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**"SHELDON CLASSICS" SERIES FEATURES MUSIC OF THE CIVIL WAR ERA,
IN CONJUNCTION WITH STL 250 CELEBRATIONS**

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon presents “St. Louis at 100” featuring David Halen and folk singers Dave Para and Cathy Barton, Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at 8 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall. Two cherished Missouri folk singers, Dave Para and Cathy Barton, join David Halen for music from the Civil War era. The folk duo are multi-instrumentalists and helped found the Missouri Folk Festival over 20 years ago. Halen and members of the Symphony perform classical music from the era and also “Ashokan Farewell,” written for the PBS *Civil War* series.

David Halen served as Assistant Concertmaster with the Houston Symphony Orchestra under Sergiu Comissiona and Christoph Eschenbach until 1991. He then came to St. Louis, where he was permanently named Concertmaster of the St. Louis Symphony in September 1995, without audition, and with the endorsement of then Music Directors Leonard Slatkin and Hans Vonk. His numerous accolades include the 2002 St. Louis Arts and Entertainment Award for Excellence, and honorary doctorates from Central Missouri State University and from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Halen plays a 1753 Giovanni Battista Guadagnini violin, made in Milan.

More than 35 years of playing together have taken **Cathy Barton** and **Dave Para** to festivals, clubs, concert halls, schools and recording and media studios across the United States and on five European tours. Their audiences are as diverse as their repertoire. A versatile duo, they perform concerts and conduct workshops with hammered and fretted dulcimers, banjo, guitars and Autoharp, as well as “found” instruments, such as bones, spoons, mouthbow and leaf. Their music ranges from driving string band music to contemplative ballads and airs. Known for their “Hand-Me-Down” music, the two have conducted many topical workshops on songs from the Carter family, the Civil War, river lore, gospel, children’s songs, Christmas music and Ozark ballads.

Tickets are \$30 orchestra/\$25 balcony/\$15 student, and are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, through The Sheldon’s website at TheSheldon.org, or in person at The Fox Theatre Box Office, 534 N. Grand Blvd. For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit TheSheldon.org.

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