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Junior Kelly and Everton Blender Headline Roots Showcase at Avalon Ballroom

San Francisco, CA (November 7, 2003) -- Bay Area Reggae fans are in for a big treat when Junior Kelly and Everton Blender grace the Avalon Ballroom's stage on Thursday, **November 13, 2003**.

Junior Kelly, whose hit "Love So Nice" was the longest tracking #1 tune in 2000, will bring his vibrant energy and conscious lyrics to San Francisco, California. Concert-goers can expect a lively performance with an abundance of uplifting songs about social struggle, economic empowerment, and women as creators of life. Kelly is currently promoting his CD "Smile" on the VP label.

Blending dancehall with roots reggae, **Everton Blender** has had an impressive number of hit songs for his twelve year career. Tunes like "Lift Up Your Head," "Ghetto People Song," "Blend Dem," and "Family Man," are instantly recognized as cultural anthems of our time. "King Man" is Blender's latest release on Heartbeat Records, and one of his best albums to date. He has performed on stage shows throughout the world.

Special Guests

Wadi Gad, legendary reggae percussionist and vocalist, who hails from Jamaica will perform tunes from his most recent CD, "Psalms: the Early Years."

Sila (Kenya, East Africa) who is working on his second release to follow-up "Waiting," has been compared to the singer Maxwell but with more energetic rhythms. The amazing all-female **Royal Fyah Family Sound System** will keep things lively before and between sets.

Tickets for the show can be purchased at Reggae Runnins in San Francisco, Ellestons Intriguing World of Reggae in San Francisco, Arts Jamaican Market in Oakland, as well as the Avalon Box Office, and Ticketmaster. For more info, please call 415-847-4043, Wadi at 510-638-7281, Hi-Lite at 415-272-1266. Doors open at 8 pm; show at 9 pm.

The Avalon Ballroom is located at 1268 Sutter Street (at Van Ness) in San Francisco. The historic venue that housed such big acts as The Grateful Dead and Janis Joplin was recently remodeled in the beaux art style and boasts twenty-four foot ceilings along with a generous L-shaped balcony that overlooks the main room.

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