



Beyond Blues News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Beyond Blues Unites Blues Dance with Karen Maria Capo: Dirty Blues, Funky Blues, Hilarious Blues!

WHAT: Friday Night Blues

WHERE: Studio Gracia / 19 Heron St (SOMA near 8th and Harrison) / San Francisco, CA 94103

WHEN: Friday, May 20th, 10 pm – 2 am, classes at 8pm and 9pm

COST: \$15 at the door, \$5 extra for each class

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MAY 5, 2011 – Karen Maria Capo sings the blues: dirty blues, funky blues, and hilarious blues. If you find yourself asking, “Did she just say that?” Yes, she did. After playing at Friday Night Blues earlier this year as part of a promo tour for her birthday party this July in Portland, she’s back with her band to play FNB again. On Friday, May 20th, the band will play live at one of San Francisco’s hidden venues: Studio Gracia on Heron Street in SOMA, where dozens of dancers gather weekly to dance much closer than mama would like.

Blues Dance is a growing, national cult dance scene that has its origins in early 20th century American dance, and its rebirth from swing dancers in Sweden and San Francisco. A largely rhythmic dance, rooted in African dance movement, it’s sultry and slow, or upbeat and joyous, but always intimate. Think *Dirty Dancing* but minus the overhead lifts and the watermelon.

Don’t miss this opportunity to hear Karen Maria sing in an intimate setting with the backdrop of a room full of Blues Dancers.

FINDING YOUR WAY Expect to wonder if you’re in the right place several times. Friday Night Blues is like a speakeasy, located behind a nondescript door marked “19” down the one-way dark alley of Heron St. You’ll spot the dancers and hear the music when you get close.

THE DANCERS From students to professionals to retired folk who grew up partner dancing. It’s an eclectic crowd, but a friendly one. It’s customary for men and women to ask for dances, and there seems to be no judgment about same-sex partnerships, even when they only last one song.

NO DRINKS?! Home-baked cookies are more common to find than cocktails. BYOB if you like, but keep it away from the sacred dance floor.

THE DETAILS \$15 at the door (\$12 students) and \$5 extra per class (\$4 students). Classes from 8pm-9pm and 9pm-10pm. Blues Dancing from 10pm-2am. Weekly on Fridays at Studio Garcia, 19 Heron St (near 8th and Harrison in SOMA), San Francisco.

Beyond Blues has been supplying the Bay Area with Blues Dance since 2004. Now with weekly dances in Denver, Portland, Seattle, Austin, New York, and more, it all started in SOMA with Friday Night Blues, the first national weekly Blues Dance venue, which was founded in January, 2005. Products include private lessons, weekly dance events and dance classes, monthly workshops, and quarterly multi-day dance camps. Visit BeyondBlues.com for schedules and details. Come experience the partner dance that anyone can do: Blues Dance. This is not your grandma’s dancing.