I thank every musician in that circle. You knew the way, and you took us home.

FROM THE EDITOR TAMARA KLAMNER



I FIRST CAME to Seva in 1991, as part of a 10-week course called “Reaching Out”, that Ram Dass offered in Oakland, designed to catalyze people who wished to be of greater service in the world. At the finish of the course we were asked to volunteer at a service organization and I chose Seva. I had known about Seva since the first Grateful Dead / Seva benefit in 1979, which I attended with my family.

I decided to work in the field of service because I had spent a lot of time traveling when I was a young adult and saw what real poverty looked like. It made me realize how the distribution of wealth and opportunity was so unequal in the world and I wanted to help people in need. I felt a responsibility to do that.

Growing up in the 60’s and 70’s I learned that music is a great teacher and healer. Music carries a deep message, it brings people together. It creates a bond among people across presumed barriers of age, race, gender, language and borders.

I first started helping Wavy with the production of the Musical Reunion of Old Friends concert in 1993. I was working part time on the *Gifts of Service* catalog and I had some extra time, so I offered to lend a hand with the production, and as it turned out, I was extremely proficient at handling the chaos of putting together an event with a million moving parts. For me it was an amazing opportunity, it brought together two of the most important things in my life, music and helping those in need. I’ve been at it for 25 years now.

Wavy Gravy is the consummate clown. He always makes people laugh, even when he is talking about serious things. He teaches us how to face adversity while keeping a smile on our face. It is a real talent. Being able to work with Wavy for all these years has been the hugest blessing. He is a great teacher of selfless service. It’s “service with a smile”, as Wavy likes to say.

I believe what the world needs is a spiritual revolution. We need to wake up and realize that we are all one, one consciousness, one people, one earth. If we genuinely feel that connection we will all work together to ensure that our planet stays healthy. Music plays a major part in bringing about that awareness.

One of the greatest joys of producing benefit events is the comradery that is developed among the people involved. When we all come together for a common cause, we build a stronger community and are able to have a greater impact towards the things we care about, it’s magic.

I would like to thank all the musicians, production staff, photographers, volunteers, sponsors and concert attendees for supporting our shows for all these years! It is the support of the community that makes Seva shows so special. And it is an honor to play a part in it.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

*Wouldn’t it be neat
If the people that you meet
Had shoes upon their feet
And something to eat
And wouldn’t it be fine
If all human kind had shelter*

*Chorus:
Basic Human Needs
Basic Human Deeds
Doin’ What Comes Naturally
Down in the Garden
Where No One is Apart
Deep Down in the Garden
The Garden of Your Heart*

*Wouldn’t it be grand
If we all lent a hand*

*So each one could stand
On a free piece of land
And wouldn’t it be thrilling
If folks stopped their killing
And started tilling the land*

*Bridge:
Not just churches,
Not just steeples
Give me people helping people
Help yourself and work out
Till the starts begin to shout
Thank God for something to do*

*What a great day it would be
If everyone could see
And no one was blind unnecessarily
’cuz it’s hard, yes it’s hard to be blind*

*Wouldn’t it be fun
If the shine down from the sun
Could power everyone
And uranium slept forever in the ground*

*Wouldn’t it be daring
If folks started sharing
Instead of comparing
What each other was wearing
And wouldn’t it be swell
If people didn’t sell their
Mother Earth*

Lyrics by Wavy Gravy



