FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Andalusian Music Touring Concert Series”

Chicago, IL -- July 20, 2004 -- Xauen Music, Inc. of Chicago is proud to present the nationwide Andalusian concert tour in conjunction with Genesis at the Crossroads.

Two major Middle Eastern music ensembles, the Chicago Classical Oriental Ensemble, led by Hicham Chami, and the Anda-El, East-West Orchestra will merge for a U.S. tour, under the artistic direction of Dr. Avi Eilam-Amzallag. The 20-member combined orchestra will be joined by two celebrated and internationally-acclaimed vocalists: Munshid Abdelfattah Bennis and Cantor Lior El Malich.

The Classical Oriental Ensemble of Chicago consists of professional musicians from eight different countries (the U.S., Morocco, Egypt, India, Israel, Palestine, Syria, and France). The ensemble performs North African, Middle Eastern, Turkish, and Armenian music, and focuses on instrumental pieces. The Anda-El, East-West Orchestra is an unequaled phenomenon in the field of classical music in the world. The orchestra’s unique repertoire fuses the ancient heritage of authentic Andalusian music with contemporary instruments played by musicians trained in Western classical music.

Based in Chicago, Illinois, Xauen Music, Inc. is dedicated to preserving the heritage of classical Oriental music from the Arabic, Turkish, Armenian, and Sephardic traditions through sponsoring musical performances, producing scores and recordings, publishing a magazine, and organizing educational workshops and intercultural exchange throughout the U.S.

Genesis at the Crossroads is a Chicago-based non-profit organization dedicated to cultural diversity and collaborative artistic expression. Genesis founder Dr. Wendy Sternberg of Chicago envisions the concerts as a unique cultural experience that will promote understanding through the arts.

Other cooperating organizations are the City of Chicago; Middle East Institute; Cultural Events, Consulate General of Israel; Sultana Music; Eretz-Siamak Cultural Center; and the Center for Jewish Culture & Creativity.
Concert venues are:

**Sunday, August 29, 4:00 p.m.**
“From the Middle-East to the Midwest”
Block 37 (State St. at Randolph St.), **Chicago, IL**

**Monday, August 30, 8:00 p.m.**
People’s Congregational United Church of Christ
4704 13th St. NW, **Washington, D.C.**

**Tuesday, August 31, 8:00 p.m.**
Peter Norton Symphony Space
2537 Broadway at 95th St., **New York, NY**

**Thursday, September 2, 8:00 p.m.**
Eretz-Siamak Cultural Center
6170 Wilbur Ave., **Tarzana, CA (L.A area)**

For information on the Andalusian concert series, please contact the CCOE at 312-927-2746 or Xauen Music at 847-830-8277.

Xauen’s toll-free number is 1-888-MY-XAUEN (1-888-699-2836)

Additional information and tickets are available at www.xauen-music.com.