



Sixth Annual Whale & Jazz Festival Extended to Two Weekends

Eleven events from Thursday April 3 through Sunday April 13

Poetry & Jazz opens the Whale and Jazz Festival on **Thursday, April 3 at 7 p.m.** at the Gualala Arts Center with California Poet Laureate Al Young in celebration of National Poetry Month. He will read and perform his poetry accompanied by bassist Dan Robbins. In addition, major local poets Fiona Perkins, Stephen Kessler, Blake More, Janet DeBar, and high school senior, Natalie Cox, will be reading their latest works. In the Elaine Jacob Foyer will be the exhibit, "A Garden of Poetry" with artists combining art with poetry.

- **Dinner & Jazz on Friday, April 4**, in St. Orres Dining Room with European Gypsy Jazz performed by Paul Gruen and Ned Ripple as "Bo Djangles Guitars." (707 884-3335)
- **Chowder Challenge & Tasting, Saturday, April 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at the Gualala Arts Center. The popular Annual Chowder Challenge & Tasting with wine & microbrews and a free concert with traditional New Orleans jazz by "Barnebey's Hot Four" back by popular demand. (707 884-1138)
- **Whale Documentary Films Saturday, April 5 starting 2 p.m.** at the Gualala Community Center. Speaking on "The Mendocino Whale Wars" will be film maker Scott Barry. More to be announced.
- **The Main Event on Saturday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m.** at Gualala Arts Center features jazz prodigies, "a rare moment in time," the 13-year-old Bay Area flute sensation and vocalist Elena Pinderhughes and 15-year-old Boston Area alto sax sensation, vocalist and composer, Grace Kelly, with their veteran ensembles.



Beginning The Main Event at Gualala Arts Center is 15-year-old brilliant alto sax phenomenon, composer, and vocalist Grace Kelly, with her inventive ensemble, performing familiar jazz standards and her original compositions. Grace has performed throughout the U.S. and Europe at Carnegie Hall, Birdland, Kennedy Center, Boston Symphony Hall, Tanglewood, and the Northern Lights Festival in Norway, among other international venues. She has recorded with such jazz notables as Dianna Reeves, James Moody, and Lee Konitz. Grace was the winner of four 2006 *Downbeat* Student Music Awards and the Superior Musicianship Award for 2007. At the Berklee College of Music Grace Kelly was judged the top woodwind soloist and was picked the top alto vocal soloist at the 2007 Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival.

Following intermission, the exciting Elena Pinderhughes Quintet will feature 13-year-old jazz flute sensation and vocalist Elena, returning by popular demand, who will perform Latin jazz and standards. Elena has performed at Carnegie Hall, Yoshi's, Pearl's, Yerba Buena Garden Summer Festival, SF Grammy Awards Annual Meeting, SF's Brazilian Carnival, and many other venues. She charmed the audience at last year's Whale & Jazz Festival, performing with the Montclair Women's Jazz Ensemble. Gualala Arts is eagerly awaiting her return performance. Her debut CD, *Catch 22*, is available through CD Baby. She is also featured on a jazz CD produced by the Young Musicians Program entitled *Future Gold*.



To conclude the concert, both jazz prodigies will join forces for the first time in a charismatic Grand Finale! Look for some surprises as well. Festival Music Coordinator and KTDE 100.5 FM personality Fred Adler will emcee the concert.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for beer, wine and a martini bar along with savory and sweet tapas plates available for purchase (one plate included per admission). Limited open cabaret seating at 7 p.m. with the show starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 if purchased in advance or \$5 more the day of the event, if available. Call Gualala Arts office, 707 884-1138, with Visa/MC or stop by local outlets at Four-Eyed Frog Bookstore, Violet's Boutique, and Dolphin Gallery in Gualala.

- **Sunset & Jazz on Sunday, April 6** at The Sea Ranch Lodge with Susan Sutton, piano and Terry Simcik, guitar. (707 785-2371)
- **Wine & Jazz on Saturday, April 12, from 1 to 4 p.m.** at the Annapolis Winery. Christie Winn, vocalist and melodia player will be accompanied by guitarist Steve Bissinger. Wine by the glass with a gourmet cheese selection. (707 886-5460)
- **Romance & Jazz on Saturday, April 12 at 6 p.m.** at the Whale Watch Inn. Enjoy a gourmet buffet and wine while listening to Susan Sutton, piano, with Steve Webber, acoustic bass. Vocalist will be Linda Jean. (707 884-1337)
- **Arena Rhythm 'n Jazz on Saturday, April 12 at 8 p.m.** at the Arena Theater in Point Arena. "A Motown Jazz Soul Revue" will star Bay Area jazz and R&B vocalist Rhonda Benin and the acclaimed soul singer Calvin Tillery, joined by six incredible Bay Area jazz/R&B instrumentalists, plus a special set by talented 13 year old East Bay vocalist, LaTonya Shorter. There will be dancing. Fred Adler will emcee the concert. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$5 more at the box office if available. Get your tickets now at brownpapertickets.com with VISA/MC, or at The Sea Trader and Four-Eyed Frog Bookstore in Gualala, The Record in Point Arena, and Tangents in Fort Bragg. (707 882-2973)
- **Brunch & Jazz on Sunday, April 13 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at the Redwood Grill in Anchor Bay while listening to Bay Area jazz and blues pianist Tammy Hall. (707 884-1639)
- **Whale Watching** every day from 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Point Arena Lighthouse. (707 882-2777)

Special Thanks to Coldwell Banker Pacific Real Estate!