TWO-DAY TRIBUTE TO LIVING LEGEND
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• SYLVIA CUENCA TRIO
• WILL BERNARD QUARTET
• JOHN HEARD TRIO
• DIXIELAND AT THE BAKERY
• ROGER GLENN LATIN JAZZ

CELEBRATING OUR 15th ANNIVERSARY!

MAY 31 THRU JUNE 9

HEALDSBURGJAZZ.ORG
Marcus Shelby gets a gigantic sound out of his stand-up bass, and his ambitions are just as big. The San Francisco musician has recorded several major jazz suites, each centered on an important figure or event in African American history. His latest, *Soul of the Movement: Meditations On Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*, features a 17-piece jazz orchestra plus the magnificent singing voice of Faye Carol.

Now, thanks to the Healdsburg Jazz Festival and a grant from the James Irvine Foundation, *Soul of the Movement* is about to get bigger. Shelby's opus is the vehicle for the grant, which calls for the creation of a choir whose singers will come from the diverse communities of Sonoma County. The purpose of the Healdsburg Jazz Festival Freedom Jazz Choir is to engage the public in the arts using music as a unifying force. For this reason, the Choir was made open to everyone, no experience necessary, just a willingness to sing Shelby's charts.

Shelby was expecting about 40 people to show up for the first rehearsal of the choir. Instead he got nearly 150. The singers, under the tutelage of Shelby and Adam Ivey, director of Santa Rosa’s Joyous Noise Ensemble, will sing a variety of songs backed by the orchestra. The dynamic Ms. Carol will be lead vocalist. The Orchestra and Choir will perform three concerts, two in May in Santa Rosa and one during the Healdsburg Jazz Festival. The shows will feature original compositions from *Soul of the Movement*, plus spirituals and freedom songs that Shelby has arranged for the chorus.

Shelby's previous epic was the jazz oratorio *Harriet Tubman, Bound for the Promised Land*, based on the life of the escaped slave and freedom fighter. The James Irvine Grant covers two years, so the Tubman Production will be the focus of next's year choir and performances.
FRIDAY 5/31
Frisco Jazz Band
New Horizon Stompers
COSTEAUX BAKERY & CAFÉ
417 Healdsburg Avenue
7:30PM | $25

John Heard Quartet
HEALDSBURG SHED
25 North Street
8PM | $25

SATURDAY 6/1
Matt Wilson Workshop
SONOMA COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL
4400 Day School Place, Santa Rosa
2-4PM | $20

Tribute to Charlie Haden: Day 1
JACKSON THEATER
4400 Day School Place, Santa Rosa
7PM | $75 | $55 | $45

SUNDAY 6/2
Tribute to Charlie Haden: Day 2
JACKSON THEATER
4400 Day School Place, Santa Rosa
7PM | $75 | $55 | $45

MONDAY 6/3
Terry Henry Trio
DRI CREEK KITCHEN
317 Healdsburg Avenue
7-10PM | Reservation Recommended

TUESDAY 6/4
Roger Glenn Latin Jazz Ensemble
HEALDSBURG PLAZA
6-8PM | Free

TUESDAY 6/4
Carlos Medrano and
Sabor de Mi Cuba
PARTAKE BY K-J
TASTING LOUNGE & FLIGHT CLUB
241 Healdsburg Avenue
8-10PM | Reservations suggested

WEDNESDAY 6/5
Will Bernard Quartet
SPOONBAR
219 Healdsburg Avenue
7:30-10:30PM | No Cover

THURSDAY 6/6
Marcus Shelby Orchestra
& the HJF Freedom Jazz Choir
RAVEN THEATER
115 North Street
7PM | $20

FRIDAY 6/7
Carlos Henrique Pereira
PARTAKE BY K-J
TASTING LOUNGE & FLIGHT CLUB
241 Healdsburg Avenue
5-7PM | Reservations suggested

Fred Hersch Trio
RAVEN THEATER
115 North Street
7:30PM | $65 | $45

Sylvia Cuenca Trio
HOTEL HEALDSBURG LOBBY
25 Matheson Street
9PM-Midnight | No Cover

SATURDAY 6/8
Arrows Into Infinity
Northern California Film Premiere
RAVEN THEATER
115 North Street
11AM | $10

Mad & Eddie Duran Quartet
SEASONS OF THE VINEYARD
113 Plaza Street
4-6PM | No Cover

Charles Lloyd
Jason Moran
RAVEN THEATER
115 North Street
7:30PM | $75 | $55

Sylvia Cuenca Trio
HOTEL HEALDSBURG LOBBY
25 Matheson Street
9PM-Midnight | No Cover

SUNDAY 6/9
SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK®
Azar Lawrence Quartet
RODNEY STRONG VINEYARDS
11455 Old Redwood Highway
3PM, gates open at 2PM
$75 Bar Seats | $65 Shaded Chairs
$45 Lawn
Children 10 and under free
For lawn seating, low chairs only
& no umbrellas

ALL VENUES ARE IN
HEALDSBURG UNLESS
OTHERWISE NOTED.

Matt Wilson Presents . . .
The Allower: A Jazz Super Hero
Sonoma Country Day School | 4400 Day School Pl. | Santa Rosa
2-4pm | $20

Folks of all ages, musicians and music lovers alike are welcome to this inspirational gathering. The Allower will demystify how a jazz musician welcomes the sound of surprise and the ways he allows the music to happen in a band. You will walk away from the fun-filled workshop with concepts that you can apply to enhance your everyday life. If you play, bring your instrument. If you draw, bring your sketch pad. If you dance, bring your feet! All are welcome! Do not miss The Allower’s exclusive Northern California appearance!

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In an ongoing effort to bring the best value and services to our audience, we have created new ways for you to receive discounted tickets and lodging this year.

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**TICKET BUNDLE 1 | JUNE 1-2**
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**TICKET BUNDLE 2 | JUNE 7, 8, 9**
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- Last Record Store, 1899 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa [cash/checks]

Tickets are on sale at the venues on the day of the event, subject to availability.
Dixieland at the Bakery

FRISCO JAZZ BAND
Back in the ‘80s when San Francisco’s avatar of Dixieland, Turk Murphy, was doing his regular gigs at Earthquake McGoons, a string-instrument specialist named Scott Anthony was hired to play intermissions. When he was 14, Anthony was exceptional enough on the banjo to be invited onto Ted Mack’s Original Amateur Hour. By the time he hit San Francisco in the ‘70s, he was pretty good on the guitar too.

For the opening night at Costeaux Bakery, Anthony brings in the high-energy tunes of the Frisco Jazz Band. Enough so that the bread loaves might get an extra rising. With the redoubtable Anthony leading the way on guitar, banjo and vocals, the band consists of Noel Weidkamp on cornet, Paul Edgerton on reeds, Bob Williams on trombone, Bob Ringwald on piano and Jim Maihack on tuba. Expect to be taken down to Basin Street.

NEW HORIZON STOMPERS
The New Horizon Stompers are led by multi-instrumentalist Ray Walker, 83, a music instructor who calls himself retired despite his continued instructing and playing in about six different bands. The Stompers are a Dixieland offshoot of the New Horizons Band of Sonoma County, which is a 70-strong orchestra open to anyone who wants to play an instrument and make music with like-minded folks.

A few years ago, Walker extracted some crack players from this herd and set them to swinging. They are Dave Stare on banjo, Richard Bloom and Bill Byrne on clarinets, Louise Graves and Neil Herring on saxophones, Bill Badstubner and Dave Graves on trombones, Gerry Turner on tuba, Jim Cunningham on drums and Bob Ressue on piano. Walker himself will play clarinet and banjo. He’s been known to sing, too, but don’t get greedy now.
The 2013 Healdsburg Jazz Festival comes roaring out of the gate when the John Heard Quartet plays at a brand-new venue, Healdsburg SHED. Heard—reportedly Count Basie’s favorite bassist—has assembled a multi-generational band featuring Bay Area stars Dayna Stephens on tenor sax, Akira Tana on drums, and Kenneth Nash on percussion. The chemistry here is combustible, and it will be enhanced by the strikingly designed setting at SHED, which is a market, café, coffee bar, fermentation bar and events space where locals and visitors alike gather to shop, eat, learn and celebrate food and community. SHED’s owner, Doug Lipton, knows his way around a guitar, too, and will sit in with the quartet for a few numbers.

Heard, 74, has provided potent backing for most of the legends of swing and bop, including Oscar Peterson, Wes Montgomery, Rahsaan Roland Kirk, and Ella Fitzgerald. Heard’s swing is bedrock and impeccable. Comparatively young at 61, Akira Tana is directly in the line of Max Roach-inspired impetuous drummers, meaning the other players are really going to have to watch their rears. Which must not be that big of a problem, as artists ranging from Sonny Rollins, Sonny Stitt, and Milt Jackson to Jim Hall, Dr. Lonnie Smith and Gunther Schuller have all opted to have Tana kick it for them.

Add to the mix Kenneth Nash, who has been enhancing bands with international rhythms since the early ‘60s—Herbie Hancock, Dexter Gordon, the Pointer Sisters, Weather Report and dozens more. Finally, Dayna Stephens comes in with a sound that’s right out of post-bop tenor titans like Sonny Rollins, John Coltrane, Wayne Shorter and Joe Henderson. Stephens, 34, shares with them the gift of extended narrative, capable of stitching together all the threads of this remarkable group. He is yet another Bay Area export to New York, where he works frequently with fellow erstwhile Bay Area stars Julian Lage and Taylor Eigsti, and he’s played with Kenny Barron, Terrence Blanchard, Gretchen Parlato and many others who want a fresh, robust tenor sound.

This is the way to start off a festival, on a high note.
Charlie Haden’s life in music may be best viewed as a series of concentric circles, each orbiting around the great gift he has given the world. Call it pulse, call it heartbeat, call it freedom, Haden uses his acoustic bass to find currents that have come to define schools of jazz musicians who rely more on feeling than stylistic convention. When Haden plays, he quickly gets to the essence, grounding the music powerfully and always emotionally.

Haden is a veteran of several previous Healdsburg Jazz Festivals, which is not surprising, considering their shared values. For the 15th annual festival, Haden, now 75 and coming off a Lifetime Achievement Grammy Award and designation as an NEA Jazz Master, brings with him several of those career concentric circles for a two-day celebration of his genius. Thanks in part to an NEA Arts Works grant, more than 20 musicians—some going back decades with Haden—will perform at the Jackson Theater, south of Healdsburg.

Haden’s career begins in Shenandoah, Iowa, when at 2 years old he began singing folk and country songs on the radio with his family. When polio damaged his vocal cords at age 15, he took up the acoustic bass. Seeking experience in jazz, he moved to Los Angeles in 1957. His talent quickly got him jobs with Hampton Hawes, Paul Bley and Art Pepper, among others. But it was a chance encounter with a young unknown eccentric playing a plastic saxophone that put into motion the band that flung the jazz world on its heels. His name was Ornette Coleman and he ignited a spark that already lived inside Haden—one that said improvisation could be about following the melody and spirit of a song, not just chord changes and bar lines.

After years with Coleman and later with pianist Keith Jarrett, Haden embarked on an unusual project that brings us now to Healdsburg. In 1969 the bassist hired pianist/composer Carla Bley to arrange music for a big-band project largely about the Spanish Civil War. Called Liberation Music Orchestra (LMO), its personnel included Dewey Redman, Don Cherry, Roswell Rudd, Paul Motion, Howard Johnson and others. The bassist’s career took off in multiple directions after that, but over the decades he would always find new musicians to recharge LMO.

At Healdsburg on Sunday, June 2, he

Set 1 - Geri Allen, solo and duo with Chris Potter
Set 2 - Lee Konitz Quartet
Set 3 - Quartet West with guest Ravi Coltrane

Jackson Theater | 4400 Day School Place | Santa Rosa
7:00pm | $75 | $55 | $45 | Wine Sponsor: Foley Food & Wine Society
will do it again, with some of the artists who played on the last LMO album, 2005’s Not in Our Name, and a few new additions. The personnel includes Haden and Bley; saxophonists Chris Cheek, Chris Potter and Loren Stillman; trombonist Curtis Fowlkes; drummer Matt Wilson; tuba player Joe Daly; trumpeters Seneca Black and Michael Rodriguez; French horn player Vincent Chancey and Bill Frisell on guitar.

LMO will be the climax of the festival’s first-weekend tribute to Haden. Before that there will be lots more of those concentric circles. Astonishing Cuban-born pianist Gonzalo Rubalcaba will start off Sunday, playing solo. In between that and LMO will be Haden’s children—singing triplet daughters Petra, Rachel and Tanya, and bassist son Josh—all in various combinations with Bill Frisell.

Saturday, June 1, features beguiling pianist Geri Allen, playing solo and in duet with the much-celebrated saxophonist Chris Potter. Next up is the 85-year-old alto sax legend Lee Konitz in a quartet with Alan Broadbent on piano, Darek Oles on bass and Matt Wilson, drums.

The day’s climax comes courtesy of the other band to which he has been most dedicated. Quartet West is Haden’s love letter to Los Angeles, the city that gave him his start in jazz and that fed his imagination via Hollywood. The hard-driving quartet consists of Haden, pianist Alan Broadbent, drummer Rodney Green and saxophonist Ravi Coltrane filling the shoes usually worn by Ernie Watts.

The festival wild card is Haden himself, who in recent years has unfortunately been stricken by an ailment tracing all the way back to the polio that attacked him in the ’50s. Called post-polio syndrome, it has weakened him and affected his ability to swallow and speak. He is still playing the bass, though, and vows to as much as possible during the festival. Should he miss a few moments, the formidable Darek Oles (a.k.a. Oleszkiewicz), a former student of Haden’s, will stand in. This is appropriate, because when Oles arrived in L.A. as a Polish jazz star in 1988, he found his way to Haden, who mentored him at Cal Arts.
Take delectable entrees, pair them with Sonoma County's luscious wines, throw in some great jazz and you have a pretty good way to spend a Monday night. Such will be the scene at the Healdsburg Jazz Festival when the Dry Creek Kitchen—Charlie Palmer's local haute cuisine outpost—hosts the Terry Henry Trio. Henry's piano playing is tasty enough to have gotten him gigs with jazz greats like Chet Baker, Eddie Henderson and Mel Martin. Drummer Tony Johnson and bassist Bill Fouty round out the trio of savvy boppers who will leave the audience just hungry enough for a little dessert.

The Bay Area is blessed with fine Latin jazz talent, and many of them are assembled in Roger Glenn's Latin Jazz Ensemble, playing the Healdsburg Jazz Festival free at Healdsburg Plaza on Tuesday. Glenn is a multi-instrumentalist who's father, Tyree, played trombone and vibes in the bands of Cab Calloway, Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong. Roger learned the vibes from Dad, then picked up the flute, oboe, saxophone, clarinet and various Latin percussion instruments. He's superb on all of them. Glenn's ensemble consists of guitarist Ray Obeido, pianist David K. Mathews, bassist David Belove, conguero Derek Rolando and drummer Phil Thompson. Come dance as the rhythm players conjure mighty grooves and Glenn whips up a firestorm on his woodwinds, reeds and vibes.

Partake by K-J invites you to keep your evening going and the music flowing with Carlitos Medrano & Sabor de Mi Cuba. Small bites and wine flights will be available.

Medrano left Cuba for the Bay Area in 2008 and found a highly developed Latin jazz scene willing to open its arms to the hot conguero from Havana. At Partake by K-J, the vibe will continue with his trio which includes Julio de la Cruz on keyboards and vocals and Antonio Cortaba on bass and vocals. They'll be performing many styles of Cuban music, such as son, changui, Rumba and salsa.
A graduate of the famous Berkeley High School jazz program, Will Bernard made a big splash in the early ‘90s as one of the guitarists in T.J. Kirk, a band dedicated to insinuating the rhythms of James Brown into songs by Thelonious Monk and Rahsaan Roland Kirk. Bernard takes his guitar cues from everywhere—Hendrix to Grant Green—but funkiness is his golden rule.

Though Bernard has moved to New York, as so many Northern California jazz players do, he’s left behind a hugely funky scene that’s partially his legacy. For the Will Bernard Quartet’s show in Healdsburg, he’s tapping the talents of three Bay Area players well-marinated in the funk.

Wil Blades, a master of the Hammond B-3 organ, is a self-taught prodigy who moved from Chicago to San Francisco. He quickly gravitated to the house B-3 at John Lee Hooker’s club, The Boom Boom Room. Blades is without doubt the B-3 exemplar of his generation.

Silky tenor sax man Joe Cohen brings the melodicism of players like Stan Getz and Lester Young to any situation called for, funky or otherwise. New Orleans-styled drummer Brandon Etzler has got that thing that comes from lots of exposure to swamps and marching bands.

This is a quartet that is sure to keep the Spoonbar crowd in constant motion.

marcus shelby orchestra
HJF Freedom Jazz Choir

Raven Theater | 115 North Street | Healdsburg
7:00pm | $20 | For for full details see inside front cover

Marcus Shelby Orchestra and the HJF Freedom Jazz Choir, featuring Faye Carol, perform Soul of the Movement: Meditations On Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a musical suite for big band and choir inspired by the music of the Civil Rights movement.

Joining this 17-piece jazz orchestra will be Adam Ivey’s Joyous Noise Ensemble.
Drummers keep time, of course, but a great drummer can stop time. That’s when you’re sitting enveloped in a rhythm blanket so cozy that you can’t imagine doing anything else. Sylvia Cuenca gives you that feeling. A San Jose native long established in New York, Cuenca has several attributes of jazz’s great drummers—the crispness of Roy Haynes, the funkiness of Jack DeJohnette, the gravity-free swing of Billy Higgins. She has backed many jazz legends, but it’s obvious that she needs to be a leader. She controls a group, but not in a domineering way. It’s that rhythm blanket thing.

For the Friday and Saturday late-night gigs at the Hotel Healdsburg, Cuenca has lined up two players who bring extra flair to their jazz. Gary Brown is an ultra-versatile bassist whose keen rhythmic sensibility has got him work in movies and TV as well as straight-ahead and Latin jazz bands. Pianist Peter Horvath was a star in Hungary at a young age, studying classics at the Bela Bartok Conservatory and at Vienna’s Conservatory. Jazz was his calling, though, and he honed it at the Berklee College of Music.

In past Healdsburg Jazz Festivals, the hotel gigs have been where surprises happen. Guests often come by to sit in. With Cuenca at the kit, who could resist?

Start your evening with a delicious wine and food pairing at Partake by K-J. Small bites and wine flights will be available at Kendall-Jackson’s new downtown Healdsburg Tasting Lounge & Flight Club.

Brazilian talent Carlos Henrique Pereira will be performing in a trio with Harvey Wainapel on saxophone and clarinet, and bassist Peter Barshay. Pereira is equally skilled on guitar and piano, using both to channel melodies from a deep well of imagination. He brings Brazilian styles like maracatu and frevo to the intricacies of jazz improvisation. Wainapel and Barshay, jazz aces who have spent years digesting Brazilian music, are sympathetic partners for Pereira. It will likely be a cross-cultural feast for the senses at Partake by K-J.
When Fred Hersch takes the Raven Theater stage with his trio on Friday, June 7, Healdsburg Jazz Festival goers will have already basked in the pianistic brilliance of Geri Allen, Carla Bley, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, and Alan Broadbent. Not a problem. Hersch and his trio with John Hebert on bass and Eric McPherson on drums are state-of-the-art for that configuration. Hersch is the type of player who can express more in five seconds of note choices than most pianists can summon in an entire concert. And in each of those five seconds you’ll be panting for what’s going to come next. At the keyboard he is like a master jeweler cutting a diamond, each stroke creating a new and dazzling refraction of light and shadow.

With Hebert and McPherson backing him, it’s tempting to say that Hersch has found his Scott LaFaro and Paul Motian—the bassist and drummer that made the Bill Evans Trio arguably the greatest jazz trio ever. Listen to the Hersch CDs Whirl and Alive at the Vanguard to experience not only a flabbergasting level of telepathic interplay but a chemistry that derives from contrasting approaches.

The Raven show will be a family affair for Hersch, as it is set to honor his father, Henry, and step-mother, Gloria, who live in Healdsburg and have long supported the festival, with Gloria serving as chair for two years and still on the board of directors.

That Hersch is with us performing is something of a miracle. He was diagnosed with AIDS in the 1980s, but fought it off until the virus struck at his brain in 2008, putting him in a two-month coma. That’s not the kind of thing people survive, but Hersch did. He rose, not only making a full recovery but taking his piano playing to a new peak.
Eddie Duran has played guitar for Benny Goodman, Earl Hines, George Shearing, Pearl Bailey, Vince Guaraldi and Charlie Parker. At 88 he’s achieved living-legend status in San Francisco, which usually means retirement. But Duran still has things to show the world when it comes to Bebop guitar playing.

It helps to have a musically talented younger spouse, too. Mad, a classically trained saxophonist and flautist, bumped into Eddie at a gig in 1984. She wondered if she could play jazz, and he said, “sure.” It wasn’t too long before she started to swing, and Mad and Eddie got hitched. The chemistry is obviously there for them—musically and otherwise. You get Eddie’s fleet fingers and beautiful sense of harmony, tempered by Mad’s tenor tartness. With the impeccable Vince Lateano on drums and the adventurous Eugene Warren on bass, the show is guaranteed to be Bebop bliss.

By the age of 28, Charles Lloyd was one of the most influential jazz musicians of the 1960s. By his early 30s he vanished from public view. For over a decade he lived in the wild seclusion of Big Sur, California. He went from the heights of jazz rock royalty to the life of a hermit and back again. Arrows Into Infinity follows the rise, retreat, and return of the charismatic Lloyd and his spiritual quest through sound.

A question and answer session will be held following the film with director Dorothy Darr and musicians Charles Lloyd and Jason Moran.

Charles Lloyd: Arrows Into Infinity | 114 Min
Winner of the Pan African Film Festival Audience Appreciation Award

Charles Lloyd

Arrows Into Infinity

Premieres in Healdsburg and Windsor

Premieres at Raven Theater, 115 North Street, Healdsburg at 11:00 am

Premiers at Seasons of the Vineyard/Ferrari Carrano, 113 Plaza Street, Healdsburg at 4:00 pm

Premieres at Mad & Eddie Duran Quartet, Seasons of the Vineyard/Ferrari Carrano, 113 Plaza Street, Healdsburg at 4:00 pm

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There is a road in jazz that starts with post-stride pianist Earl Hines, runs through John Coltrane, turns left at pianist Jaki Byard and lands squarely at the feet of Charles Lloyd and Jason Moran. The saxophonist/flautist and pianist have teamed up for a magnificent duet album called *Hagar's Song*, and the Healdsburg Jazz Festival will be the site of their only U.S. performance in 2013. This is fitting because saxophonist Lloyd has turned in many incendiary performances at the festival over the years. Festival audiences have seen the quartet with Moran, Eric Harland and Reuben Rogers, an outfit many have called Lloyd’s greatest since his ’60s group with Keith Jarrett and Jack DeJohnette.

At 75, Lloyd does seem to have reached a new creative peak, and there’s no question that Moran is a huge part of it. Moran embraces the totality of the jazz piano tradition, reaching back to Jelly Roll Morton’s classical elegance and leaning forward into Cecil Taylor’s avant effusions.

Lloyd has always been a player with a purpose, using his horns as the means to sanctified ends rich with bloodlines. *Hagar’s Song* is centered on Lloyd’s five-part evocation of his great, great grandmother, Hagar, born into slavery and kidnapped from her parents at age 10. On the the CD, Lloyd also situates himself and Moran in the family of American musicians, covering compositions by Duke Ellington, Billy Strayhorn, George Gershwin, Earl Hines, Bob Dylan and Brian Wilson. The playing is so deeply felt on *Mood Indigo*, *Bess*, *You Is My Woman Now*, *I Shall Be Released*, *God Only Knows* and others that the connection becomes tangible, sealed by the empathy Lloyd and Moran have for each other after now playing together for six years.

Their duet will be an exclusive treat for the Healdsburg Jazz Festival audience.
When John Coltrane’s classic quartet fell apart around 1966, the pianist McCoy Tyner and the drummer Elvin Jones sought to assemble their own groups. The challenge for them was finding horn players who could deal with the kind of energy they were used to putting out—and receiving. Luckily they found Azar Lawrence.

Lawrence, who is leading a quartet with drummer Alphonse Mouzon, bassist Henry Franklin and pianist Theo Saunders on Healdsburg’s final Sunday, grew up in Los Angeles, getting an early education in fiery pianist Horace Tapscott’s Arkestra, then working with muscular players like pianist George Cables and trumpeter Woody Shaw. Coltrane was the model, and when Lawrence got the call from Jones in 1972, the saxophonist was ready. Soon after, Tyner expressed interest, and Lawrence started up with him. For most of the ’70s he bounced between the two groups.

The drummer for Tyner’s band a lot of that period was Alphonse Mouzon, a highly versatile player who could go from working in Broadway show pit bands to Tyner and Weather Report, a band that demanded power and subtlety in equal measure. Lawrence and Mouzon went on to do stints in R&B and fusion bands, but jazz always beckoned. When the sax man and drummer decided to join forces again, they secured Franklin and Saunders, mainstays of the L.A. scene. The four have a regular gig weekends at Venice’s RG Club and have coalesced into a tight, volcanic unit.

Pianist Saunders, with his Tyneresque sense of harmony and propulsion, is a big part of the equation. He is one of L.A.’s most in-demand players and has worked with dozens of jazz greats. Franklin’s elastic way with the bass has gotten him work on more than 100 albums.

Expect this band to be raging at Rodney Strong.
In 1973, a group of women heard the message of singers Nina Simone, Abby Lincoln, Betty Carter, Miriam Makeba and Odetta and came together to form a vocal group. They drew material from African chanting and African-American gospel, spirituals, jazz, blues and folk to sing songs about justice, tragedy, greed, life and love. Now 40 years on, SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK® is a living repository of American history, interpreted by women, imprinted in black.

This unique a-cappella vocal ensemble will ring out the Healdsburg Jazz Festival with a tacit tying together of some of this 15th-anniversary festival’s themes—from Liberation Music Orchestra’s anti-war freedom ballads to Charles Lloyd’s evocations of his family-tree slavery to the Marcus Shelby Orchestra’s gospel-blues-jazz celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sweet Honey in the Rock consists of Louise Robinson, Nitanju Bolade Casel, Aisha Kahlil, Carol Lynn Maillard, and Shirley Childress Saxton who translates the group’s words into sign language. After 34 years, member Ysaye Marie Barnwell is moving on and the group is in the process of finding a new singer who will join them for this concert.

Over the course of two dozen CDs and DVDs, Sweet Honey has been nominated for multiple Grammy awards, received commissions to collaborate with symphonies, dance companies and jazz combos, been the subject of two film documentaries, and performed for the Obamas at the White House.

The women of Sweet Honey combine their powerful voices to celebrate change, creating joy in the process. They sing of water and earth and the human beings connected to those elements—the stuff of life. With their name based on a line from a psalm, Sweet Honey in the Rock will make the festival finale a day of exultation in Healdsburg.
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The beauty of Healdsburg is unsurpassed. Make your reservations now for the Healdsburg Jazz Festival. Lodging choices range from quiet, cozy B&Bs to a luxury hotel on the historic Healdsburg Plaza.

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Music can be difficult to write about because it can’t be translated. You can compare it to things seen and felt, like rivers, engines, storms and even animals, but you cannot literally put it into words. If you are a visual artist you could try drawing a picture of music, but that would also be highly imprecise. However, if you make music and pictures, well, then you might be onto something.

Enter Oliver Lake. The 70-year-old alto sax master started in the 60s by taking what Eric Dolphy had done and stretching it further. Lake is now both painting and making collages of colorful abstract forms onto which he places skewed but recognizable objects like pieces of fabric, metal or drawings of human faces. Sometimes he places abstracts atop abstracts.

Of course, on the saxophone he’s a genius, whereas his paintings have yet to find a critical consensus. Regardless, you can see and hear for yourself when Lake performs a solo concert of saxophone, flute and poetry, surrounded by a gallery of his paintings, plus pieces by others contributing visual statements about jazz music.

The performance takes place at the Healdsburg Center for the Arts on June 29—after the jazz festival—but the visual art will be on display from June 3-30. The art show is called Flying Home: Inspired by Jazz. It’s a great opportunity during the festival to investigate what art has to say about jazz. Then you can return on the 29th to see Lake deliver the full picture.

Healdsburg Center for the Arts
130 Plaza St
707 431 1970
Two shows 7 & 9pm
$20

healdsburgcenterforthearts.com
...one of the best small jazz festivals in the country, if not the world.