

# Word and Violin

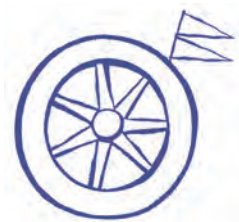
– a program weaving together poetry and music



Performing for the first time in Lund: Srilankan poet **Pireni Sundaralingam** and Irish violinist **Colm O'Riain**, both now living in San Fransisco, explore the rich interconnections between a host of lyric traditions, including Irish ballad, Indian ragas, Bayou blues and gypsy jazz.

Their compositions for spoken word and violin have been featured on numerous TV and radio shows around the world, and they have performed live in theatres and festivals in Europe and America. In 2005 broadcast by Swedish National Radio, Channel 2.

Organised by



SASNET

Swedish South Asian  
Studies Network,  
Lund University

**Wednesday 27 September 2006, 19.00**

**Venue: Auditorium (Hörsalen) at Lund University's  
Centre for Languages and Literature (SOL-Centrum),  
Helgonabacken 14, Lund**

**Free entrance**

# word |&| VIOLIN

Sri Lankan poet Pireeni Sundaralingam and Irish composer/violinist Colm O'Riain weave together music and word in a series of duets exploring the nature of exile and immigration.

A PEN USA Rosenthal Fellow, **Pireeni** was recently named as one of "America's Emerging Writers" by the literary journal Ploughshares. Her poetry has been widely published in journals and anthologies in both Europe and America and is due to be featured in the International Museum of Women later this year. **Colm O'Riain**, a former leader of the National Youth Orchestra of Ireland, is a violinist and composer. He has written music for film, theatre and various musical ensembles in Ireland and the USA.

Together, Pireeni and Colm have performed together in festivals and venues across the USA and Europe and have just launched their new CD, "Bridge Across the Blue". Winner of the Potrero Nuevo Fund Prize, the album interweaves music and poetry from a host of ethnic communities to tell the immigration stories of America, with influences ranging from Gypsy jazz to flamenco and Indian raag. Described as "*a fascinating, at times unspeakably beautiful*" recording by Bob Callahan (founder of the Before Columbus Foundation) and "*a triumph of transformative collaboration and a blueprint for cultural sanity*" by Tea Party Magazine, the album has been broadcast on radio stations across the United States, Sweden, Ireland and UK. It was recently chosen as one of the ten best recordings of poetry and music by the editors of About.Com.

More information about Pireeni Sundaralingam and Colm O'Riain to be found at <http://www.wordandviolin.com>