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BLAST! MARCHES INTO ATHENS

ATHENS, Ohio – BLAST!, winner of the 2001 Tony Award for “Best Special Theatrical Event” and the 2001 Emmy Award for “Best Choreography,” is coming to Athens on October 27. BLAST! is composed of 35 brass, percussion and visual performers brought together in a unique explosion of music and theatre. Born on athletic fields across the nation, BLAST! is a novel art form evolved from the showmanship of outdoor pageantry.

The physical and musical demands of the production require that the performers be highly trained athletes who are also world-class musicians. Months of intense training prepare the cast. Rehearsing through heat, cold, dust and rain, they produce a thrilling performance where athleticism, musical skill, kaleidoscopic movement, and dynamic showmanship merge into an art form. It is this fusion of talent that makes BLAST! such an extraordinary experience.

According to Bruce McCabe of the Boston Globe, “BLAST! is an exuberant 15-number show that doesn't falter while bridging the categories of classical, blues, jazz, rock-n-roll, and techno-pop music. BLAST! stands, blows, pounds, marches, and whirls with panache. It sent a full house into repeated bursts of cheering and applause.”

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Inspired by marching bands and drum corps, this quick-paced show celebrates the jazz, techno, blues, classical and world beats. Perfectly executed music is performed as members march in high-speed, intricately choreographed drill routines. The visual excitement is further advanced by members performing synchronized drills using riffles, sabers and flags twirled and tossed in unison.

Tickets for this performance may be purchased at the Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium ticket office, open from noon to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and one hour before the performance. For tickets or information, please call 740.593.1780. This performance is sponsored by the Ohio University Performing Arts Series, Ameriprise Financial, University Program Council, Black Student Cultural Programming Board and Hocking Valley Bank, lifetime supporter.

For more information, please visit the CMajor Marketing Web site at www.cmajormarketing.com. This Web site is intended for internal use only. Print media may gain access to just the photographs via user code: brass, password: drum.