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Evening Will Explore California Country Music via Film & Live Performance

Sacramento, CA – October 1, 2012: On Thursday, October 18th, the Center for Sacramento History (CSH), in association with the Crocker Art Museum (CAM), will present a live cinema presentation of [Jesse](#) and [Glenda](#) Drew's latest film project *Open Country*, with musical interpretations of California country performed live by local Honky-tonk favorites, The Alkali Flats. The event will be held at the Crocker (216 O Street, Sacramento) and begins at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$6.00 (CAM Members), \$10.00 (College students/youth 17 & under), and \$12.00, and can be purchased in advance via www.crockerartmuseum.org or at the door. Limited seating is available!

Open Country is a challenging and provocative look at American Country music, from its down-home origins in the rural, working poor populations of the southern United States, to its present sequin-studded Madison Square Garden extravaganzas. *Open Country* examines the social, political and historical roots of Country music through the unearthing of archival films, the eyes and ears of the fans, conversations with Country music folklorists and historians, the music of current hitmakers and the new generation of alt-country performers.

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The Drew's are artists and professors at the University of California, Davis, where Jesse directs the [Technocultural Studies](#) program. Their in-progress documentary *Open Country* examines the social, political, and historical roots of country-western music through archival footage; conversations with folklorists, historians, and fans; and the music itself. The Drew's will share excerpts of their film and discuss their research, while their presentation is musically illustrated through lively performances by The Alkali Flats.

The [Alkali Flats](#) hail from the Central Valley of California and play traditional high-powered Hillbilly and Honky-tonk music. The Alkali Flats have a pure and old-time authentic approach to their songs.

The evening, part of CSH's Speakers Series, is presented in partnership with the Crocker Art Museum and the [Thursdays 'til 9](#) program.

The Center for Sacramento History's mission is to foster, stimulate, and promote the study and appreciation of Sacramento's regional history. Since 1953, it has served the community by acquiring, preserving, exhibiting, and providing access to the documentary and material culture of the region. The Center is administered by the City of Sacramento and is jointly funded by the City and County of Sacramento.

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