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20 March 1998 CONTACT: Stew Salowitz, 309-556-3181

Suzzy Roche and Greg Greenway to Perform at IWU's March 28 Blue Moon Coffeehouse

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. -- The first twin-bill at Illinois Wesleyan University's Blue Moon Coffeehouse will feature Suzzy Roche and Greg Greenway.

The free concert, which is open to the public, will be at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 28, in the Main Lounge of IWU's Memorial Student Center, 104 E. University St.

Suzzy is a seasoned veteran of the music business having toured as part of a sibling trio, the Roches, while Greenway is described as having one of the strongest and finest voices in music.

Suzzy Roche

With 20 years of experience as a performer, Roche is a veteran of the music business, but as a solo performer, is a decidedly original and compelling new voice. The youngest of the trio of sisters comprising the music group, the Roches, Suzzy was always the front woman, knocking out audiences with her entrancing stage presence, actor's delight in performance, and deadpan humor. Taking the job as a solo artist, she combines her presence and wit with a sense of intimacy and creates an exceptionally captivating performance.

A native of Park Ridge, New Jersey, Suzzy and her sisters (as the Roches) have released 10 albums over a 15 year period and recorded with Paul Simon, Was Not Was, and the Indigo Girls, among others. They have performed on "Saturday Night Live," "The Tonight Show," and on David Letterman's television program and co-starred with Porky Pig in a "Tiny Toons" cartoon. Throughout the Roches' recording and performing career, Suzzy continued to pursue work as an actor, working on films with Jack Lemmon and John Heard, and in "Crossing Delancey" with Amy Irving, a film that also featured the Roches' music.

Her solo album, "Holy Smokes" (Red House Records), was released last fall, a collection featuring 12 of Suzzy's original songs written over the past several years.

Greg Greenway

Greenway has two solo albums, "Singing for the Landlord" (Eastern Front Records, 1995) and his debut, "A Road Worth Walking Down" (1992, distributed by Eastern Front Records in 1995). Freedom and justice are the two dominating themes of Greenway's songs. "I felt at odds with the small town life of Richmond, Va., where I grew up, and the racism," he says. "I was going to school with black kids. They were my friends. I played sports with them. They bled. They turned their ankles. They tried hard and failed. I was saying `What's the story here? These are just people.' I realized that a lot of my life was going to be about trying to fix this."

Music provided a release for Greenway's anger. "Music was what brought me all the human truth. It brought me hope and a way to know that what I was feeling was right."

. Initially a solo singer-songwriter, Greenway first went to Boston after his senior year of college and assembled a trio, with a bassist and drummer, that opened for Livingston Taylor all over the eastern U.S. "I liked the idea of an acoustic guitar being the principal sound provider. In a band, the acoustic guitar usually winds up being just the texture. I wanted to be more up-front."

Adding an electric guitarist, Greenway's group (Trace of Red) toured for three years. Returning to an acoustic format, he began to perform in folk music clubs and coffeehouses, where he honed

his skills as a solo act. Greenway explains, "I always thought, 'Wouldn't it be great to just take your acoustic guitar and play without taking two hours to unload equipment.'"

About The Blue Moon Coffeehouse

The Blue Moon Coffeehouse has been bringing free acoustic music concerts to the campus of Illinois Wesleyan and the Bloomington-Normal, Ill., community since 1992. For more information, call the Blue Moon Concert Infoline at (309) 556-3815 and to join the mailing list or send a comment, e-mail address is bluemoon@titan.iwu.edu.

Previous Blue Moon Coffeehouse performer have included Ani DiFranco, Carrie Newcomer, IWU graduates Al and Andi Tauber, and the Sons of the Never Wrong.

About Illinois Wesleyan University

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 2,000 students in a College of Liberal Arts, College of Fine Arts, and a four-year professional School of Nursing. Since 1994, the following facilities have been added to the IWU campus: a \$15 million athletics and recreation center, a \$25 million science center, a \$6.8 million residence hall, and a \$5.1 million Center for Liberal Arts, a facility housing 60 faculty offices, six classrooms, and other facilities for social science, humanities, business and economics, and interdisciplinary studies' faculty. The Carnegie Commission for the Advancement of Teaching rates Illinois Wesleyan a "Baccalaureate I" institution, a classification that places it among 159 highly-selective National Liberal Arts Colleges in the annual U.S. News & World Report rankings. Barron's Profiles of American Colleges, another respected college guide, rated IWU "highly competitive +" in its latest edition.