

In a most exceptional pairing, master multi- instrumentalists **Ry Cooder** and **Ricky Skaggs** come alive on stage to deliver a revelatory program of blues, gospel, and bluegrass. They are joined by **Sharon White**, one of the purest voices in Country music, **Joachim Cooder** on drums, and **Mark Fain** on bass with occasional guest performances by **Buck White** and **Cheryl White**.

Ry Cooder's stock-in-trade is the guitar. He sometimes plays mandolin and has been known to occasionally handle the bajo sexto and tres. Cooder likes to play blues, gospel, country and western music, a calypso tune or two and cowboy ballads. He has written film scores, produces recordings of an elderly group of Cubans and has hung out with Gabby Pahinui. Cooder hired Don Tosti to voice an alien and made a record about a cat that lived in a suitcase. He owns an ice cream truck that was displayed at the Petersen Automotive Museum and he has also adopted an owl. These days, Ry and his son Joachim have taken to playing with Ricky Skaggs, Sharon White, Buck White and Mark Fain. He sure hopes to see you at one of their shows this year.

### **About Sharon White**

Sharon White is a member of beloved country-gospel family band, The Whites, and has been making music alongside her father Buck and sister Cheryl for more than four decades. They originally began as a Bluegrass group, but the family trio became well known for their string of Country hits in the 1980s, including "Hangin' Around," "Give Me Back That Old Familiar Feeling," and "Pins and Needles." The Whites are Grand Ole Opry members and combine a respect for – and mastery of – traditional country and bluegrass with a refreshing style in each of their performances. They were involved in the 2001 hit movie and soundtrack, *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, and have gone on to win multiple awards, including GRAMMY®, CMA and Dove Awards, among others.

### **About Ricky Skaggs**

With 12 #1 hit singles, 14 GRAMMY® Awards, eleven IBMA Awards, nine ACM Awards and eight CMA Awards (including Entertainer of the Year), Ricky Skaggs is truly a pioneer of Bluegrass and Country music. Since he began playing music more than 50 years ago, Skaggs has released more than 30 albums and has performed thousands of live shows. Skaggs and his band, Kentucky Thunder, continue to keep the tour trail red hot, performing more than 80 live dates each year. He started his own record label, Skaggs Family Records, in 1997 and has since released 12 consecutive GRAMMY®- nominated albums. And the Grand Ole Opry member released his first-ever autobiography, "Kentucky Traveler." The book details the life and times of Skaggs and provides a descriptive history of Country and Bluegrass music, as told by the master himself