

For Immediate Release



21st Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2019
May 31 – June 9, 2019
Presents

“ECM Records 50th Birthday Bash”

Featuring

**Jack DeJohnette, Ravi Coltrane, Matt Garrison, Carla Bley,
Ralph Towner, Ethan Iverson & Mark Turner**

Headlining Concerts Starring Acclaimed Jazz Artists:

**Regina Carter, Joey DeFrancesco featuring Billy Hart,
Parlour Game w/ Jenny Scheinman & Allison Miller, Dhafer Youssef,
Harold López-Nussa Quartet, and More!**

“one of the best small jazz festivals in the country if not the world.”

–*San Francisco Chronicle*

“...the festival has retained its homegrown feel while still pulling in jazz's biggest names.”

–*KQED*

“Over the past decades, the annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival has established a national reputation for drawing top jazz talents to Sonoma County while maintaining an intimate small-town atmosphere.”

–*Santa Rosa Press Democrat*

Healdsburg, Calif. – Thursday, March 14, 2019 – Sonoma County’s premier annual music event, **Healdsburg Jazz Festival** returns for its 21st edition from May 31 - June 9 with an acclaimed lineup featuring many of today’s brightest jazz artists in downtown Healdsburg. Opening weekend kicks off with a 50th birthday celebration for renowned jazz label **ECM Records** with three trailblazing shows with **Ralph Towner with Paul McCandless** (Soda Rock Winery: May 31), **DEJOHNETTE - COLTRANE - GARRISON** (Raven Theater: June 1), and the double bill of the **Carla Bley Trio with Steve Swallow and Andy Sheppard** as well as the **Ethan Iverson - Mark Turner Duo** (Raven Theater: June 2). The 10-day jazz-de-force festival programs top-billing acts such as **Joey DeFrancesco Trio with Billy Hart** (Jackson Theater: June 8), the **Regina Carter Quintet** performing “Simply Ella” (Jackson Theater: June 8), **Parlour Game with Jenny Scheinman and Allison Miller** (Spoonbar: June 5), **Harold López-Nussa Quartet with Mayquel González** (Paul Mahder Gallery: June 7), and concludes with the Healdsburg premiere of Tunisian artist **Dhafer Youssef**. A standout summer destination for jazz aficionados, families, and the local community alike, Healdsburg Jazz Festival attracts nearly 10,000 festival-goers to downtown for an unforgettable jazz experience.

At the epicenter of the world-class wine region of Sonoma County, Healdsburg Jazz Festival unites Bay Area residents and visitors through impeccable programming of lauded jazz artists set amid the backdrop of 180 surrounding wineries and 30 gourmet restaurants. In 2019, Healdsburg Jazz Festival embarks on its third decade dedicated to the preservation of the jazz art form while presenting exceptional emerging acts through its annual summer festival, year-round jazz concerts, jazz master concerts, and its school-based music education initiatives.

“Over the course of 21 amazing years, Healdsburg Jazz Festival has the great fortune of presenting an array of visionary ECM artists,” says **Jessica Felix, Founder and Artistic Director of Healdsburg Jazz Festival**. “What an honor it is to kick off the festival in celebration of the iconic label’s 50th Anniversary. Each year, we broaden our scope bringing in artists from the far stretches of the globe. For 2019, we are privileged to invite Tunisian artist by way of Europe Dhafer Youssef and Havana, Cuba’s pianist/composer Harold López-Nussa. We further have many leading women voices in the jazz world, including Carla Bley, Regina Carter, Jenny Scheinman, and Allison Miller. It’s truly about the artists and community that makes our festival so special year after year. We look forward to seeing everyone in downtown Healdsburg this summer!”

Highlights of Confirmed Artists @ 21st Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2019

To commemorate the 50th birthday of elite jazz label ECM Records, Healdsburg Jazz Festival presents three not-to-be-missed performances. Indescribably great acoustic guitar virtuoso **Ralph Towner** kicks it off on May 31 with an assist from horn specialist **Paul McCandless**, his mate in the legendary jazz-folk-world-music band Oregon. June 1 brings **DEJOHNETTE - COLTRANE - GARRISON** -- that's incandescent drummer **Jack DeJohnette**, saxophonist **Ravi Coltrane**, and bassist **Matthew Garrison**. Ravi, of course, is the son of John and Alice Coltrane, and Matthew's father was Jimmy Garrison, bassist in the classic John Coltrane Quartet. With Jack as guru and longtime ECM stalwart, the trio made a superb album for the label, *In Movement*, and are ready to dazzle the Raven Theater audience. June 2 offers a splendid ECM double bill: **The Carla Bley Trio** plus the **Ethan Iverson - Mark Turner Duo**.

Pianist/composer/arranger **Carla Bley**, a hugely influential jazz conceptualist, has contributed piquant songs to the repertoire of dozens of top jazzers since the 1960s. For Healdsburg, she brings longtime bass partner **Steve Swallow** and sterling British sax man **Andy Sheppard**. In recent years, the three have recorded two peppery albums for ECM: *Trios* and *Andando el Tiempo*. Opening this night are pianist **Ethan Iverson** and tenor saxophonist **Mark Turner**, who debuted on ECM with the pithy disc, *Temporary Kings*, and breathe the same rarefied air as Carla, yielding music that is adventurous, unpredictable, and fresh.

Tunisian oud player/singer/improviser extraordinaire **Dhafer Youssef** makes his Healdsburg debut with top jazz players **Matt Brewer** on bass, **Marcus Gilmore** (Roy Haynes' grandson, for those in the know) on drums, and **Tigran Hamasyan** on piano. Youssef has mesmerized international audiences for years with his magical multi-octave voice, string wizardry, and magnetic stage presence. The festival welcomes Dhafer Youssef as he headlines the Jackson Theatre on June 9.

There is no letting up the rest of the week. The second Saturday (June 8) offers a blockbuster double bill at the Jackson Theater: **The Joey DeFrancesco Trio** and **The Regina Carter Quintet**. Organ master **Joey DeFrancesco** is bringing Healdsburg Jazz's favorite son, the matchless **Billy Hart**, on drums, and budding tenor sax star **Troy Roberts**. For a preview, check out the trio's tremendous new album, *In the Key of the Universe*, which also features the legendary Pharoah Sanders. For her set, called "Simply Ella," violin great **Regina Carter** taps her recent album, *Ella: Accentuate the Positive*, featuring funky, loving, thoroughly unique interpretations of material by the First Lady of Song.

Three cutting-edge women in jazz traverse the corners of Americana with **Parlour Game**: **Jenny Scheinman** on violin, **Carmen Staaf** on piano, **Allison Miller** on drums, and **Tony Scherr** on bass. This swinging quartet will light up Spoonbar on Wednesday (June 5). **Harold López-Nussa**, the latest Cuban genius to make a piano croon and sigh, wowed a Healdsburg Jazz crowd at the Paul Mahder Gallery last autumn. On June 7, he makes a much-anticipated return visit with his quartet, this time with in demand Cuban trumpeter **Mayquel González** as a special guest.

On Thursday (June 6), jazz scholar **Mark Cantor** returns to the Raven after eight years, bringing his seemingly limitless cache of film clips, newsreels, and TV segments for "**Jazz Night at the Movies**," featuring never-before-seen or rarely-seen footage of Thelonious Monk, Sonny Fortune, Dinah Washington, Charlie Parker, Louis Jordan and his Tympani Five, and many more. The first Sunday morning at the Davis Winery (June 2) showcases a Blues Brunch with whiskey-voiced backwoods-styled finger picker **Guy Davis** teaming up with ragin' Cajun singer **Marcella Simien**. California guitar ace **Calvin Keys** performs with the great stand-up bass player **Jeff Chambers** for a Dry Creek Kitchen show on Monday (June 3) that will be manna from heaven for anyone craving straight-ahead jazz played by top exponents of the form.

In the midst of the ECM shows, Landmark Vineyards hosts a free afternoon concert on June 1 by the **Carlos Herrera Latin Trio** at Hop Kiln Estate, replete with fine wine and great food. On Tuesday (June 4), it's free trad-jazz at the Plaza, featuring the gonzo early-jazz and second-line stylings of the **King Street Giants** with special guest banjo picker **Dave Stare**.

Last but not least, the band holding down the lobby of the Healdsburg Hotel – a crucial festival tradition – on June 1 will be post-bop pianist, the **Adam Shulman Trio**. This is where festival artists and spectators alike come to unwind.

New Attractions @ 21st Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2019

New to this year's Jazz Village is the "Jazz Village Campus" (located at West Plaza Park), a free daytime mini-festival offering the greater community an opportunity to learn about music from creative musicians through an interactive and hands-on jazz experience. Programming focuses on diverse styles for all ages and cultures, and provides both locals and concert attendees a gathering place to talk and learn about jazz on a deeper, richer level. Launched in 2018, Jazz Village serves as a hub integrated within the larger festival with art projects for children, jam sessions, festival musicians signing CDs, jazz radio hosts spinning records, an antique instrument exhibit, jazz dance and poetry performances, a communal art project commemorating the festival, and more. "Jazz Village Campus" is a standout festival addition for school children in music literacy with onsite programs in rhythm, percussion, and dance. Select activities are bilingual. Jazz Village runs daily throughout the duration of the festival from 12pm – 5pm.

From north of the Golden Gate Bridge all the way to the Oregon border, Healdsburg Jazz Festival is the place to truly experience a boutique jazz festival committed to hosting celebrated artists on venerable stages with the culinary and wine excellence of Sonoma County within arms reach. Stay tuned to healdsburgjazz.org for refinements of the festival schedule in the coming weeks.

21st Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival

When: May 31 – June 9, 2019

Where: Downtown Healdsburg, CA and Santa Rosa, CA

Admission: https://www.healdsburgjazzfestival.org/buy_tickets

Tickets: Free - \$75 (On sale to members on March 18; general public on April 1)

More Info: <https://www.healdsburgjazz.org>, (707) 433-4633

Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2019 Artist Lineup

DEJOHNETTE - COLTRANE - GARRISON, Carla Bley Trio with Steve Swallow and Andy Sheppard, Ralph Towner with Paul McCandless, Ethan Iverson and Mark Turner Duo, Joey DeFrancesco Trio with Billy Hart, Regina Carter Quintet, Parlour Game featuring Jenny Scheinman and Allison Miller, Harold López-Nussa Quartet featuring Mayquel González, Dhafer Youssef Quartet, Mark Cantor, Calvin Keys and Jeff Chambers, Guy Davis, and King Street Giants.

About Healdsburg Jazz Festival

The Healdsburg Jazz Festival is a celebration of the indigenous American art form known as Jazz. Over the past two decades, the festival has become a favorite local tradition with a growing national reputation. The 10-day festival of public performances by world-renowned musicians in diverse settings, including the historic Raven Theater, the glamorous Hotel Healdsburg, and several boutique restaurants and wineries, has grown into one of the North Bay's most celebrated annual musical events.

In addition to the annual festival, held the first week of June each year, the non-profit 501(c)(3) organization sponsors numerous music education programs in Healdsburg area schools for primary and secondary school students, and presents a series of Jazz Masters concerts throughout the year.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.healdsburgjazz.org>

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