

The Whiting, 1241 E. Kearsley St., Flint, MI 48503

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **The Whiting Presents the Gypsy Style Music of Harmonia!**

**Flint, MI** – From the land that inspired such legends as Count Dracula and the tales of the Roma gypsies, The Whiting is proud to present Harmonia on **Friday, January 30 at 8pm** at UM-Flint Theatre. All seats are just \$15 and student rush tickets are available the day of the show for just \$12. This performance will be ASL interpreted. To order tickets to this fiery performance simply visit [TheWhitng.com](http://TheWhitng.com), call (810) 237-7333 or (800) 8-CENTER, or visit the Ticket Center located at 1241 E. Kearsley St. just off I-475 between the University of Michigan Flint and Mott Community College. For a complete schedule and full details on the entire 2008-09 season line-up, visit [TheWhiting.com](http://TheWhiting.com) or phone the Ticket Center and request a free brochure.

A multi-cultural group of master musicians from several countries performing on authentic folk instruments, Harmonia presents the powerful traditional music of Eastern Europe including Hungarian, Slovak, Ukrainian, Romanian, Croatian and Gypsy. Performing on authentic folk instruments, and styled after turn of the century East-European Gypsy bands, the ensemble's performance evokes the full range of human emotions interspersing fiery passion with soulful melancholy and nostalgic yearning.

The six-piece ensemble uses instruments as varied as accordion, upright bass, violin, pan flute, and cimbalom, the 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. The musicians come from varied East-European backgrounds, finding a common musical language in Harmonia.

Their technical brilliance only adds to Harmonia's breathtaking performances - solos coupled with soaring violin lines, haunting flute and accordion solos and soulful vocals - are a joy by any standard. In addition to being polished performers, Harmonia's members are adept at explaining their music and culture - the ensemble is equally at home on the concert stage and in academic or workshop settings.

The musicians come from varied East-European backgrounds; in Harmonia they have found a common musical language. Harmonia brings to the concert stage the vitality and excitement of the music that inspired composers such as Bártok, Brahms and Liszt. Whether performing in these traditional settings or in concert halls, Harmonia's members stay close to their roots.

“Wild and free... an authentic Gypsy band.” – *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*

This performance is generously supported by McLaren Regional Medical Center, ABC12, All Weather Seal, MCACA, National Endowment for the Arts, Arts Midwest, Community Foundation of Greater Flint, Katherine B. Miner Charitable Trust, CARS 108 and US 103.1.

The Whiting is a member organization of the Flint Cultural Center Corporation and is dedicated to bringing the performing arts to the community. The Whiting is a nonprofit organization and an Equal Opportunity Employer providing programs and services without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex or handicap.

**\*\*High Res Images are available upon request.**

**To secure tickets or request images, please contact Wendi Fournier at**

(810) 237-8689 or [wfournier@thewhiting.com](mailto:wfournier@thewhiting.com)\*\*

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