FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Experience “culture in motion” during UB’s celebration of International Education Week (November 12-16, 2007). Come enjoy the Buffalo première of the film “When the Road Bends: Tales of a Gypsy Caravan” and a live performance by Babik.

University at Buffalo, NY - October 16, 2007 – The University at Buffalo is proud to host the regional première of the film “When the Road Bends: Tales of a Gypsy Caravan”. As part of UB’s celebration of International Education Week (IEW), the film inaugurates IEW’s Culture in Motion Film Series and will be directly followed by Buffalo’s own Gypsy Jazz artists Babik. This free event will take place on Monday, November 12, 2007 in the Student Union Theater on UB’s North Campus. The film will begin at 5:30 p.m. and Babik will perform at 8:00 p.m.

“When the Road Bends: Tales of a Gypsy Caravan” highlights “culture in motion” by featuring five Romani (Gypsy) bands from four countries traveling through North America on the World Music Institute’s six-week concert tour. Through a behind-the-scenes view of their life together, the audience observes the musicians engage in dialogue about what it means to be gypsy or Roma. To provide the background and soul of Roma music, the film also introduces the musicians’ life in Romania, Spain, India and Macedonia.

Jasmine Dellal, director of “When the Road Bends: Tales of a Gypsy Caravan”, personifies “culture in motion”. As she explained in an interview, “I'm also Polish, Jewish and Iraqi. I grew up in England and partly in India, and I've lived most of my adult life in the U.S. So I belong to a lot of cultures, but I'm always on the edge of all of them.” For Jasmine Dellal, the Roma people exemplify “culture in motion”. “One of the first things I heard about Romani culture is that it is like
a tree in a storm that bends so that it won’t break. This rings true for me. Some cultures stick to the old ways, but Romani culture is often adapted so that the traditional principles can be applied in very modern ways.”

Hailed by The Buffalo News as one of the hottest bands in Buffalo, Babik (pronounced Bah-beek) is a quartet of musicians who play a special brand of jazz known as gypsy swing, which was created in the 1930s by the legendary 2-fingered guitarist, Django Reinhardt. The group delves through history and extracts the passion of a gypsy fire in their improvisations while giving new breath to the age-old style. Toe-tapping rhythms and infectious melodies transcend generations to delight and unite a growing number of avid fans. As stated in Buffalo Spree Magazine, “...it's hard not to fall in love with a band whose every tune seems to state, "We love life and want to celebrate it."”

International Education Week (IEW), which will take place on November 12-16, 2007, is a joint initiative of the U.S. Departments of State and Education to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn and exchange experiences in the U.S. Other IEW events include films, food, presentations, performances, a photo exhibition and interactive displays. The "Without Borders" lecture series showcases some of the ways UB operates across national and disciplinary borders. The topics of the week’s events range from Vietnamese cuisine, Chinese calligraphy and work opportunities abroad to health care systems in the U.S., Canada and Brazil. IEW events at UB are made possible through generous support from AT&T, Bank of America, the English Language Institute, Haylor, Freyer & Coon, Inc., HSBC Bank, M&T Bank, Sprint, the UB Department of Anthropology, UB Graduate Student Association and UB Office of the Vice Provost for International Education.

The University at Buffalo is No. 10 among 2,700 accredited U.S. universities in international enrollment, according to an annual report released by the Institute of International Education (IIE). The University has exchange agreements with more than 50 institutions in over 25 countries. UB is the largest and most comprehensive campus in the State University of New York system. UB's
28,000+ students pursue their academic interests through more than 300 undergraduate, graduate and professional degree programs. Founded in 1846, the University at Buffalo is a member of the Association of American Universities.

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