

High-resolution downloadable images of Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys, Maureen McGovern, and Jeff Daniels are available on Wolf Trap's Web site:
<http://wolftrap.org/press/pressphotos.html>.

January 24, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Chris Guerre, Director, Media Relations
(703) 255-4096 or chrisg@wolftrap.org
Graham Binder, Manager, Media Relations
(703) 255-1917 or grahamb@wolftrap.org

**The Barns at Wolf Trap Presents Four Nights of Top-Notch Entertainment
Ranging from Cajun to Comedy**

Vienna, VA—Split evenly between two nights in January and February, The Barns at Wolf Trap has aligned the stars of stage and screen for a truly unforgettable week. Long-time Wolf Trap performer and favorite Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys kick it off with their high-energy Cajun rhythms on Wednesday January 30, with a shift to mixtures of pop, jazz, and musical theater by powerhouse vocalist Maureen McGovern on both Thursday, January 31 and Friday, February 1. This high-energy week is rounded out by well-known screen star Jeff Daniels, featuring his laid-back musical approach and original satirical lyrics for two performances on Saturday, February 2.

**Steve Riley & The Mamou Boys Return to The Barns at Wolf Trap for an
Evening of Traditional Cajun Music**

*Wednesday, January 30, 2008 at 8:00 p.m.
\$20*

In their 10th performance at Wolf Trap, Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys bring their infectious energy and insatiable Cajun beats to The Barns. Singing only in French, this band has become an international favorite, keeping alive the tradition of Cajun music.

Born in Lafayette, Louisiana, Riley began playing homemade instruments at the age of 13. His cousin, accordionist Marc Savoy, constructed Riley's first music maker, a single-row diatonic instrument. After adamantly studying Savoy's passion and talent, Riley's own ability was recognized by Dewey Balfa, a legend in playing the Cajun fiddle. After spending three years with Balfa's band, Riley had learned hundreds of French songs and became adept at the fiddle under Balfa's tutelage.

Eyeing his future as a performer of traditional Cajun music, Riley formed the Mamou Playboys with David Greely in 1988, naming them after the Cajun town, Mamou, Louisiana. The lineup has since grown and strengthened considerably with the addition of Sam Broussard on guitar, Kevin Dugas on drums, and bassist Brazos Huval.

With 11 recorded albums, such as *Tit Galop Pour Mamou*, *Trace of Time*, *Bayou Ruler*, and their most recent *Dominos*, the band has infused everything from zydeco, to country-swing, to rock 'n' roll. Given their penchant for experimentation, Steve Riley & The Mamou Boys remain true to their Cajun roots and aim to satisfy each crowd with their blend of fiddles and accordions.

**Broadway Star and Grammy Nominee Maureen McGovern Entertains with her
Exciting New Concert Honoring Classic 60's Singer/Songwriters**

Thursday, January 31 and Friday, February 1 at 8:00 p.m.

\$30

Broadway legend Maureen McGovern returns to The Barns at Wolf Trap for two performances of her brand new concert titled "A Long and Winding Road". Attendees will experience intimate musical portraits designed to honor classic 60's songwriters Joni Mitchell, James Taylor, Randy Newman, Bob Dylan, Jimmy Webb, Carol King, and Paul Simon. Among many others, selections for the evening include "The Moon's A Harsh Mistress," "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?," "The Circle Game," and "Imagine." McGovern will perform this show as a sneak preview prior to the concert's official February premiere in New York City.

A seasoned performer, McGovern has wowed audiences for more than 30 years with her multi-octave vocal range and seamless transitions between jazz, pop, and musical theater. One of McGovern's first gigs came courtesy of 20th Century Records who hired her to sing the movie theme "The Morning After" for *The Poseidon Adventure*, which went on to win an Oscar for Best Original Song. Firmly entrenched as a major Hollywood talent, McGovern continued to record songs for movies such as *The Towering Inferno*, *Superman*, and the ABC sitcom *Angie*. McGovern broadened her resume as a Broadway star in Tony Award-winning productions such as *Nine*, and earned a Drama Desk nomination for her role as Marmee in *Little Women: The Musical*.

Aside from Broadway and silver screen stardom, McGovern has proven to be a successful recording artist as well. Having released more than 25 albums, McGovern received two Grammy

nominations for hits *The Music Never Ends* and *The Pleasure of His Company*, and often collaborated with the likes of Ira Gershwin and Cole Porter. As an additional testament to McGovern's success and popularity, she is often requested as a guest performer with the Boston Pops and the National Symphony Orchestra.

**Film Star Jeff Daniels Enchants Audiences with His
Original Tunes and Comedic Lyrics**

Saturday, February 2 at 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
\$25

In only his second solo performance at Wolf Trap, Jeff Daniels's notoriety has broadened beyond the scope of a talented actor, having grown a separate fan base for his offerings as a musician. Daniels's tunes are highly personal and reflective of specific experiences throughout his life—a refreshing attitude in a world where most are intended to be sold for commercial value. His body of work is much like a diary set to music.

Daniels debuted on the musical stage at a fundraiser for the Purple Rose Theater Company in Chelsea, Michigan, which was founded by Daniels for the purpose of showcasing American theater in the Midwest. The performance was recorded and self-released as the CD *Jeff Daniels – Live and Unplugged*. As a follow up, Daniels put together a compilation of unreleased songs which comprised the 2006 album *Grandfather's Hat*. The album includes comical songs about everyday issues like road rage, described in "Have a Good Life," and more soft-hearted songs such as "Middle of the Night." Though still busy with his acting career, a musical tour has been planned in 2008 for the Midwest. His performance at The Barns is unique to this year's schedule of events with two back-to-back shows wrapped into one special evening.

###

**Tickets can be purchased by calling 1 (877) WOLFTRAP; or online at
<http://www.wolftrap.org/performances/tickets.html>.
For more information, call The Barns at Wolf Trap at (703) 938-2404.**

