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**WHYY CONTINUES ITS THIRD SEASON OF EMMY AWARD-WINNING *ON CANVAS*
PERFORMING ARTS SERIES WITH FOUR EPISODES FEB. 3 to 24**

*Program to Spotlight Great Lake Swimmers, Dave Burrell,
Michael Burks and Heartless Bastards*

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 26, 2010 — *On Canvas* continues its third season Wednesday, Feb. 3 on WHYY-TV. A Mid-Atlantic Emmy Award Winner for Best Arts Program or Special, *On Canvas* is a weekly performing arts series that explores Greater Philadelphia's rich, diverse arts and culture scene.

Past *On Canvas* performers Hannibal Lokumbe and Lionel Loueke were recently awarded United States Artists grants for artistic excellence. Upcoming episodes of *On Canvas* will feature **Great Lake Swimmers** on Feb. 3, **Dave Burrell** on Feb. 10, **Michael Burks** on Feb. 17 and **Heartless Bastards** on Feb. 24.

On Canvas episodes premiere on WHYY-TV at 8 p.m. Wednesdays and are rebroadcast at 2 p.m. Sundays. Episodes are also broadcast on WHYY-TV's Y Arts channel (Channel 12.2, Comcast 257 and Verizon FiOS 474) at 9 p.m. Wednesdays, 10 p.m. Thursdays, 7 p.m. Mondays and 8 p.m. Tuesdays following the premiere broadcast on WHYY-TV. *On Canvas* episodes may also be streamed at WHYY.org/oncanvas.

Great Lake Swimmers at Johnny Brenda's, 8 p.m. Feb. 3

Great Lake Swimmers has slowly and surely been garnering fans and notoriety since 2001 and is considered a national treasure in their native Canada. The Toronto-based band's newest album, *Lost Channels*, retains all the elements that have made the group a longtime critical favorite — front man Tony Dekker's unforgettable voice, compelling songwriting and unique folk rock sound.

Great Lake Swimmers perform live at Johnny Brenda's in Philadelphia's Fishtown neighborhood.

**Dave Burrell at The Rosenbach Museum & Library, 8 p.m. Feb 10**

Distinguished composer-pianist Dave Burrell says he performs because it's the only thing he knows how to do. And he does it brilliantly. His compositions have roots in blues, gospel tradition and free jazz. A musician-in-residence at the Rosenbach Museum & Library in Center City, Philadelphia, Burrell performs new compositions based on his research of early American settlements in Oregon.

Burrell is a regular guest on national and international radio broadcasts. Burrell performs at The Rosenbach Museum & Library.

Michael Burks at the Bucks County Blues Society R&B Picnic, 8 p.m. Feb 17

Michael "Iron Man" Burks earned his nickname for his hours-long performances, soulful voice, and ingenious guitar attack. A modern blues hero, Michael spends most days of the year touring and driving his band from one venue to the next, earning die-hard fans that follow him around the world. Raised with a blue-collar work ethic in Arkansas, Michael Burks is a musician with deep roots in the blues tradition.

His latest album, *Iron Man*, features some of his best, most fervent guitar playing yet and is gaining him recognition as one of the country's foremost rising blues stars. Burks performs at the 27th annual Bucks County Blues Society R&B Picnic in Fairless Hills, Pa.

Heartless Bastards at The Electric Factory, 8 p.m. Feb. 24

Heartless Bastards got their start in the Ohio bar scene, where frontwoman Erika Wennerstrom cultivated her vulnerable yet headstrong lyrical style. Wennerstrom and the band soon branched out from local and regional shows and have gained a national following. Erika's voice has been described as a combination of PJ Harvey and Robert Plant and her lyrics cut to the heart of lessons learned the hard way.

Touring in support of their most recent and critically acclaimed album, *The Mountain*, Heartless Bastards perform at The Electric Factory in Philadelphia's Northern Liberties neighborhood.

On Canvas is made possible through the extraordinary generosity of an anonymous family of donors and the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation. For more information, visit WHYY.org/oncanvas.

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