

For Immediate Release

SAN JOSE 20 Presented
JAZZ 14 by Metro
WINTER FEST FEB 28
MAR 2

4th Annual Winter Fest
Friday, February 28 - Sunday, March 2, 2014
Theatre on San Pedro Square & San Pedro Square Market
(Downtown San Jose, CA)
Event Info: www.sanjosejazz.org/winterfest
Tickets: \$5 - \$25 Advance/\$5 - \$27 Door

National Headliners:

Thundercat
Miguel Atwood-Ferguson with Guest Vocalist Mara Hruby
Anton Schwartz Quintet with Special Guest Taylor Eigsti
La Santa Cecilia
Moses Sumney
Jeffery Broussard & The Creole Cowboys
Amina Figarova Septet
Nikki Hill
Kim Nalley
Grupo Samba Rio
Pamela Rose & Wayne De La Cruz

Bay Area Youth Ensemble Performances:

San José State University Jazz Orchestra
San Jose Jazz High School All Stars
Folsom High School Jazz Band Big Band
Santa Teresa High School Big Band
Valley Christian High School Big Band
Kuumbwa Jazz Honor Band

"Thundercat is an innovative musical force, and a distinct character." -*Rolling Stone*

"[Miguel Atwood-Ferguson is] one of L.A.'s most revered instrumentalists." -*LA Weekly*

"Good saxophone players can make their instrument talk to you. Anton Schwartz goes a step farther...his music communicates with your soul." -*Jazz USA*

"La Santa Cecilia -- The Best Latin Alternative Band of The Year" -*LA Weekly*

"No artist in recent memory has gone from zero to must-see more quickly than Moses Sumney." -*Buzzbands LA*

"Broussard is the show ...with virtuoso chops on the old-style button accordion, the newer piano-key accordion, and acoustic fiddle, with a voice that rivals Otis Redding's for grit and accessibility. A consummate showman." -*American Songwriter*

"... Figarova and her group know how to swing, and did so in an elegant and refined fashion..." -*All About Jazz*

"Simply call it rock & roll, and simply call Nikki Hill the most exciting young performer on the roots scene." -*Riverfront Times*

"Kim Nalley has pipes to burn and works the stage like she means it." -*San Francisco Chronicle*

San Jose, CA -- Wednesday, January 22, 2014 -- Celebrating its 25th festival season this year, the iconic Bay Area institution **San Jose Jazz** kicks off 2014 with innovative arts programming honoring the jazz tradition and ever-expanding definitions of the genre with singular concerts curated for audiences within the heart of Silicon Valley. An invigorating follow-up to last year's wildly successful Winter Fest and Summer Fest (25th Anniversary Summer Fest is set for Aug. 8 - 10, 2014) -- which presented trend-setting hip-hop, R&B, soul and jazz artists such as **José James**, **Derrick Hodge**, and **Robert Glasper**, San Jose Jazz continues its steadfast commitment of presenting artists at the bleeding edge of jazz with an ambitious line-up for Winter Fest 2014 (February 28 - March 2, 2014).

Co-presenting alongside boutique production house **Universal Grammar**, San Jose Jazz hosts **Thundercat**, **Miguel Atwood-Ferguson** with special guest vocalist **Mara Hruby**, and **Moses Sumney**; additional Winter Fest 2014 acts also include **Anton Schwartz Quintet** with special guest **Taylor Eigsti**, **La Santa Cecilia**, **Jeffery Broussard & The Creole Cowboys**, **Amina Figarova Septet**, **Nikki Hill**, **Kim Nalley**, and **Grupo Samba Rio**. **Pamela Rose & Wayne De La Cruz** perform a pre-kick off show for Winter Fest 2014 at the Fairmont Hotel on Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2014 as they showcase music from their new album, *Hammond Organ Party!* For the full festival line-up and schedule, please stay up-to-date on sanjosejazz.org/winterfest. Artist interviews and hi-res photos are available upon request.

Leading this year's Winter Fest 2014 line-up is bassist/songwriter/vocalist **Thundercat**, a fiercely experimental artist who's recently appeared on *The Arsenio Hall Show* (backing up actor/hip-hop artist **Donald Glover**) and was named by *Rolling Stone* magazine as an "Artist to Watch." Thundercat has worked alongside an array of dizzying talents, including **Erykah Badu**, **Stanley Clarke**, **Wiz Khalifa** and **Earl Sweatshirt**. The release of his latest album, *Apocalypse*, finds Thundercat once again teaming up with executive producer **Flying Lotus**; the album blurs the confines of pop, funk, electronica and prog rock to create a sound that's entirely innovative. Multi-instrumentalist and composer **Miguel Atwood-Ferguson**, coined "The One Man Orchestra" by **will.i.am**, has appeared on the likes of *The Tonight Show*, the *Grammy Awards*®, **BBC Radio** and is set to release his highly anticipated debut album later this year.

Anton Schwartz Quintet, fronted by the renowned American jazz saxophonist and composer, has landed in the Top Five on the U.S. jazz radio charts. Schwartz has appeared on NPR's *JazzSet*, and previously served as an Artist-in-Residence at both Harvard University and the Brubeck Institute Summer Jazz Colony. He's set to release his fifth studio album, *Flash Mob*, on January 28, 2014, and pulls out all the stops having heavy-hitter **Taylor Eigsti** (piano) as part of his quintet. Eigsti, who has longtime ties with San Jose Jazz and offers a Winter Fest master class on March 1, is a Concord Music recording artist who's graced the covers of *Keyboard Magazine* and *JAZZIZ Magazine* -- following his Grammy Award® nominations for his album, *Lucky to Be Me*.

La Santa Cecilia exemplifies the modern-day creative hybrid of Latin culture, rock and world music. The six-member group draws inspiration from all over the world, utilizing cumbia, bossa nova, rumba, bolero, tango, jazz, rock and klezmer music. The group's song "Chicle," from their self-titled EP, was featured on the Emmy award-winning series *Weeds*, the independent feature *Dish*, the documentary *Re-Encounters*, and La Santa Cecilia made an on-camera appearance on HBO's Emmy award-winning hit show, *Entourage*. Los-Angeles based singer-songwriter **Moses Sumney** has yet to release his debut studio album, but is already being touted by distinguished Los Angeles-based publications as an artist to watch in 2014 (i.e. *LA Weekly*, *Time Out LA*, *Buzzbands LA*). **KCRW's Music Director Jason Bentley** included Sumney on his list of "5 L.A. Musicians to Watch in 2014," saying that "with a batch of great songs and an undeniable stage presence -- fully evident at Disney Hall recently for Beck's Song Reader revue -- Moses is clearly poised for a big year ahead."

Jeffery Broussard & The Creole Cowboys present Creole classics and their signature brand of contemporary zydeco music with soul, flair, and expert musicianship. One of the most influential accordionists around, Broussard is a past recipient of **Zydeco Music & Creole Heritage Awards'** "Accordionist of the Year." Composer and pianist **Amina Figarova** performs in support of her 12th album, *Twelve*, marking her debut on the renowned independent **German label In + Out**. Celebrating jazz as a truly international music and NYC being a locale where jazz gypsies feel most at home (Figarova is now based in Queens, NY), *Twelve* is a suite of songs for sextet infused with a sense of adventure and confidence. *New York City Jazz Record* notes, "...[*Twelve*] is a rich album that reveals new facets -- like the sly reference to Cole Porter's "Heat Wave" on "Leila" -- with repeated listening, as well as one that showcases one of jazz's very best working bands..." The Amina Figarova Septet has triumphed on the main stage of the **Newport Jazz Festival**, and has been invited repeatedly to appear at **New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival**.

Powerhouse **Nikki Hill** has earned comparisons to songstresses **Etta James** and **Billie Holiday**, while keeping the rock 'n soul attitude that earned her the nickname, "The Southern Fireball." Hill released her full-length album, *Here's Nikki Hill*, to critical acclaim in 2013. Legendary San Francisco vocalist **Kim Nalley** has performed alongside the **San Francisco Symphony**, was shortlisted for a Grammy® nomination in 2006 and dubbed "Best Jazz Diva" (*7x7 Magazine*) and the "Most Influential African American in the Bay Area" (*City Flight Magazine*).

Rounding out the line-up at Winter Fest is **Grupo Samba Rio**, which was founded in 2004 by world-class Brazilian percussionist **Jorge Alabê**. What's sure to offer an extremely danceable performance at Winter Fest, **Grupo Samba Rio** brings the spirit of authentic samba from Rio de Janeiro to the Bay Area.

Maintaining a focus on the future of jazz, Winter Fest 2014 will present the **San José State University Jazz Orchestra** and the **San Jose Jazz High School All Stars**, both led by noted saxophonist, composer and educator **Dr. Aaron Lington**. Lington wrote much of the music played by **Pacific Mambo Orchestra** on their 2014 Grammy® nominated album. Other youth ensembles are **Folsom High School Jazz Band Big Band**, **Santa Teresa High School Big Band**, **Valley Christian High School Big Band**, and **Kuumbwa Jazz Honor Band**, all are distinguished ensembles composed of students of the art form. San Jose Jazz continues its efforts in youth education throughout Winter Fest with master classes by Miguel Atwood-Ferguson, Taylor Eigsti, and Amina Figarova.

Brendan Rawson, Executive Director of San Jose Jazz comments, "We are excited about the mix of artists we have pulled together for Winter Fest 2014. Each year, Winter Fest provides us the opportunity to present some great up and coming acts as well as key influential artists in wonderfully intimate settings. We are fortunate to have an audience base here in Silicon Valley that this hungry for such programming. In addition, this year we have expanded our free programming on both Saturday and Sunday afternoons at San Pedro Square Market with some of the regions best youth big bands. It is going to be a great few days of music."

Artistic and Festival Director **Bruce Labadie** adds, "The fourth annual San Jose Jazz Winter Fest offers artists reflecting the diversity of programming at the San Jose Jazz Summer Fest, our commitment to education and our desire to continue our connection and development with a younger audience for jazz. The programs include master classes, performances by outstanding high school and college artists, dance parties and presentation of nationally-recognized artists in very intimate settings."

Collaborating with San Jose Jazz since 2004, **Tommy Aguilar** of Universal Grammar has presented several breaking artists' debut concerts in San Jose (including José James, Robert Glasper, Derrick Hodge, **Mark de Clive Lowe**, **Miles Bonny & B.Lewis**, **Little Dragon**, **Haitus Kaiyote** and many others). Universal Grammar's focus is to present emerging contemporary voices within the global soul/jazz/hip-hop music communities. An ambassador for modern cultural creativity, Universal Grammar's curated offerings reveal a devotion to authentic artistry that both challenges modern convention and respects its given craft.

Aguilar notes, "As a twenty something, it seems that not a lot of people in my age demographic are hip to the sounds of Jazz, or who are mis-informed about the genre. Thus, leaving a huge audience void at jazz gigs in Silicon Valley. It's our intention to introduce new artists in Jazz that are typically not recognized by the more popular notions of Jazz and music of the times. These groups all incorporate other mixes of sounds and bring great new ways of delivery. Cloaked in electronica, hip-hop, funk, house, Latin and soul - - artists that excite our ears -- all have elements of Jazz being brought forth through the process. Universal Grammar looks for those intersections and through recognition, starts the process of beginning that relationship with each artist directly, making it a more organic relationship as apposed to the general way of dealing with a Manager or Agent. We are thrilled to once again collaborate with San Jose Jazz, and further develop their Jazz Beyond initiative."

The 2014 Winter Fest is presented by Metro, and Hotel De Anza is the official hotel sponsor. Support for San Jose Jazz and the festival is provided by the City of San Jose, Office of Cultural Affairs; Silicon Valley Creates; The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation; The David & Lucille Packard Foundation; Hitachi; and San Jose/Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce.

4th Annual San Jose Jazz Winter Fest 2014

When: Friday, February 28 - Sunday, March 2, 2014

Where: Downtown San Jose, CA

Admission: Concert tickets are \$5 - 25 advance; \$5 - 27 at the door; SJJ members receive 15% off any advance web purchase (excluding Master Classes).

More Info: sanjosejazz.org/winterfest; (408) 288-7557

Ticket Info: Cash and credit accepted at door; Members get 15% off advance tickets.

Concerts and Events:

Thundercat

Co-Presented by Universal Grammar

Friday, February 28, 2014

Theatre on San Pedro Square

Show Time: 9 pm & 11 pm

Tickets: 9 pm (\$23 advance/\$25 door), 11 pm (\$20 advance/\$22 door)

Bassist/songwriter/vocalist **Stephen Bruner**, aka **Thundercat**, has music deeply rooted within. His father, **Ronald Bruner, Sr.**, is an internationally renowned jazz drummer who played with the **Temptations**, **Diana Ross**, **Gary Bartz** and **Gladys Knight**. His brother **Ronald Bruner, Jr.**, a Grammy Award-winning drummer, has played with the likes of **Roy Hargrove**, **Stanley Clarke**, and **Wayne**

Shorter. Stephen joined his brother as a member of West Coast punk vets **Suicidal Tendencies**, playing bass on their worldwide tours while still in high school. He also toured through Japan with Stanley Clarke at the age of 16.

As Thundercat, Bruner works with a mix of artists that suit his wildly experimental sensibilities -- anyone ranging from **Flying Lotus**, **Erykah Badu**, and Stanley Clarke to more recent collaborations with rappers **Wiz Khalifa** and **Earl Sweatshirt**. After meeting and touring with Flying Lotus, the two artists collaborated on Lotus' 2010 LP *Cosmogramma* on track "MmmHm." Their kindred sense of musicality led to Thundercat's 2011 solo debut, *The Golden Age of Apocalypse*, co-produced by Flying Lotus, which opened Bruner up to a new stratosphere of songwriting and artistic exploration. Thundercat's latest, *Apocalypse*, finds Bruner once again teaming up with executive producer Flying Lotus. The album blurs the confines of pop, funk, electronica and prog rock to create something new entirely.

thundercattheamazing.tumblr.com

Miguel Atwood-Ferguson with Special Guest Vocalist Mara Hruby

Co-Presented by Universal Grammar

Saturday, March 1, 2014

Theatre on San Pedro Square

Show Time: 8 pm & 10 pm

Tickets: 8 pm (\$23 advance/\$25 door), 10 pm (\$20 advance/\$22 door)

Miguel Atwood-Ferguson sets are general admission shows.

Los Angeles-based multi-instrumentalist **Miguel Atwood-Ferguson** is widely recognized as an esteemed live performer, studio musician, composer, arranger, music director, producer, DJ, educator and community leader. Though set to release his debut solo record in 2014, the depth and range of Atwood-Ferguson's work is vast, having contributed to over 300 recordings and countless live concerts. He effortlessly bridges diverse genres and generations of musical and cultural elements into cohesive and magical presentations. And it's his ability to connect with music of all styles, forms and traditions that sets him apart. *The Huffington Post* declares "he brings together genres seamlessly with his viola from hip-hop to classical and will have you gnashing or gritting your teeth with his, ahem, mad orchestral skills." Miguel's interests are many and he performs, tours and records with ensembles ranging from electronica, avant-garde, jazz, classical, hip-hop and pop, to name a few from countries all around the world.

As a violist, Miguel has appeared with respected artists including **John Legend**, **Wyclef Jean**, **Rihanna**, **Hall & Oates**, **Lana Del Rey**, **Pink**, and countless others on everything from the *Grammy Awards*® to *America's Got Talent* and *The Tonight Show*. In orchestral settings, Miguel has joined the likes of **Michael Tilson Thomas**, **Feist**, **Roy Hargrove**, **Quincy Jones**, **Stevie Wonder**, **Wayne Shorter**, **Brad Mehldau**, and **Guru (Gang Starr)** among many others.

As a studio musician, he has recorded for **will.i.am**, **Dr. Dre**, **Raphael Saadiq**, **Seu Jorge**, **Heath Ledger**, **John Cale**, **Eddie Murphy**, **Barry Manilow**, **Joss Stone**, **Michael Bublé**, **Marisa Monte**, **Common**, **Randy Jackson**, **Travis Tritt**, and on **Ray Charles'** Grammy®-winning album, *Genius Loves Company*. As a featured soloist, Miguel has performed and/or recorded alongside **Hubert Laws**, **Billy Higgins**, **Brian Blade**, **Buster Williams**, **Saul Williams**, **Ravi Coltrane**, **Eric Harland**, and many others.

Oakland-based, fast-rising vocalist **Mara Hruby** arrived on the scene at the start of 2010. Following a string of successful Bay Area engagements, she released her debut, *From Her Eyes*, a covers EP recorded, arranged, and engineered by Hruby herself. These seven tracks represent the genesis of the view "from Mara's Eyes," as each song reinterprets various works of her favorite male artists. In her words, Hruby calls her music "a melodic melting pot."

<http://miguelatwoodferguson.com>

<http://marahruby.com>

*Related Event: Master Class with Miguel Atwood-Ferguson | Saturday, March 1 @ 1pm

Anton Schwartz Quintet with Special Guest Taylor Eigsti

Saturday, March 1, 2014

Theatre on San Pedro Square

Show Time: 3pm

Tickets: \$25 advance/\$27 door

This is a general admission show.

In 1995, **Anton Schwartz** walked away from a high-powered academic career in Artificial Intelligence to play music full-time. Anton quickly gained an enthusiastic following as fans responded to what the *San Francisco Chronicle* called his "warm, generous tone, impeccably developed solos and infectious performance energy." In the years since, Anton has won over listeners and critics alike at

high-profile jazz venues across the country, including the **Blue Note** in New York, **Yoshi's** in Oakland and San Francisco, Washington D.C.'s **Blues Alley** and the **Monterey Jazz Festival**. He recently performed an entire concert of solo saxophone for the **2013 San Francisco Jazz Festival**. His four albums have earned sterling reviews and strong airplay, with his most recent, ***Radiant Blue***, landing in the "Top Five" on the American jazz radio charts. His latest album will be released on January 28, 2014.

Billboard Magazine wrote of his 2000 release, ***The Slow Lane***, "Schwartz savors the implications of each note, allowing the listener to delight in the endless melodies created by his stirring improvisations." Anton's debut album, ***When Music Calls*** (1998), inspired the ***San Francisco Bay Guardian*** to report, "Anton Schwartz has everything you want to hear in a modern jazz saxophonist -- an appealing, consistent tone, an abundance of ideas fueling both his compositions and his improvisations, and superb taste in musical collaborators." Perhaps famed saxophonist Illinois Jacquet put things most succinctly when he told Anton, "You play the tenor sax like it's meant to be played."

Anton is also in great demand as a teacher. He is a faculty member of The Jazzschool and Stanford Jazz Workshop, a clinician at the Brubeck Institute, and has been Artist-in-Residence at Harvard University and the Brubeck Institute Summer Jazz Colony.

<http://antonjazz.com>

<http://tayjazz.com>

*Related Event: Master Class with Taylor Eigsti | Saturday, March 1 @ 11 am

La Santa Cecilia

Saturday, March 1, 2014

San Pedro Square Market

Show Time: 9:30 pm

Tickets: \$20 advance/\$22 door

La Santa Cecilia exemplifies the modern-day creative hybrid of Latin culture, rock and world music. This six-member group draws inspiration from all over the world, utilizing cumbia, bossa nova, rumba, bolero, tango, jazz, rock and klezmer music. Their influences range from **Miles Davis** to **The Beatles**, **Zeppelin** to **Janis Joplin** and **Mercedes Sosa** to **Ramon Ayala**. Their common love of music and openness to all genres led them to the concept of La Santa Cecilia in 2007 -- named after the patron saint of musicians.

The group's song "Chicle," from their self-titled EP, was featured on the Emmy award-winning series ***Weeds***, the independent feature ***Dish***, and the documentary ***Re-Encounters***, about Oaxacan artist **Alejandro Santiago**. Their music has been heard on KPFK's radio programs "4 O'clock Tuesday" with Gustavo Arellano and "Travel Tips For Aztlan" with Mark Torres. The band made an on-camera appearance on **HBO's** Emmy award-winning hit show ***Entourage***, and the episode featured songs "Chicle" and "El Farol."

La Santa Cecilia consists of accordionist and requintero **Jose Carlos**, bassist **Alex Bendana**, percussionist **Miguel Ramirez** and lead vocalist **Marisoul**, whose captivating voice sings about love, loss and heartbreak.

lasantacecilia.com

Moses Sumney

Co-Presented by Universal Grammar

Sunday, March 2, 2014

Theatre on San Pedro Square

Show Time: 4 pm

Tickets: \$20 advance/\$22 door

With just a guitar, a looping station, and an undeniable vocal dexterity, **Moses Sumney** is quickly become one of the hottest emerging artists of 2014. He's continued to astonish audiences in his native Los Angeles, and his buzz is ready to go national after several regional publications have named him among the LA artists most likely to have a breakout year.

As ***LA Weekly*** raved when they listed Sumney as one of "10 L.A. Bands Who Will Blow Up In 2014," the weekly paper notes, "the soulful singer has an entire band residing within his throat." ***Time Out LA*** said Sumney is a "mix of D'Angelo, Elliott Smith, and Active Child," yet goes on to mention that "even that [comparison] would fall flat. Every time he performs he stuns a captive audience silent: just with his voice, a guitar, and loop pedal." ***Buzzbands LA*** referred to his sound as "evocative folk-soul" and called him a "one-man spectacle live," going on to say that "no artist in recent memory has gone from zero to must-see more quickly than Sumney."

mosessumney.com

Jeffery Broussard & the Creole Cowboys

Friday, February 28, 2014

San Pedro Square Market

Show Time: 7 pm

Tickets: \$20 advance/\$22 door

One of the most influential accordionists and vocalists in modern zydeco music, **Jeffery Broussard** is one of the genre's most dynamic performers. He has continually been an innovator, and "powers his band, the Creole Cowboys, with the force of his swampy Louisiana accordion riffs and the energy of his gruff vocals," hails *The New Yorker*.

Beginning his career with traditional Creole zydeco music playing drums in his father's band, **Delton Broussard & The Lawtell Playboys**, Broussard then moved on to develop the nouveau zydeco sound in **Zydeco Force**. He now returns to the more traditional zydeco sound with his own band, Jeffery Broussard & The Creole Cowboys. *The New York Times* challenges you to "just try to dislike a man who bedazzles his own accordion. Just try."

<http://www.jefferybroussard.com>

Amina Figarova Septet

Sunday, March 2, 2014

Theatre on San Pedro Square

Show Time: 2 pm

Tickets: \$20 advance/\$22 door

Composer and pianist **Amina Figarova's** 12th album, titled *Twelve* - her debut release on the renowned independent German label **In + Out** - celebrates jazz as an international music and New York City as a locale where jazz gypsies may feel most at home. A suite of songs for sextet Figarova wrote swiftly in 2011 after moving with her husband and musical partner, flutist **Bart Platteau**, to Forest Hills, Queens from their longtime European base, *Twelve* is suffused with the heightened expectations, sense of adventure and fresh perceptions that voluntary emigrés enjoy, as well as the confidence, creative energies and nuanced fulfillment that artists gain from being in the right place at the right time.

Amina was born and raised in Baku, Azerbaijan, Bart is from Belgium, and together they are citizens of the world. They've toured extensively, developing a tight-knit ensemble that, despite inevitable personnel changes, has attained a distinctive and inimitable voice by concentrating on all-original repertoire for almost 18 years. During that period, Figarova and Platteau have lived in Rotterdam, which they found to be a comfortable if not overly challenging launching pad for their careers. Having collaborated with musicians residing in both the U.S. and Europe and having built up a circuit of welcoming venues by taking it one gig at a time, the Amina Figarova Sextet has triumphed at the main stage of the **Newport Jazz Festival**, been invited repeatedly to **New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival**, won critical and audience acclaim in Chicago, Detroit, Paris, Amsterdam -- and of course New York.

ouaminafigarova.com

*Related Event: Master Class with Amina Figarova | Sunday, March 2 @ 12 pm

Nikki Hill

Sunday, March 2, 2014

Theatre on San Pedro Square

Show Time: 6 pm

Tickets: \$20 advance/\$22 door

Nikki Hill and her band are climbing to the top of the roots music scene step-by-step and leaving jaws on the floor along the way. With a no-filter energy, they take all the flavors of American roots music and deliver a sound that will make you believe in rock n' roll again. Nikki's gritty and raw voice with Stax soul dynamics, driving rhythm guitar from **Matt Hill**, and a tight rhythm section provided by **Ed Strohsahl** and **Joe Meyer** come together and make a sound that just sounds like the truth. The *Colorado Springs Independent* praises Hill's "lilting vocal style that combines the sultriness of **Billie Holiday** -- and soulfulness of the classic Stax Sound -- with the larger-than-life verve of blues legends like **LaVern Baker** and **Etta James**."

Hailing from Durham, North Carolina, Nikki comes by her Deep South soul honestly. Her musical roots began while singing in gospel choirs at church as a child. A stint living in nearby college town Chapel Hill introduced her to many different styles of music, and the awareness of music (and more importantly, unique and non-mainstream music) as a possible career. After pairing up with her guitar-playing husband Matt Hill, they have made an unstoppable team establishing themselves as roots, rock n' roll powerhouses!

Nikki Hill's self-titled EP released in June 2012 created a heavy and sudden international underground buzz that the band has traveled with from state to state and overseas. Those four tunes penned by Hill herself, proved that they have an energy that appeals to

everyone who is ready to dance, drawing crowds from every avenue at their shows. One club advertisement will call Nikki "The Southern Fireball," "the new soul sensation," "amazing R&B shouter," and even "the new Queen of Rock and Roll." Moving into 2013 with more songs, more energy, and a scorching desire to play their music for the world, the band is gaining unstoppable momentum with no plans of stopping as they're touring all over the United States, Europe and Australia following the debut of Hill's latest full-length album, *Here's Nikki Hill*, which was released in April 2013.

<http://nikkihillmusic.com>

Kim Nalley

Friday, February 28, 2014

Theatre on San Pedro Square

Show Time: 7 pm

Tickets: \$23 advance/\$25 door

This is a general admission show

Awarded "**Most Influential African American in the Bay Area**" in 2005 and "**Best Jazz Group**" in 2013, vocalist **Kim Nalley** is already being called "legendary" and "A San Francisco Institution." *Down Beat* raved that "sultry voiced Kim Nalley brings an irresistibly sexy sense of swing, rhythmic dexterity and beautiful sound to the classic, with her crisp diction and playful delivery of earthy lines." With an added international reputation as one of world's best jazz & blues vocalists, she has graced concert halls from Moscow to **Lincoln Center**. A true renaissance woman, Kim Nalley has also been a featured writer for *JazzWest* and *San Francisco Chronicle's* "City Brights," shortlisted for a Grammy® nomination, a produced playwright, a former jazz club owner, an accomplished stage actress, a history academic, and an avid lindy hop & blues dancer. Her many philanthropic endeavors include founding the **Kim Nalley Black Youth Jazz Scholarship**.

A born singer from a family that boasts several generations of jazz musicians, Nalley was taught piano by her great-grandmother and studied classical music and theatre in high school before relocating to San Francisco in the footsteps of the **Grateful Dead**. Working her way through college by singing in small dives and jam sessions, Nalley learned all of the intricacies of jazz the old fashioned way. Music critic **Phil Elwood** and **San Francisco Symphony** conductor **Michael Tilson Thomas** quickly discovered Kim Nalley, and brought her to national attention after they noticed her singing nightly at the Alta Plaza to packed audiences - without amplification. Tilson Thomas hired Nalley to sing a program of **Gershwin** with the San Francisco Symphony and recorded her farewell concert at the Alta Plaza.

Nalley has collaborated with artists such as **Rhoda Scott**, **David "Fathead" Newman**, **Houston Person**, **James Williams**, Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony. She has recorded several on both major and indie labels, including *She Put A Spell On Me* (short-listed for a 2006 Grammy®) and *Million Dollar Secret*, which charted in the Jazz Top 40. She's also on faculty at the Jazzschool's "Bachelor's of Music" program, and a history student in UC Berkeley's PhD program with plans to write her dissertation on the "Globalization of Jazz and Black Cultural Politics."

www.kimnalley.com

Grupo Samba Rio

Saturday, March 1, 2014

San Pedro Square Market

Show Time: 7 pm

Tickets: \$13 advance/\$15 door

Grupo Samba Rio was founded in 2004 by artistic and musical director **Jorge Alabê**, the world-class Brazilian percussionist now residing in the Bay Area.

Coming from the poor neighborhoods in the hills of Rio, the favelas, samba has grown beyond its humble beginnings to be enjoyed by music enthusiasts and dancers all across the world. Grupo Samba Rio represents authentic samba from Rio de Janeiro, and brings that spirit to the streets of the San Francisco Bay Area.

<http://gruposambario.com>

<http://www.jorgealabe.com>

Pamela Rose & Wayne De La Cruz -- Hammond Organ Party!

Wednesday, February 26, 2014

The Fairmont Hotel

Show Time: 8 pm

Tickets: free

Pamela Rose -- of **Wild Women of Song** -- and Hammond B-3 ace **Wayne De La Cruz** debut music from their new CD, *Hammond Organ Party!*, with a stellar line up of Bay Area musicians, including the masterful talents of **Kristen Strom** on saxophone, and **Kent Bryson** on drums. Together, Rose's soulful singing and De La Cruz's inspired keyboard wizardry lifts the *Hammond Organ Party!* into the stratosphere of swinging jazz standards and classic R&B grooves. From the bluesy swing of the Isley's "Nobody But Me" to the melodic strains of **Harry Warren's** "September In The Rain," to the funky shuffle of **Little Walter's** "My Babe," the *Hammond Organ Party!* brings it all back home.

pamelarose.com
waynedelacruz.com

Master Classes & Bay Area Youth Ensemble Performances

San Jose Jazz is thrilled to contribute to the national arts movement by providing year-round youth education programs, live music events, and performance and classroom opportunities for elementary, middle, high school and university music students with backgrounds that range from novice to the pre-professional gifted players. San Jose Jazz consistently broadens its reach to the local community with innovative education programs, benefiting the lives of children and families across the Bay Area. The latest school-based initiative, *Progressions*, is actively engaging students within the Franklin McKinley Public School District (San Jose, CA). San Jose Jazz offers more than 120 free live music programs each year in San Jose, CA.

Below is a list of master classes and youth ensemble performances happening throughout Winter Fest 2014. San Jose Jazz's education programs are supported by Southwest Airlines. Winter Fest 2014 Master Classes and youth performances are also supported by Hitachi and San Pedro Square Market.

Master Class with Miguel Atwood-Ferguson

Saturday, March 1 @ 1 pm
Theatre on San Pedro Square
Tickets: \$5 advance & door; GA

<http://miguelatwoodferguson.com>

Related Event: Miguel Atwood-Ferguson concert | Saturday, March 1 @ 8 pm & 10 pm | Theatre on San Pedro Square

Master Class with Taylor Eigsti

Saturday, March 1 @ 11 am
Theatre on San Pedro Square
Tickets: \$5 advance & door; GA

Becoming a bandleader starting at the age of 12, New York-based pianist and composer **Taylor Eigsti** was quickly labeled a prodigy, and released four early albums as a leader before having the opportunity to sign with Concord Records, where he has released three highly acclaimed albums.

The past few years have been especially exciting for the California native. Eigsti released *Lucky to Be Me* in 2006, which was nominated for two Grammy Awards® for "Best Instrumental Composition" and "Best Instrumental Jazz Solo." As a result, Eigsti was featured on the cover of both *Keyboard Magazine* and *Jazziz Magazine*, and was featured in his own **BET Television** special. Eigsti then released *Let it Come to You* (Concord) in 2008, which quickly garnered many four-star reviews from such publications as *DownBeat* magazine and *All Music Guide*, and went to **#2 in National Jazz Radio Airplay**. Eigsti has been featured on many radio shows, including appearing on **Marian McPartland's** award-winning **NPR program "Piano Jazz"** on several occasions.

The national spotlight has led to the good fortune of Eigsti performing or recording with such luminaries as **Dave Brubeck**, **Christian McBride**, **Joshua Redman**, **Nicholas Payton**, **Kurt Rosenwinkel**, **Dave Douglas**, **Esperanza Spalding**, **Ambrose Akinmusire**, **Donny McCaslin**, and **Red Holloway**, among many others. He has also performed internationally for 11 years with Grammy® nominated guitarist **Julian Lage**, his close musical collaborator. Eigsti and Lage came to collaborate on new symphonic compositions for guitar, piano and symphony orchestra, which was premiered in January 2012 in California with the **Peninsula Symphony Orchestra**.

Recently, Taylor has released a brand-new recording for Concord Music Group - his seventh album as a leader - entitled *Daylight at Midnight*, which features rising star singer-songwriter **Becca Stevens**, **Harish Raghavan** on bass, and **Eric Harland** on drums. A departure from previous albums, this project integrates the influence of lyrically-driven acoustic rock music through covers of songs by **Coldplay**, **Feist**, **MuteMath**, **Nick Drake**, **Elliot Smith**, and many others, in addition to originals.

Over the years, Eigsti has had the great opportunity to work with and write music for various orchestras, including the **Reno Symphony, Sacramento Philharmonic, Boston Youth Symphony, Tassajara Symphony, San José Chamber Orchestra, Oakland East Bay Symphony, and San José Chamber Orchestra.**

Eigsti has also incorporated a diverse educational career, leading numerous master classes and clinics for 15 years at music workshops and camps, and various colleges such as the University of North Texas, UC Berkeley, Skidmore College, Berklee College of Music, NYU, San Jose State, and University of Northern Colorado. He is on the advisory board of Stanford Jazz Workshop, where he has taught for 12 years, and has been the featured guest artist at the prestigious Brubeck Institute at the University of the Pacific several times, and artist in residence at the Jazzschool Institute in Berkeley, CA.

Related Event: Anton Schwartz Quintet with Special Guests Taylor Eigsti & Dominick Farinacci | Saturday, March 1 @ 3 pm | Theatre on San Pedro Square

<http://tayjazz.com>

Master Class with Amina Figarova

Sunday, March 2 @ 12 pm

Theatre on San Pedro Square

Tickets: \$5 advance & door; GA

Related Event: Amina Figarova Septet | Sunday, March 2 @ 2 pm | Theatre on San Pedro Square

San Jose Jazz High School All Stars

Saturday, March 1 @ 3pm

San Pedro Square Market

Tickets: free

Led by Music Director **Aaron Lington** (Director of Jazz Studies, San Jose State University), the **San Jose Jazz High School All Stars** is a regional, audition-based music education program for students who are interested in the study and performance of jazz. The program includes a large ensemble and a combo. It's designed to help students achieve a mastery of improvisation techniques while advancing their knowledge of music theory, arranging, composition, performance, and jazz history. The current roster of all stars includes students from 14 high schools from across the Bay Area and represents the "cream" of student players in Greater Silicon Valley. In 2013, the San Jose Jazz High School All Stars were recognized with the "Command Performance" award at the Santa Cruz Jazz Festival.

sanjosejazz.org

San José State University Jazz Orchestra

Sunday, March 2 @ 3 pm

San Pedro Square Market

Tickets: free

The SJSU Jazz Orchestra, directed by Dr. Aaron Lington, is the flagship ensemble of the University's Jazz Studies Program. Comprised of undergraduate and graduate students, the Jazz Orchestra performs the best music written for large jazz ensemble focusing on repertoire and mainstream composers, while frequently premiering new compositions.

Valley Christian High School Big Band

Saturday, March 1 @ 1:30 pm

San Pedro Square Market

Tickets: free

The Valley Christian Jazz Ensemble, directed by Dr. Marcus Wolfe, is the premier high school jazz ensemble in the Valley Christian Conservatory of the Arts located in San Jose, CA. This ensemble has a history of honorable recognition including first place honors with *Down Beat Magazine's* student competition in 2013. The musicians in this ensemble are dedicated to performing classic big band literature as well as exploring contemporary sources of composition.

Kuumbwa Jazz Honor Band

Sunday, March 2 @ 12 pm

San Pedro Square Market

Tickets: free

The Kuumbwa Jazz Honor Band is an all-star ensemble of high school musicians directed by noted pianist and composer, **Eddie Mendenhall**, assisted by tenor saxophonist and honor band alum, **Dillon Baiocchi**. Having successfully auditioned, band members attend weekly rehearsals, study complex jazz theory, improvisation and arranging, and learn essential life skills such as communication, cooperation and critical thinking. The Honor Band performs at community benefits, festivals and special events, ending each school year with a concert at the renowned Kuumbwa Jazz Center.

kuumbwajazz.org/education/honor-band

Santa Teresa High School Big Band

Saturday, March 1 @ 12 pm

San Pedro Square Market

Tickets: free

Folsom High School Jazz Band

Sunday, March 2 @ 1:30 pm

San Pedro Square Market

Tickets: free

Late Night Activities & Venues

Club Crawl

Friday-Saturday March 1-2, 9pm-12am

Venues on San Pedro Square and Throughout the San Jose Metro Area, TBA

Tickets: Free admission

Winter Fest 2014 Venues

***San Pedro Square Market**

87 North San Pedro Street, San Jose 95113

sanpedrosquaremarket.com

***Theatre on San Pedro Square**

29 North San Pedro Street, San Jose, CA 95110

<http://www.tabardtheatre.org/TOSPS>

***The Fairmont Hotel**

170 S. Market Street, San Jose, CA 95113

<http://www.fairmont.com/san-jose>

About San Jose Jazz

San Jose Jazz, the producer of the annual San Jose Jazz Summer Fest, is a 26-year-old 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to enrich the community through music education and live performance. The organization's purpose is to enhance the recognized value of arts to the individual and society, to use music and events to bring people together, and to help build a stronger, more vibrant community.

In 1987 San Jose Jazz produced its first Winter Jazz Series, in 1990 it produced its first jazz festival, and in 1993 it produced its first youth education program. San Jose Jazz is a dynamic, region-wide organization that presents more than 160 live music events a year.

San Jose Jazz Board of Directors

The San Jose Jazz Board of Directors includes local luminaries such as Chairman Mike Warner (Engineering Executive, garnering 20 patents in hard disk drives and semiconductor packaging) and Vice-Chair Dr. Robert E. Griffin, former VP at De Anza College. For a full list of the Board of Directors, please visit: www.sanjosejazz.org/board

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