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Druha Trava Returns to U.S. in 2014; Planning Fall Tour Acoustic Folk Rock From the Czech Republic

Who: The legendary "Czechgrass" band Druha Trava

What: The Band returns to the US in 2014; is planning fall tour

For more information, see: www.druhatrava.us and www.druhatrava.cz

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The legendary Czech band Druha Trava, will return to the U.S. in 2014.

Dates are currently being organized in a number of venues across the country, so please contact Sonja Kapoun-Roof if you are interested in scheduling the band in your area.

Famed on both sides of the Atlantic for its "Czechgrass" fusion of acoustic, bluegrass, folk and rock, Druha Trava played on the main stage at the 2013 IBMA's Wide Open Bluegrass Festival in Raleigh's Red Hat Amphitheater.

New for 2014, the band will be releasing a new Czech language CD, as well as, releasing their first live DVD. Their most recent albums are *Shuttle to Bethlehem* (2011) and *Live v Telci* (2012).

Shuttle to Bethlehem includes English-language versions of seven of Krestan's songs, translated from the original Czech by the American writer Ruth Ellen Gruber. The raw urgency of Krestan's voice is just as powerful here as on the Czech recordings. The English lyrics add a rich and exciting new dimension for the band's many American fans and will also serve to introduce DT to new audiences.

Shuttle to Bethlehem also includes newly recorded Czech versions of two of the Bob Dylan songs from DT's *Dylanovky* CD, plus the gorgeous instrumental "May Morning Dew" featuring Lubos Malina -- and a fun, bluegrassy take on the Rolling Stones' classic "Jumping Jack Flash."

American singing greats who have toured with DT over the last year include, Peter Rowan, Tony Trischka and Charlie McCoy.

ABOUT THE BAND

Druha Trava (which means "Second Grass") was formed in 1991 by singer-songwriter Robert Krestan, banjo and wind instrumentalist Lubos Malina, dobro player Lubos Novotny and other veterans of the Czech acoustic music scene. Today's line-up also includes guitarist Emil Formanek and bassist Tomas Liska.

DT's distinctive sound is based on exceptional musicianship combined with Krestan's gritty vocals and original songs.

DT "uses American roots music as a launching pad for its own synthesis of jazz, pop, folk and even classical motifs," stated an article about the band in The New York Times. "In doing so it transforms a quintessential American idiom into a richly textured, highly personal statement that defies genre classification."

The winner of multiple Czech music awards, DT has a loyal following at home and in the United States. They first performed in the U.S. in 1993 and continue to tour extensively annually.

The band has recorded more than a dozen albums, including collaborative CDs with American stars Peter Rowan and Charlie McCoy.