

For Immediate Release

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**Putumayo Presents**  
**American Blues**  
*Celebrating the soul and spirit of contemporary blues*

NEWYORK, NY – Congress has designated 2003 as the Year of the Blues and both PBS and Public Radio are producing series' that will bring a much greater profile to the blues this fall. With ***American Blues***, which will be released on **August 26, 2003**, Putumayo continues its successful series of blues and blues-influenced albums that began in 1999 with *Mali to Memphis: An African-American Odyssey*. *American Blues* is a collection of some of our favorite blues tracks by legends and rising stars that are helping to keep the blues alive and thriving. Many of these artists are featured in the PBS and Public Radio series.

*American Blues* features songs from Grammy-winning albums by **Solomon Burke, Susan Tedeschi, Keb' Mo' and Robert Cray**. It also features tracks by living legends like **Ruth Brown, Otis Rush, B.B. King, Taj Mahal, Albert Collins, Henry Gray, Sugar Pie Desanto and Raful Neal** alongside youngbloods such as **Chris Thomas King, Eric Bibb and Sunpie Barnes**.

These artists have remained true to the roots of the blues, be those the acoustic guitar sounds of the Mississippi Delta, the urban electric drive of Chicago or the swamp boogie of Louisiana. While they may have developed their own unique voices and approaches, they have made it their mission to respect the fundamental sound, structure and soul of the blues. At the same time, they have succeeded in keeping the blues a vital force in today's musical landscape.

*American Blues* is being released in conjunction with the celebration of Putumayo World Music's 10-year anniversary as one of the premier world and roots music record labels. In 1993, Putumayo World Music released its first CD and pioneered an approach to presentation and distribution that brought world and roots music to millions of people in the U.S. and around the globe. Putumayo World Music is now a respected brand that people trust for attractive packaging, informative liner notes, and tasteful song selection.