



For immediate release: May 26th, 2009
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RE: Performances on the Lawn

2009 PERFORMANCES ON THE LAWN

Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, the Original

50th Anniversary, July 15-18, 2009

The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, the Original, offers a unique and intimate outdoor performance venue on Ingalls Mall Lawn. The Performances on the Lawn program showcases an exciting and eclectic mix of music, dance and magic by local community groups and professionals that is family friendly, forward thinking and innovative. Performers have the invaluable opportunity to share their talents with a diverse and supportive audience of art enthusiasts and collectors. The Performances on the Lawn program features over 30 acts throughout the four days of the Fair, creating an intimate and inviting sense of community, complementing the exceptional visual art at the Original Fair.

The 2009 Performances on the Lawn is supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Arts Alliance.

Wednesday, July 15

11:00am – Cottonwood Cloggers

Clogging is a modern dance using double plated jingle taps and is danced to any music that provides a good beat. It has been called the true North American folk dance.

12:00pm – Charles Baird Carillon

Perk up your ears at high noon to catch the beautiful bells of the Charles Baird Carillon in Burton Tower.

1:00pm – Daughters of Newgrass

This dynamic new trio combines and redefines the Celtic, Bluegrass, and Folk genres to create a high-energy, acoustic fusion that is completely their own. Inventive cellist, Ali Haraburda and multifaceted fiddler, Diana Ladio, have recently joined forces with accomplished singer/fiddler/guitarist Kiana "Triple Threat" Weber to create this new, all-female musical powerhouse. The Daughters team a variety of diverse musical backgrounds with the technical foundation of years of classical training to produce the refined, multi-dimensional sounds they call "Newgrass."

2:00pm – EMU Ballroom Dancers

The Eastern Michigan Ballroom Dancers strive to bring together students who are interested in swing dancing and promote this style of dance on the EMU campus. They will be giving a Latin and swing dance demonstration and performance.

(Wednesday, July 15 continued)

3:00pm – [EMU Jazz Combo](#)

Students from Eastern Michigan University's Jazz Program showcase their talents.

4:00pm – [Laurel Premo](#)

Laurel Premo shares a music full of life that draws from Appalachian, Celtic, Contemporary folk, Cajun, Bluegrass, and Scandinavian roots. From haunting old ballads to feverish instrumental compositions, her music is made for all ears.

5:00pm – [Chris Genteel](#)

Chris Genteel's music stems from rock, hip hop, soul, and lots in between. The songs are original, and fearlessly challenge the typical boundaries of pop classifications. The band, comprised of long-time regional rockers, gets people onto their feet and into the groove.

6:00pm – [Charlene Kaye](#)

Born in Hawaii and raised in Arizona, Charlene Kaye is a classically trained pianist turned pop songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who gathers all the essential elements of classical and pop to create a lush sonic palette that blurs the lines of both worlds. Her debut record, "Things I Will Need in the Past" is a deftly orchestrated work which offers the magnitude of a symphony and the modesty of a haiku. Pure, poetic, and full of personality, each song bears sincerity and absolute musical clarity that lingers long after the music has stopped.

7:00pm – [Branch Out Collective](#)

Branch Out Collective is the home of Ann Arbor's freshest hip-hop acts - [Celsius Electronics](#) and [Tree City](#). Celsius Electronics (a.k.a. CEL-EL) is the eclectic, electric Hip Hop/Electro duo consisting of Mike "Man In Charge" Hyter and Carlos "L05" Garcia. Tree City is a powerhouse of six emcees - Cheeks, DJ Cataclysmic, General P, Man In Charge, Realeyze, and Verseatile. Don't miss this high-octane, explosive performance as both groups take the stage.

8:00pm – [Yo!Soul](#)

Ann Arbor heavy Joey Dosik (My Dear Disco) delivers original, heartfelt and socially conscious soul, afrobeat and jazz tunes that awaken the heart and mind while keeping the booty shakin'.

Thursday, July 16

12:00pm – [Carillon](#)

Perk up your ears at high noon to catch the beautiful bells of the Charles Baird Carillon in Burton Tower.

1:00-3:00 pm – [Washtenaw Community College Music and Dance](#)

Washtenaw Community College has a long standing tradition of performance in music and dance. This summer will be the 25th year that WCC has highlighted their students' music and dance talents at the Street Art Fair.

(Thursday, July 16 continued)

3:00 pm – [George Tait's Mind Tapped](#)

Plucking thoughts out of audience members' heads, George Tait creates a powerful and captivating interactive performance involving mind reading, suggestion, psychology, magic, and humor. The show is a combination of mind reading and suggestion techniques. You'll watch in amazement as you find yourself unable to uncross your arms! You'll laugh in astonishment as thoughts are pulled right out of your mind!

4:00pm – [Fair Herald](#)

The founding members of Fair Herald met in the hallways during their Freshman year of high school, finding startling similarities between their record collections and shaggy haircuts. In the following years, through countless hours in a downtown coachhouse, Fair Herald meticulously crafted their textured roots-rock in the spirit of Wilco, The Replacements, and R.E.M. Constantly refining their sound, the band takes folk songwriting to adventurous new highs with an engaging modern edge.

5:00pm – [Tomek Miernowski](#)

Tomek Miernowski was born in Warsaw, Poland, in 1986. He started his musical education at the age of 5, in Madison, WI. Since then, Tomek has studied with such locally and internationally renowned educators as Robert Hurst, Geri Allen, Roger Brotherhood, and Ryszard Baloluszko, and has worked as a group leader, sideman, producer, and engineer; with his music featured in CDs, festivals, and a movie. Don't miss this blazing set of music as Tomek leads a group of Ann Arbor heavies.

6:00pm – [Carolyn Striho](#)

Carolyn Striho is a Detroit singer, songwriter and musician respected in the international music community as a performance artist/poet. Her riveting live shows with her great band are a blast of rock, pop, folk, cabaret w/spiritual, and gypsy punk. In 2009, she was recently nominated for 7 Detroit Music Awards! Carolyn skirts the line between high-energy, dreamy electro-acoustic rock, her music vibrant and bewitching- bold, yet hypnotic, smart, modern.

7:00pm – [Bobby Streng Saxomble](#)

Ann Arbor's Bobby Streng is an active saxophonist, composer, and arranger of all genres of music. His group, the Saxomble, fuses his backgrounds in classical, funk, jazz, and rock into an exciting live experience fueled by the sound and improvisation of a powerful five man saxophone front. While the ensemble that he has assembled is tight and well rehearsed, it is the uniqueness of each player's voice that impresses audiences most. With their unique sound, scores of original music, and an ultra-high energy live show, the Bobby Streng Saxomble breathes new life into the world of instrumental music.

8:00pm – [NoteWorthy Band](#)

A collaboration of diverse musicians and inspired by the spirituality of music, NoteWorthy Band's style is a fusion of old-school and new, and appeals to a wide spectrum of tastes. Whether they are playing a bluesy rendition of a classic hit or an original creation, NoteWorthy keeps it raw, intense and real.

Friday, July 17

12:00pm – Carillon

Perk up your ears at high noon to catch the beautiful bells of the Charles Baird Carillon in Burton Tower.

1:00pm – First Friday Cocktails

Named after their first gig at the Ann Arbor City Club, First Friday Cocktails have built a well-rounded repertoire from doo wop to country to jazz standards, performed as purely a cappella. Don't miss the ladies of First Friday Cocktails, their unique blend of class, sass, and musicianship are difficult to forget.

2:00pm – Unveiled Bellydance

Unveiled Bellydance is the premiere bellydance studio in Michigan. Founded in 2004 by Crystal Dunlap, it now boasts studios in both Ann Arbor and New York City. Classes and workshops are offered for people of all ages, shapes and sizes who are looking for a fun and different way to get in shape. Unveiled Bellydance Studio also has a professional troupe which performs a variety of Middle Eastern dances from traditional to tribal. Be sure to catch these ladies' dazzling performance!

3:00pm – The Bob Skon Trio

Bob Skon is a singer and guitarist currently living in Ann Arbor, MI. His 30 year career has taken him from New York to Los Angeles to the Midwest, while his style has evolved from classical, folk, rock, and country into what Bob calls "clean out the refrigerator soup." The Bob Skon Trio includes Matt Steward on percussion and Trent Collier on bass. Comfortable in the corner of a small cafe, on a large stage, or even on the sidewalk, the Trio is an act you don't want to miss!

4:00pm – Who Hit John?

Who Hit John? have been performing, jamming and busking around southwest Michigan since 2006. They've brought their energetic and original old time sound to bars, basements, street corners, concert halls - anywhere they can get folks stompin', singin' and clappin'. Joined together by a love for acoustic music and its vibrant scene in Michigan, this derelict group of misfits and prophets are intent on taking the world by storm, one song at a time.

5:00pm – Lightning Love

Minimal pop group from Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti delivers female fronted keyboard driven songs of love and youth. Leah writes the songs, Ben and Aaron back her up and fill it out. You'll love it.

6:00pm – The Dirty Birds

The Dirty Birds play rock'n'roll with a singer/songwriter's lyrical eye for detail, the ambitious, pioneering spirit of 60s psychedelia, and the dynamic interplay of a jazz combo. The Birds explore every sound and sensibility under the sun, and after years of study and travel, the result is a blended pastiche of styles: rock and pop, folk and country, jazz and soul. With The Dirty Birds you can always count on good music and a good time.

(Friday, July 17 continued)

7:00pm – [Thom Jayne and the Nomads](#)

Thom Jayne and the Nomads play an evocative mix of world music and jazz, experimenting with a variety of musical styles at every performance. Their unique blend of instruments, including the didgeridoo, violin, trumpet, African percussion, as well as guitars, bass and drums, combine to produce a compelling musical experience for audiences across the mid-Michigan area.

8:00 pm – [Third Coast Kings](#)

The Third Coast Kings are a proper deep funk and soul outfit. In the tradition of sixties and seventies funk groups, the Kings detonate with an explosive sonic force that is guaranteed to make you move. They draw influence from the great James Brown, as well as the many artists whose music was carefully salvaged by the crate digging revolution. Most importantly, the Kings make it a point to remain true to the style and technique of playing proper deep funk and soul to a live audience that might otherwise only be heard on dusty 45's.

Saturday, July 18

11:00pm – [The Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts Jazz Program](#)

The Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts Jazz Program offers year-long and summer jazz classes for kids aged 11 and up. The classes focus on style, history, theory, improvisation, and other performance techniques. The instrumentalists learn what their respective roles are when playing in a small jazz combo.

12:00 pm – [Frankie D'Angelo](#)

Singer/Songwriter Frankie D'Angelo serves up pop sensible anthems and blues-influenced ballads, all reflecting on life, love and loss. Frankie performs acoustically from New York to Los Angeles and in between, and was recently picked "Best of the Beats" out of over 120 bands at the 2008 Arts Beats & Eats festival.

1:00pm – [Michael Smith and his Cadillac Cowboys](#)

Michael Smith and his Cadillac Cowboys have been playing their infectious brand of Swing 'n' Roll in and around Ann Arbor since the 70s. When asked to open for Commander Cody and His Lost Planet Airmen, the group needed a name and the Cadillac Cowboys were born. The Cowboys were one of the signature acts showcased on the Street Art Fair's Graceful Arch Stage in the 70s, and we are thrilled to welcome them back 30 years later.

2:00pm – [Little Bang Theory](#)

Composer Frank Pahl's Little Bang Theory offers precious little melodies performed on an assortment of children's toys and unusual instruments like ukuleles, euphonium, melodica, and an array of self-built automated devices. The cling-clang of Little Bang Theory's misfit toys is guaranteed to charm your socks off.

(Saturday, July 18 continued)

3:00pm – [Capoeira Mandinga](#)

Capoeira is an Afro-Brazilian art form that involves movements from martial arts, games and dance. Capoeira Mandinga Michigan performs these high energy folkloric dances accompanied by live Afro-Brazilian instruments. Come see why fun is a universal language.

4:00pm – [Anna Ash and the Family Tree](#)

All we need to know is that Anna Ash is a not far off cousin of the yellowbird. With a lullaby of a voice, she and her friends take stringed instruments and mingle them with a smidgen of soul and a tad pinch of a shimmy and twang. In the middle something that's utterly endearing, Anna sits amongst all of the things that could sound like sophisticated, barefoot birthday parties where there are plenty of cupcakes with the right colored sprinkles, but also just enough lemonade that may or may not be spiked with things to make all the guests dizzy.

5:00pm – [Red Sea Pedestrians](#)

The Red Sea Pedestrians are a one-of-a-kind, full-blown, instrument-swapping fusion between tradition and the here-and-now. We're talkin' high-energy neo-Klezmer, hypnotic laments from the earth, songs of celebration and wonder. A warped and beautiful blend of cultures and eras. Don't miss this captivating live show as Red Sea Pedestrians close out the 50th Anniversary Ann Arbor Street Art Fair.

www.artfair.org