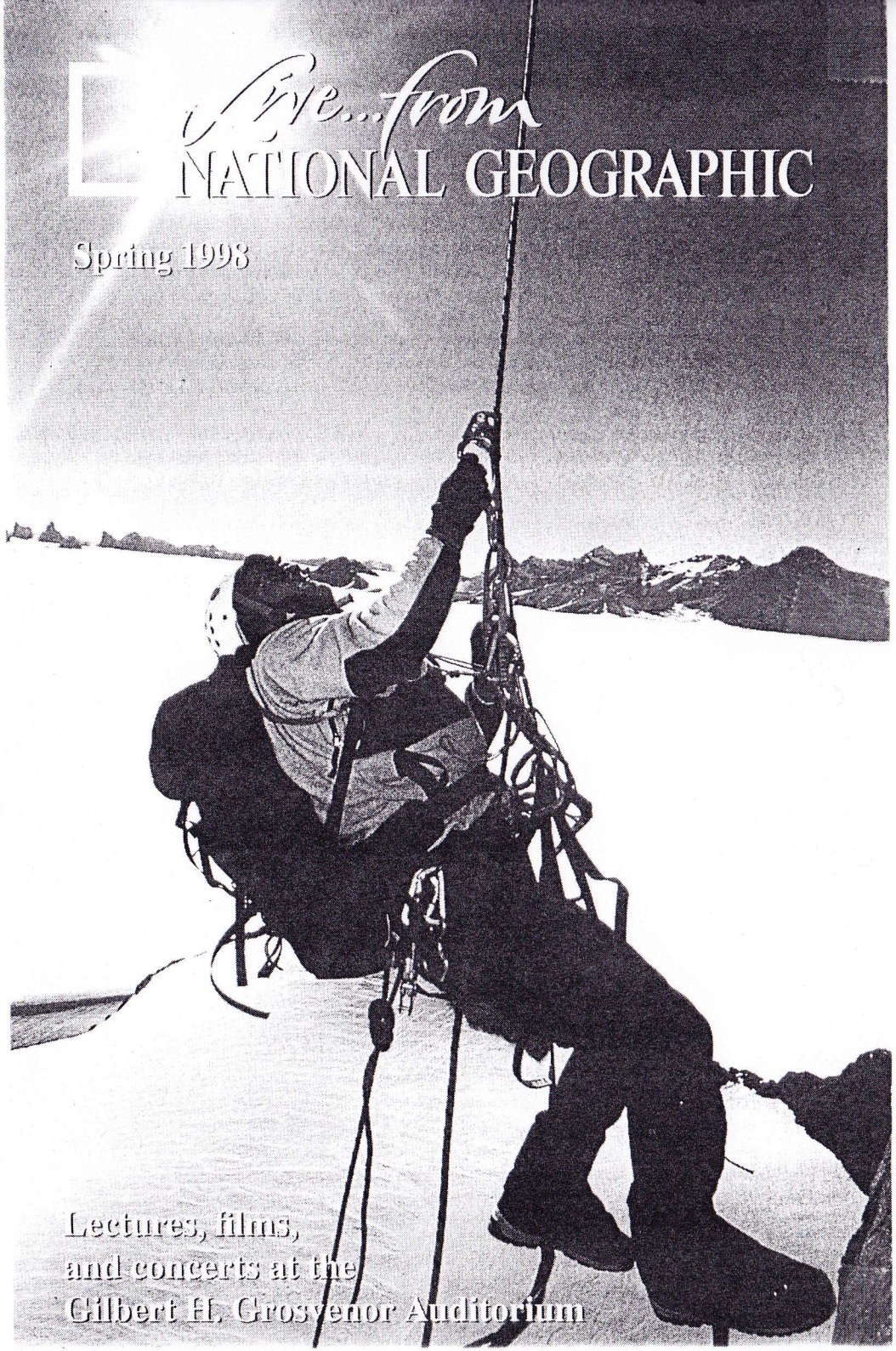


Music from Cape Breton

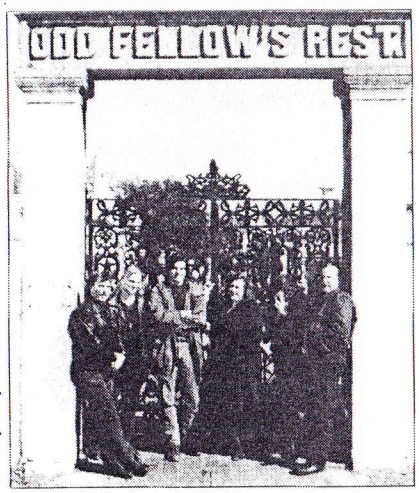
FRIDAY, MAY 8 AT 5:30 AND 8 P.M.
MEMBERS: $12 & $15;
NONMEMBERS: $15 & $18

Kuch. Photo 67

The future of traditional music from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia is alive and well thanks to the magical hands of the brilliant young step-dancing fiddle player **Natalie MacMaster.**

In performances around the world, MacMaster has displayed an energy and spirit that leaves both audiences and critics spellbound. "Natalie MacMaster embodies all the joy and vivacity that is Cape Breton music," one reviewer rhapsodized. "Her infectious grin as she updates ancient Scots dance tunes on the fiddle tells the whole story. It's not just music, it's a vocation, a calling, a real way of life." As an ambassador for a new generation of musicians, MacMaster has been lauded for taking traditional music into new territory, blending old and new with bluegrass, folk, and ragtime. Don't miss this chance to savor an exciting approach to traditional music from Canada.

FRIDAY, MAY 1 AT 8 P.M.
MEMBERS: $15; NONMEMBERS: $18



Courtesy Betsy McGovern

In 1993 a group of musicians drawn from the regulars at O'Flaherty's Irish Pub in the French Quarter of New Orleans created a sensation when they debuted at the city's world-famous Jazz Fest. Since then, **The Poor Clares** have risen rapidly in the world of Celtic music, both here and abroad. Their latest album, *Change of Habit,* reached the top ten on world music charts at radio stations around the country within a month of its release, and the respected music magazine *Dirty Linen* calls them "one of the best Irish groups in America."

One critic described lead singer **Betsy McGovern** as having "such angelic vocal chords, she could move mountains." Brilliant instrumentalists—bouzouki and bass player **Beth Waggoner Patterson** and flute and whistle player **Justin Murphy**—provide powerful backing for the songs and drive the group's sizzling dance sets. **Patrick O'Flaherty** plays a variety of instruments and even writes original songs in the ancient Irish language.

Don't miss a splendid evening of Irish and Irish-American music from this group of rising stars.

To hear a sound bite of this season's musical groups, visit our website at www.nationalgeographic.com/society/ngo/lectures