

Mercury - 4/9/93

## Guitars for Peace

By Billy Suter

**F**OLLOWING the success of last year's Guitars for Africa Festival in Durban, another star-studded extravaganza is planned for the Natal Playhouse for 6pm and 9pm on October 9.

And, as was the case last year, as a run-up to the festival, a free "guitarathon" will be held with the intention of attracting thousands of guitar fans to Durban's Central Park, alongside the Workshop, from noon to 5pm on Sunday, September 26.

This year's festival will be titled Guitars for Peace and will spotlight an impressive line-up of internationally renowned South African guitarists, among them Tessa Ziegler, George Mathiba, Edi Neiderlander, David Hewitt, Tony Cox, Steve Newman, Johan Rautenbach, Sandile Shange and Mike de Jager.

Others lined up to perform include Maghude Khomo, Plagal Cadence, Demi Fernandez, Siphon Mchunu, Nux Swartz, Ken E Henson, Syd Kitchen and Steve Fataar.

Referring to the Guitarathon, spokesman Dave Marks said: "We aim to get everybody in the park to play one big, massive tune . . . big enough to strike a universal chord for peace and freedom.

"We know there are thousands of guitar owners and players in Durban, so we can do it!"

People are to be encouraged to make a picnic out of the occasion and take along anything with strings attached.

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# Huge guitar concert plan

### TONIGHT Reporter

**TAKE** your guitar to Durban's Central Park on Sunday, September 26 for a marathon Guitars For Peace concert.

A five-hour "guitarathon" in which anyone who can play a guitar or "anything with strings attached" can take part, is being organised by veteran musician Dave Marks.

"The aim is to get a few thousand guitarists into Central Park to play one massive tune — big enough to strike a universal chord for peace and freedom," says Marks.

The singer and songwriter, who has long been one of the prime promoters of local music in South Africa through his company 3rd Ear Music, says the marathon guitar concert will be a festive event, running from noon to 5 pm.

Besides the "guitarathon", entertainment will be provided by many of the musicians taking part in the annual *Guitars For Africa*

### Central Park is the venue

concerts to be held in the Playhouse on October 9.

The concerts — at 6 and 9 pm — will feature an impressive line-up of guitarists from throughout South Africa.

Among those taking part are Tessa Ziegler, Edi Niederlander, David Hewitt, Steve Newman, Tony Cox, Ken E Henson, Syd Kitchen, Steve Fataar, George Mathiba, Sandile Shange, Johan Rautenbach, Demi Fernandez, Nux Schwartz, Siphon Mchunu, the group Plagal Cadence, and Maghude Khomo, winner of the recent maskanda festival held at Natal University.

*Guitars For Africa* forms part of the Durban International Music Festival, organised by Napac, from September 26 to October 10.