



T H E
SHELDON
Arts Without Borders

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LEO KOTTKE RETURNS TO THE SHELDON WITH TRADEMARK TALES OF THE ROAD

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon presents **Leo Kottke**, Thursday, December 8 at 8 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of The Sheldon. Two-time Grammy nominee and legendary singer/songwriter Leo Kottke returns The Sheldon with his acoustic guitar and trademark tales of life on the road.

Born in Athens, Georgia and raised in 12 different states, Kottke absorbed a variety of musical influences as a child, flirting with both violin and trombone, before abandoning Stravinsky for the guitar at age 11.

With a love for everything from the country-blues of Mississippi John Hurt to the music of John Phillip Sousa and Preston Epps, young guitarist Leo Kottke joined the Navy. Discharged in 1964, he settled in the Twin Cities area and became a fixture at Minneapolis' Scholar Coffeehouse, which had been home to Bob Dylan and John Koerner. He then issued his 1968 recording debut LP *Twelve String Blues*.

Kottke's 1971 major-label debut, *Mudlark*, positioned him somewhat uneasily in the singer/songwriter vein, despite his own wishes to remain an instrumental performer. Kottke flourished during his tenure on Capitol, as records like 1972's *Greenhouse* and 1973's live *My Feet Are Smiling* and *Ice Water* found him branching out with guest musicians and honing his guitar technique. A consummate touring musician, Kottke went on to tour internationally for the next 30 years, continuing to collaborate with artists along the way including Phish bassist Mike Gordon and singer/songwriter Keller Williams.

Tickets are \$51 orchestra 1 / \$41 orchestra 2 / \$36 balcony, and on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111 and through The Sheldon's website at TheSheldon.org. For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit TheSheldon.org.

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