

FORT ROSS



200 YEARS • 1812-2012

THE MONTH OF MARCH

Gualala Arts presents **William Heick, Jr.**'s photography exhibit in the Foyer. Heick's photography series, *Kashaya Portraits*, is part of the ongoing commemoration of the 200th anniversary of Fort Ross. The *Kashaya* were the first people known to have lived in the area that is now Fort Ross State Historic Park.



The Russians are coming! The Russians are coming! ... to the Gualala Arts Center

WEDNESDAY MARCH 7, 2012, 6:00 P.M.



Gualala Arts will host 'Dinner at Six' with special Russian fare to highlight the Russian presence on the Sonoma Coast. Presentations by Fort Ross staff and members of the Kashaya and Russian Community to highlight various aspects of Fort Ross Sonoma Historic Park. Contact Ben Klagenberg 785-3530 to get involved and attend the dinner.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2012, 7:00 P.M.

FORT ROSS 2012 BICENTENNIAL

WITH ROBIN JOY

Fort Ross In 1812, on a stretch of the Pacific Ocean eighty miles north of San Francisco, Russian explorers established Colony Ross, Russia's deepest vanguard into North America. Colony Ross was settled to establish trade relations with the Spanish in California, produce food to support the Russian settlements in Alaska, as well as to expand the valuable sea otter trade.

Although the Russian American Company stayed for just three decades, their contributions to early California society were vast - they built California's first ships and windmills, introduced glass-paneled windows, created the first brickyard, catalogued the local flora and fauna, completed detailed maps and were, by today's standards, among California's earliest entrepreneurs. Fort Ross is an excellent example of the best of California and what it has to offer the world: a



rich history, diverse cultural legacy, beautiful nature and dedicated people.

Robin Joy, Park Interpretive Specialist and Bicentennial Chair of Fort Ross State Historic Park, will discuss the events and programs of 2012 as well as present basic history of Fort Ross and Russian American history of the Sonoma coast.

For more information, visit **GualalaArts.org**.

**\$5
Admission**