

For Immediate Release: Thursday, June 22, 2017



28TH ANNUAL SAN JOSE JAZZ SUMMER FEST 2017
Friday, August 11 - Sunday, August 13
Plaza de César Chavez Park, Downtown San Jose, Calif.
Event Info: summerfest.sanjosejazz.org

San Jose Jazz Teams Up with Standout Community Partners:
The Sobrato Organization, San Jose Museum of Art, Silicon Valley Community Foundation,
San Jose State University, Forager Tasting Room & Eatery, and Tabard Theatre

Special Programming at Downtown Venues & SJZ Summer Fest Stages:
Sobrato Organization Main Stage, SJMA Next Gen Stage, SVCF Hammer Theatre, Forager Stage

San Jose, Calif. – For nearly three decades, **San Jose Jazz** has consistently presented internationally renowned talent at its annual **SJZ Summer Fest**. Through its own curation and collaborations with local South Bay presenters, SJZ Summer Fest features the best in jazz and related genres for a world-class experience in downtown San Jose from August 11 - 13, 2017. Coinciding with the presentation of some of today's top stage performers on the **Sobrato Organization Main Stage** including **Chris Botti, George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic, Robert Glasper Experiment, Maceo Parker, Angélique Kidjo and Pedrito Martinez**, and **The Whispers**, SJZ Summer Fest is among the region's premier showcases for homegrown Bay Area talent through singular community partnerships at many local venues.

"San Jose Jazz benefits from a rich music culture in the Bay Area, which allows us to present emerging artists to new audiences and help develop talent from a variety of genres," says **Bruce Labadie, Artistic and Festival Director, San Jose Jazz**. "Over 30% of the artists performing at San Jose Jazz's winter and summer festivals as well as part of our year-round programming are based in the region, or have developed through our education programs."

John Michael Sobrato, CFO & Trustee of The Sobrato Organization, adds, "San Jose Jazz Summer Fest has grown and thrived—along with San Jose as a cultural destination and a place to create, innovate and do business. We're proud to be a part of this 28-year event, which brings together the diverse communities of Silicon Valley in a vibrant and growing downtown."

This year's SJZ Summer Fest welcomes a first-time partnership between San Jose Jazz and San Jose Museum of Art (SJMA). A distinguished museum of modern and contemporary art, and celebrated as a lively arts hub in the center of Silicon Valley, SJMA proudly presents an array of the Bay Area's best youth groups on the **SJMA Next Gen Stage**, including **Latin Jazz Youth Ensemble of San Francisco, Monterey Jazz Festival High School All-Star Band, Monterey Jazz Festival High School Honor Vocal Jazz Ensemble, San Jose Jazz Summer Camp Combo, East Bay Jazz High School All-Stars, Valley Christian High School All Stars, Mariachi Estelar, Mr. Clifford's Young Jazz All Stars, Junior Dixieland CZ, and West Valley Octet**. Festival attendees wearing current-day wristbands as well as the general public viewing acts on the free SJMA Next Gen Stage will have complimentary admission to SJMA's galleries.

"SJMA is thrilled to host the Next Gen Stage for this year's festival. San Jose Jazz is a great partner in bringing vitality and excitement to downtown San Jose," comments **S. Sayre Batton, Oshman Executive Director, San Jose Museum of Art**

In celebration of their 10th Anniversary, the Silicon Valley Community Foundation joins SJZ Summer Fest for the second year in a row supporting concerts at the newly re-opened Hammer Theatre Center. With rigorous revitalization efforts from San Jose State University, the Hammer Theatre Center returns as an integral festival venue presenting many new acts debuting at SJZ Summer Fest

at the intimate, air-conditioned space with perfect sightlines and remarkable acoustics. **Silicon Valley Community Foundation Hammer Theatre Stage** presents **Dr. Lonnie Smith Trio, Pedrito Martinez, Oscar Hernández and Alma Libre, Daymé Arocena, California and Montreal Guitar Trios, Cyrille Aimée, Carmen Lundy, and Jazz By 5 with Javon Jackson, George Cables, Randy Brecker, Eddie Gomez & Jimmy Cobb.**

“SVCF is honored to support San Jose Jazz Summer Fest 2017,” says **Emmett Carson, CEO and president of Silicon Valley Community Foundation.** “The festival has become a welcomed annual tradition and a proud point of celebration across our local communities.”

In the bustling South First Street (SoFA) District, the innovative food/craft beer incubation space Forager is quickly becoming a destination for the local arts and music scene alongside Café Stritch, California Theatre, The Continental, among others. In addition to showcasing world-class musical talent on stage, Forager strives to highlight exceptional, locally-sourced beers, coffees, and small plates. The free community **Forager Stage** offers access to SJZ Summer Fest at a high-quality music venue with sets by **Jessica Johnson, The Dave Haskell Group, Kurt Ribak Quartet, Ron Scott, Terrance B, Nonch Harpin’, Synchronicity, Urban Renewal Project, San Jose Jazz High School All Stars, USAF Commanders Jazz Ensemble, South Bay Big Band Jazz, The Nasa Ames Jazz Band, and Junior Dixieland CZ.**

“Forager is excited for the opportunity to collaborate with SJZ Summer Fest in pursuit of the collective mission of bringing people together in celebration of local culture,” says **Heinz Jones, Chief Executive Officer, Forager Tasting Room & Eatery.**

In partnership with Tabard Theatre, San Jose Jazz will present its popular **Swing Stage** as a free community venue at Theatre on San Pedro Square. The stage will boast fantastic regional swing bands including **Sons of Jubal, Top Shelf Big Band, Los Gatos-Saratoga Big Band, Ron Gariffo Orchestra, Millenium Sounds, Octobop, Full Spectrum Big Band, Footnotes Big Band Jazz, The Lyratones,** interspersed with free dance lessons.

The Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph continues its partnership with SJZ Summer Fest with a Jazz Mass on both Saturday and Sunday of Fest weekend at their historic Roman Catholic church with its stunning acoustics and 19th century architecture. Live music will be provided by vocalist Ian Hinkle and pianist Walter Bankovich.

The VIP Pavilion moves to a new location this year within Plaza de César Chavez Park. Located in a shady grove above the Plaza’s iconic water fountains, VIP guests will enjoy an exclusive view of the Sobrato Organization Main Stage area with a dedicated sound system, beers by Gordon Biersch, catered foods, and a photo booth. The Family Fun Zone will be located at the South end of the Main Stage area in Plaza de César Chavez Park featuring a yoga tent, games for kids, climbing walls, bungee jumps, and exhibits from local organizations.

Highlights of Newly Confirmed Artists @ 28th Annual San Jose Jazz Summer Fest 2017

Samantha Fish is a well-known purveyor of the blues who’s been lauded by such legends as Buddy Guy, the Royal Southern Brotherhood and Luther Dickinson; though her love is simply raw, scrappy rock ‘n roll. Ruf Records released her debut album, *Girls with Guitars*, co-billed with Cassie Taylor and Dani Wilde, and she was later inspired to create her own trio which led to three more albums *Runaway* (2011), *Black Wind Howlin’* (2013) and *Wild Heart* (2015). On her latest record, *Chills & Fever*, she joined forces with members of the Detroit Cobras and created an album that’s best described as a pure slab of rocking rhythm n’ blues.

A seasoned saxophonist, **Rickey Woodard’s** musical travels have led him to tour with the great Ray Charles, join classic bands the Juggernauts and the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, and record for Concord Records. He has performed and recorded with Ella Fitzgerald, Diana Krall, Frank Sinatra, Jimmy Smith, the Temptations, and Nancy Wilson, among many others. Woodard is also a prolific composer, with over 200 original compositions to his credit in addition to extensive experience as an arranger.

The much-acclaimed jazzy, funky group **Ginetta’s Vendetta** is led by triple threat Ginetta M who plays pocket trumpet, sings and composes. As the sole horn player and soloist for the American debut tour for the Boo Radleys, Ginetta has performed with many other bands all over the world in Puerto Rico, Haiti, South America, Canada, Jamaica, Beirut, Mexico, Las Vegas and beyond. Ginetta has been the recipient of four ASCAP Plus awards, her album *Little Big Horn* was listed on the 57th GRAMMY Awards ballot in 10 different categories, and her album *Standards* spent nine weeks in the “Top 20” on the Jazz Week charts.

The brainchild of bassist and gravel-voiced singer Daniel Restrepo, **fatsO** was jump-started by the incredibly creative Colombian music scene. FatsO’s sound is grounded by Restrepo’s large contrabass and voice as it brims with hints of the soul, jazz and blues. With an ensemble culled from the city’s most accomplished musicians, fatsO has built a rabid following in South America, touring the festival circuit and recording their debut album, *On Tape*, on Jazzhaus Records. *Rolling Stone* calls fatsO, “intelligent and passionate, sophisticated and street-wise.”

Multi-lingual vocalist **Allison Adams Tucker** creates a unique travel memoir through music with jazz-driven songs that span countries and genres -- and six languages. Tucker has entertained audiences in Japan, Europe, Mexico and extensively in the U.S. including at the Blue Note New York, Herb Alpert's Vibrato Los Angeles, The Jazz Kitchen Indianapolis, Hawaii Public Radio and more. Teaming up with award-winning producer Matt Pierson (Brad Mehldau, Jan Monheit) Tucker's *WANDERlust* journeys into new territory with stories and music from Björk and Christina Perri, to Astor Piazzolla and Pat Metheny, among others.

Performing in the spotlight in Hawaii since she first joined **Don Ho** on stage at age 13, **Taimane** has carved out a robust career by committing to her vision of creating an original sound and style with her instrument of choice, the ukulele. With four albums released, over 6 million video views, over 70,000 social media followers and the successful presentation of her own musical at Hawaii's most-revered performance hall (the exquisite 1,400-seat Hawaii Theatre), Taimane stands on a formidable foundation, poised to further grow her voice while continuing to embrace the power and joy of being an independent artist.

Led by 2014 GRAMMY Award-winner and director of the Jazz Studies program at San Jose State University Dr. Aaron Lington, the **San Jose Jazz High School All Stars** is comprised of young musicians from 10 regional schools. The All Stars have received unanimous "command" performance ratings in both big band and combo formats at the Santa Cruz Jazz Festival. They have performed extensively throughout the Bay Area, including at the Monterey Next Generation Festival, Computer History Museum, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose's San Pedro Square Market, San Jose State University Jazz Festival, San Jose Jazz Winter Fest and Summer Fest, "TOSPS Tuesdays" downtown music series, and other venues.

The **San Jose Jazz Summer Camp Combo** is a hand-selected ensemble made up of some of the brightest high school talents from this year's Summer Jazz Camp, being held now through June 30 at Valley Christian High School. Designed for middle and high school students with intermediate to advanced musical backgrounds, San Jose Jazz Summer Jazz Camp is led by Director Wally Schnalle, a well-known Bay Area drummer and jazz educator. At Summer Jazz Camp, students gain experience in performance, music theory, improvisation, composition, ear training, performance, and more.

Founded in 2010 by Jonah Christian, Amir Oosma and Robert Finucane, who met while studying Jazz and Electronic Music at UC Santa Cruz, **Joomanji's** musical blend is a unique mix of crisp horns, smooth vocals, and groovy vinyl samples grounded by a tight rhythm section. The group has collaborated with Devin the Dude, Carlitta Durand, and Chris Young the Rapper, among others, and their productions pair live instrumentation with vinyl sampling chops. Their first release, *MANJ*, gained the attention of numerous musical blogs, including FACT Magazine, Earmilk, BamaLoveSoul, and Pigeons & Planes. The album hit number one on Bandcamp's Neo-Soul and Nu-Jazz charts, and placed on Reddit's official best of 2013 "Listen To This" list.

At Summer Fest, four acclaimed guitarists combine forces on one stage as **Guitar Extravaganza**. This unique set will demonstrate not only how well these four guitarists can solo, but how expertly they can navigate a musical space with their counterparts. **Hristo Vitchev** leads a variety of modern jazz formations and has written more than 300 original compositions, many articles on jazz improvisation, and a book on chordal theory and construction. Through performing with top-tier jazz musicians to playing at acclaimed festivals worldwide, **Rick Vandivier** possesses the subtle sophistication of a premier jazz guitarist, yet plays with the energy of a rocker and the lyricism of a seasoned pro. Since the 1970s, **John Stowell** regularly tours, records new music, teaches internationally and has been an Artist-In-Residence at schools in Germany, Indonesia, Argentina, and in the United States and Canada. **Bruce Forman's** guitar style has been an important part of the international jazz scene for more than three decades and his work was featured throughout Clint Eastwood's Academy Award winning film, *Million Dollar Baby*.

Get ready for an electrifying lineup of acclaimed artists appearing at the 28th San Jose Jazz Summer Fest 2017!

28th Annual San Jose Jazz Summer Fest 2017

When: August 11 - 13, 2017

Where: Plaza de César Chavez Park, San Jose, CA

Admission: summerfest.sanjosejazz.org/buy-now

More info: summerfest.sanjosejazz.org; 408.288.7557

Summer Fest 2017 Artist Lineup

Friday, August 11 – Sunday, August 13

Chris Botti; George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic; Robert Glasper Experiment; Maceo Parker; The Whispers; Angélique Kidjo's Celia Cruz Tribute with Pedrito Martinez; Dr. Lonnie Smith Trio; Jazz By 5 with Javon Jackson, George Cables, Randy Brecker, Eddie Gomez & Jimmy Cobb; San Francisco String Trio with Mimi Fox, Mads Tolling and Jeff Denson; Cyrille Aimée; The Seshen; Pacific Mambo Orchestra; Oscar Hernandez and Alma Libre; California and Montreal Guitar Trios; Peter Cincotti; Daymé Arocena; Orgone; Anton Schwartz Sextet; Eddie Henderson Quartet; Samantha Fish; Rickey Woodard; Kalil Wilson With Love; Naughty Professor; Allan Harris Quartet; Hip Bone Big Band with Michael Davis; Zydeco Flames; Claudia Villela Quintet; Jackie

Gage; The Sons Of The Soul Revivers; JC Smith Band; Aaron Lington Sextet; Ginetta's Vendetta; fatsO; Conjunto Karabali; Juan Pollo Raffo; A.C. Myles; Big Sandy and His Fly Rite Boys; Danny Green Trio; Carmen Lundy; Sasha Masakowski; Emilio Solla Quartet; Dmitri Matheny Jazz Noir; Tia Brazda; Gregory Page; Kavita Shah; Ray Obiedo; Tommy Igoe Groove Conspiracy; Allison Adams Tucker; Taimane; Brian Andres Afro Cuban Cartel; Somos el Son; Cabanijazz Project; Carlitos Medrano; The Bay Area Salsa All-Stars featuring Jimmy Bosch; Guitar Extravaganza with Hristo Vitchev, Rick Vandivier, John Stowell, and Bruce Forman; Lily Hernandez; Joomanji; San Jose Jazz High School All Stars; San Jose Jazz Summer Camp Combo; Latin Jazz Youth Ensemble of San Francisco; Monterey Jazz Festival High School All-Star Band; Monterey Jazz Festival High School Honor Vocal Jazz Ensemble; San Jose Jazz Summer Camp Combo; East Bay Jazz High School All-Stars; Valley Christian High School All Stars; Mariachi Estelar; Mr. Clifford's Young Jazz All Stars; Junior Dixieland CZ; West Valley Octet; Sons of Jubal; Top Shelf Big Band; Los Gatos-Saratoga Big Band; Ron Gariffo Orchestra; Millenium Sounds; Octobop; Full Spectrum Jazz; Footnotes Big Band Jazz; and The Lyratones.

Artist interviews are available upon request.

Ticket Information

3-Day Pass Adult VIP (\$325 advance; \$345 gate)

Includes Reserved Main Stage Seating Sat & Sun, Free Food & Beverages in Exclusive VIP Pavilion, Priority Access to All Indoor Fest Venues, Complimentary Garage Parking During Festival Hours

3-Day Pass Adult PRIORITY ACCESS (\$160 advance; \$170 gate)

Skip the Line at All Indoor Fest Venues, Sat–Sun; \$20 in Beverage Tickets

3-Day Pass Adult ALL STAGES (\$90 advance; \$100 gate)

Access to ALL Indoor & Outdoor Fest Venues

3-Day Pass Adult GENERAL ADMISSION (GA) (\$60 advance; \$70 gate)

3-Day Pass Child (\$15)

Admission for one child aged 5-12, with access to stages and hospitality areas at SJZ Summer Fest according to the access level of an accompanying adult. This low-priced ticket is designed to allow families to affordably enjoy the Fest and is not discounted from the Gate Price.

Single Tickets (\$15 – \$140 advance, April 24–July 31; \$20 – \$150 beginning August 1)

Friday, August 11: VIP \$65 advance, April 24–July 31, \$75 beginning August 1; GA \$15 advance, \$20 beginning August 1.

Saturday & Sunday, August 12-13: VIP \$140 advance, April 24–July 31, \$150 beginning August 1; Priority Access \$65 advance, \$75 beginning August 1; All Stages \$35 advance, \$40 beginning August 1; GA \$20 advance, \$25 beginning August 1.

<https://summerfest.sanjosejazz.org/buy-now>

About San Jose Jazz

Founded in 1986, San Jose Jazz is a public benefit corporation celebrating jazz as a dynamic, evolving art form and is producer of the annual San Jose Jazz Summer Fest and Winter Fest. With its singular music programming and innovative educational offerings, San Jose Jazz preserves the jazz tradition while actively supporting the next generation of performers within the genre and beyond. For more information, please visit sanjosejazz.org.

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