

Musicians Serve Up a Portion of Acoustic Music

Some have since questioned the validity and practicality of such a process. For example, there are some locally prominent musicians the festival will not get to spotlight, because, for whatever reasons, tapes were not submitted. Tacker says he regrets these omissions. Because of the number of performers and performing groups, more than 60 in all, sets must also be limited to 30 minutes at most.

"Next year will probably be different," Tucker said. But for now, neither he,

Glombekki nor Edmanson, all on the Talent Committee (and none of whom are scheduled to perform), have any regrets about the tape submission process.

The flip side, of course, is how many people took TKMA up on its offer. "I've been amazed by the number of people who've come out of the woodwork," Edmanson said. "A lot of these people have been in town all along and are very good."

"I also have a feeling," Glombekki added, "they're all going to be better than what we heard (on tape) and were all going to be shocked!"

TKMA ORGANIZERS share mixed feelings about the next-to-last-minute relocation of the festival from Reid Park to El Presidio. "We had confirmed the dates for Reid Park as early as April of '85," Hamilton said. At first glance that would have been the ideal location, just as it's been for the Jazz Society's Jazz Sundaes and the Blues Society's Blues Festival. But when the city Parks and Recreation Department decided to make renovations on the Bandshell, the festival was suddenly without a home.

Fortunately, El Presidio was available and already set up to deal with Tucson Meet Yourself, a fall festival of ethnic music, food and culture. The layout, while not the grassy knolls and expanse of Reid Park, will allow both stages to work simultaneously without the sound from one bleeding into the sound of the other—a potential problem that had yet to be dealt with at Reid Park.

Playing on those two stages, set up at the far east and west sides of El Presidio park, in addition to the unknowns, will be some of Tucson's most prolific and well known working musicians and bands, including the **Titan Valley Warheads**, **Arizona Mountaineers** and **Blitz Creek**, all bluegrass; **Desert Riders**, bluegrass/country swing; **Denis Offret**, east coast/country blues guitar; **String Trotters**, traditional mountain music; **Michael Kera** and **Rich Mutschler**, singer/songwriters.

Don't look for the music to be restricted to old timey, bluegrass, singer/songwriters, or whatever else comes to be associated with traditional folk. As much an acoustic music festival as anything else, this weekend's shows will incorporate everything from classical (**Dos Cabezas**, **Tucson Mandolin Society**) to ethnic (**Galaglas**, **Armando Lavender**) to percussion (**DrumSong**, **Sruti**).

Unlike most blues, jazz and rock festivals, TKMA is also looking to make this an audience participation event. "Even those who aren't playing," Tucker said, "we still hope will come down and bring their guitars, because that's what folk festivals are really all about—people getting together, sitting under a tree and playing."

The workshops will take audience participation one step farther. Long a tradition with folk fests of every shape and size, workshops are unique to these events because "performers, as a rule, feel more free to hang out and open up," according to workshop coordinator (and ace flatpick guitarist) **John Mattingley**.

Mattingley also said he's asked those he's recruited as workshop leaders to make these "hands-on" workshops. "We

