

For Immediate Release

10th Anniversary / 10th Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival

Dates: May 30 through June 8, 2008

Ticket Sales: 707-433-4644 or on the web at www.healdsburgjazzfestival.org

Founder and Artistic Director: Jessica Felix

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Requests for interviews, photos, press materials, etc., please contact Jessica Felix.

Media kit online at www.healdsburgjazzfestival.org/weblog/media - includes press releases, photos, web banner, and more.

Musicians include Fred Hersch, Cedar Walton, Eddie Palmieri, Bobby Hutcherson, Charles Lloyd, Zakir Hussain, Kenny Barron, Charlie Haden, Bennie Maupin, James Newton, Kurt Elling, Joshua Redman, Jason Moran, Renee Rosnes, Julian Lage, Don Byron, George Cables, Ray Drummond, Victor Lewis, Billy Hart, Mary Stallings, Bobby Watson, Craig Handy, Bennie Maupin, Marc Cary, John Heard, Sarah Wilson with Myra Melford, Matt Wilson, Ben Goldberg, and many more. Ticketed concerts range in price from \$5 to \$75; some concerts are free. Venues include wineries, ballparks, theaters, cafés, hotel lobbies, restaurants and the town square.

Other programs include an evening of archival jazz films, a Sunday morning performance of spirituals, a day of Latin Jazz on the lawn, and two special concerts that will educate and involve the children of the community. Highlights include the "All Star Alumni Band" on the last day of the festival, featuring players from the last decade of the festival.

10th Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival

May 30 - June 8 - Ten Days Celebrating the Tenth Anniversary

Healdsburg, California -- The 10th Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival, California's hippest jazz event, celebrates the conclusion of its first decade with its most ambitious programming yet, offering ten days of extraordinary music from May 30 through June 8.

The festival transforms the lovely town in the heart of Sonoma's Wine Country into a Mecca for jazz's elite artists every spring, an idyllic experience that draws many Healdsburg alumni back for our milestone season. This year's festival features a stellar array of talent representing jazz's international reach, ranging from post-bop masters Bobby Hutcherson, Kenny Barron, and Charlie Haden to Indian tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain and Latin jazz greats, including nine-time Grammy winner Eddie Palmieri, Pete Escovedo, and John Santos.

Since long-time jazz presenter Jessica Felix launched the event in 1999, the Healdsburg Jazz Festival has defied economic downturns and music industry hard times by focusing exclusively on musical talent rather than glitz. This season is the most ambitious yet. "Every year we try to make the jazz festival better, but this will definitely be our biggest and best yet," says Felix, the Festival's founder and artistic director.

The festival opens on Friday, May 30, with pianist Fred Hersch's Trio and special guest vocalist Kurt Elling playing at the beautiful Jackson Theater, located a few minutes south of Healdsburg. It's an ideal pairing as Hersch is a supremely elegant improviser who has accompanied many of jazz's finest vocalists, and Elling is jazz's most acclaimed male singer under 45.

The Jackson Theater hosts the following evening's performance Saturday, May 31 when tenor sax titan Charles Lloyd headlines a double bill, pairing his new Quartet featuring pianist Jason Moran, bassist Reuben Rogers, and drummer Eric Harland, and his dazzling Indo-jazz trio Sangam with Harland and Zakir Hussain. A jazz sage at the peak of his expressive power, Lloyd is celebrating his 70th birthday by forging ties with some of jazz's most exciting young players, such as 28-year-old drum wizard Harland, and 33-year-old Moran, a Blue Note recording artist who's released half a dozen celebrated albums under his own name.

The festival moves outdoors to Healdsburg's Rec Park on Sunday, June 1 for "Latin Jazz on the Green", a double bill featuring the powerhouse sextet of Eddie Palmieri, the hugely influential pianist, composer, and bandleader known as "The Sun of Latin Music," and the Pete Escovedo Ensemble with special guest percussionist John Santos. Salsa lessons will be offered.

Sunday evening, film historian and archivist Mark Cantor, who possesses one of the world's largest and most comprehensive collections of jazz on film, presents a specially selected program from vaults at the Raven Film Center.

Clarinetist and tenor saxophonist Don Byron presents an introduction to jazz for children and families with an afternoon and evening performance of his popular "Bug Music for Juniors" on Monday, June 2, at the Raven Theater. "Bug Music" is aimed at children 7 and over - and at the kid in all of us. This fun-filled and fascinating program unites live jazz, classic cartoons, and historic film footage in a one-of-a-kind exploration of the Swing Era.

Recently produced on Broadway, the program features tunes by Duke Ellington, Raymond Scott, and John Kirby paired with timeless toons from the 1940's heyday of Warner Bros. Bryon's "Bug Music" sextet showcases some of jazz's finest players, including trumpeter Ron Miles, saxophonist Robert DeBellis, pianist George Colligan, bassist Mark Helias, and drummer Billy Hart, a thrilling musician who appears in several settings throughout the festival.

On Monday afternoon and evening, the festival takes over downtown Healdsburg with Bop 'n' Shop from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.; stores around the Healdsburg Plaza festoon their windows with jazz theme decorations and six jazz combos perform around the square, as Bop 'n' Shop turns the town into an ideal setting for browsing, buying, and grooving. Jazz and Wine Dinner at the Dry Creek Kitchen with Lee Charlton Trio starts at 7:00 p.m.

Trombonist Wayne Wallace's exhilarating Latin Jazz Ensemble performs a free concert on the plaza on Tuesday, June 3 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., followed by another ace trombonist, Angela Wellman, who brings her quintet featuring her sister, vocalist Laura Wellman, to the Palette Art Café from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m.

The Raven Theater hosts "The Healdsburg High School Jazz Band - Past and Present," a celebration of a local institution on Wednesday, June 4, featuring three combos: the current Healdsburg High School Jazz

Band, an alumni band, and a performance by HHS band graduate Sarah Wilson, who presents an all-star ensemble with pianist Myra Melford, clarinetist Ben Goldberg, drummer Matt Wilson, and bassist/guitarist Jerome Harris.

Wednesday's Palette Art Café concert features veteran vibraphonist Herb Gibson with his Quartet from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Dynamic New York pianist Marc Cary presents his freewheeling Focus Trio at Barndiva on Thursday, June 5, featuring bassist David Ewell and drummer Sameer Gupta.

In a Healdsburg coup, flute master James Newton and Bennie Maupin, the pioneering bass clarinetist best known for his work with Miles Davis ("Bitches Brew" "Jack Johnson"), present the world premiere of their new Dolphyana project on Friday, June 6, at the Raven Theater. The group is dedicated to exploring the music of legendary Eric Dolphy, including newly discovered pieces he left entrusted with friends before his death in 1964.

Dinner jazz at the Palette Art Café from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. features pianist Steve Moon and bassist Damon Lee's duo.

Bassist John Heard, who has played and recorded with dozens of jazz greats, performs with his hard-swinging trio featuring bassist Danny Grissett and drummer Lorca Hart, and special guests at Hotel Healdsburg Lobby, from 9:00 p.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday, June 6 and 7.

A multi-generational double bill at the Raven Theater on Saturday, June 7, features bass innovator Charlie Haden, piano great Kenny Barron, drum master Billy Hart, and tenor sax star Joshua Redman as a special guest. In his ninth consecutive festival appearance, the 20-year-old guitar phenomenon Julian Lage opens the evening with his Trio featuring Hart and veteran bassist Ray Drummond.

For an afternoon repast, there is wine and food at La Crema Winery 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. with music by guitarist Christian Foley-Beining and saxophonist Gary Johnson.

On Sunday morning, June 8, the sanctified side of jazz steps to the foreground with "Come Sunday", a program of spiritual and sacred jazz compositions conducted by flutist James Newton featuring charismatic vocalist Ruth Naomi Floyd, piano great George Cables, and numerous other festival musicians.

The Rodney Strong Vineyards hosts a mini-festival within a festival on Sunday afternoon for the 10th season's big send off, featuring pianist/composer Cedar Walton's dazzling Trio with David Williams and Lewis Nash, vibraphonist Bobby Hutcherson's brilliant Quartet with Renee Rosnes, Ray Drummond, and Victor Lewis, and a grand finale by the All Star Alumni Band with altoist Bobby Watson, tenor saxophonist Craig Handy, vocalist Mary Stallings, and many other master musicians from earlier festival performances. It is an ideal conclusion to the festival's first decade and a taste of what to expect for the second.

10th Anniversary Celebration
2008 Healdsburg Jazz Festival Schedule
May 30 - June 8

Opening Night!

Friday, May 30

Fred Hersch Trio

With John Hebert and Nasheet Waits
and special guest Kurt Elling

Location: Jackson Theater at Sonoma Country Day School, 4400 Day School Place, Santa Rosa (off Airport Blvd.)

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$30 General Seating; \$50 Gold Circle; \$100 Gold Circle with Artist Reception

Saturday, May 31

An Evening with Charles Lloyd in Quartet and Trio Forms:

Charles Lloyd Quartet with Jason Moran, Reuben Rogers, and Eric Harland

Charles Lloyd's Sangam Trio with Zakir Hussain and Eric Harland

Location: Jackson Theater at Sonoma Country Day School, 4400 Day School Place, Santa Rosa (off Airport Blvd.)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$45 General Seating; \$70 Gold Circle

Latin Jazz On The Green

Sunday, June 1

Eddie Palmieri Latin Jazz Sextet

with Brian Lynch, Conrad Herwig, Jose Claussell, "Little Johnny" Rivero, and Luques Curtis

Pete Escovedo Ensemble

with Roger Glenn, Murray Low, Curtis Ohlson, and Paul Van Wageningen
and special guest John Santos

plus Salsa Lessons with Antonio and Irene of Santa Rosa Salsa

Location: Recreation Park in Healdsburg - located at Piper and University Streets

Time: 1:00 p.m. (gates open at noon)

Tickets: \$25 General Admission; \$15 Students (with ID) and Seniors (over 65); Children 10 and under free.

Sunday, June 1

Jazz Night at the Movies with Mark Cantor

Location: Raven Film Center, 415 Center Street, Healdsburg

Tickets: \$10

Monday, June 2

"Bug Music for Juniors"

A Concert for Families with Don Byron Sextet

with Ron Miles, Robert DeBellis, George Colligan, Mark Helias, and Billy Hart
Location: Raven Theater, 115 North Street, Healdsburg
Time: Two shows 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$5 for Students 17 and under; \$10 for Adults with a child; \$25 for Adults not accompanied by a child

Monday, June 2

Bop 'n' Shop

Location: Healdsburg Plaza, Downtown Healdsburg
Time: 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Free Event

Monday, June 2

Jazz & Wine Dinner at the Dry Creek Kitchen

Lee Charlton Trio

with Greg Hester and Steve Webber
Location: Dry Creek Kitchen, 317 Healdsburg Ave., Healdsburg
Time: 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Tickets: No Cover

Tuesday, June 3

Wayne Wallace Latin Jazz Ensemble

with David Belove, Murray Low, Michael Spiro, Paul Van Wageningen, and special guest Melecio Magdaluyo

Pre-concert performance by Tacuma King and the Children's Percussion Workshop

Location: Healdsburg Plaza, Downtown Healdsburg
Time: 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Free Event

Tuesday, June 3

Angela Wellman Quintet featuring Lori Wellman

Location: Palette Art Café, 235 Healdsburg Ave., Healdsburg
Time: 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Tickets: No Cover

Wednesday, June 4

Healdsburg High School Jazz Band – Past and Present

with Sarah Wilson's Trapeze Project with Myra Melford, Ben Goldberg, and Matt Wilson
Location: Raven Theater, 115 North Street, Healdsburg
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$10 Adults; \$5 Students (with ID)

Wednesday, June 4

Herb Gibson Quartet

Location: Palette Art Café, 235 Healdsburg Ave., Healdsburg
Time: 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Tickets: No Cover

Thursday, June 5

Marc Cary's Focus Trio

with David Ewell and Sameer Gupta

Location: Barndiva, 231 Center Street, Healdsburg

Time: Two shows 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$26 (includes one drink)

Friday, June 6

Dinner Jazz with the Steve Moon and Damon Lee Duo

Location: Palette Art Café, 235 Healdsburg Ave., Healdsburg

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: No Cover

Friday, June 6

The Music of Eric Dolphy

Featuring Bennie Maupin, James Newton, Jay Hoggard, Billy Hart, and Darek "Oles" Oleszkiewicz

Location: Raven Theater, 115 North Street, Healdsburg

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$25 General Seating; \$45 Gold Circle

Friday, June 6 & Saturday, June 7

John Heard Trio

with Danny Grissett and Lorca Hart plus other guests

Location: Hotel Healdsburg

Time: 9:00 p.m. to Midnight

Tickets: No Cover

Saturday, June 7

Christian Foley-Beining and Gary Johnson Duo

Location: La Crema Winery Tasting Room, 235 Healdsburg Ave., Healdsburg

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Free Event

Saturday, June 7

"A Night In The Country"

Solo, Duos, Trios, and More

Charlie Haden and Kenny Barron

with special guests Joshua Redman and Ruth Cameron

Julian Lage Trio

with Ray Drummond and Billy Hart

Location: Raven Theater, 115 North Street, Healdsburg

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$50 General Seating; \$75 Gold Circle

Sunday, June 8

"Come Sunday" Spirituals and Sacred Jazz Compositions

Music Director James Newton with George Cables and Ruth Naomi Floyd

Location: Raven Theater, 115 North Street, Healdsburg

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$25

Expect many Festival musicians to sit in on this special event!

Festival Grand Finale

Sunday, June 8

Cedar Walton Trio

with David Williams and Lewis Nash

Bobby Hutcherson Quartet

with Renee Rosnes, Ray Drummond, and Victor Lewis

Festival Grand Finale All-Star Alumni Band

with Bobby Watson, Craig Handy, Mary Stallings and many Festival Favorites!

Location: Rodney Strong Vineyards, 11455 Old Redwood Highway, Healdsburg

Time: 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$45 General Seating; Children 10 and under free

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