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MENDOCINO MUSIC FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 30TH ANNUAL EVENT JULY 8-23 WITH 28 CONCERTS RANGING FROM CLASSICAL, OPERA AND BIG BAND TO MALAWIAN, BLUES AND A MULTI-CONCERT BEETHOVEN TRIBUTE

GUEST ARTISTS INCLUDE STEPHEN PRUTSMAN, GEOFF NUTTALL, GLORIA CHENG, PAUL MCKENNA BAND, CALDER QUARTET, ALEX DE GRASSI/ANDREW YORK DUO WITH BADI ASSAD, THE STRAY BIRDS, MENDOCINO MUSIC FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS AND MORE

FESTIVAL CO-FOUNDERS ALLAN POLLACK AND SUSAN WATERFALL CELEBRATE 30

Mendocino, CA, March 24, 2016 – More than two dozen diverse concerts highlight the 30th Mendocino Music Festival—one of the country’s most varied music festivals in a breathtakingly scenic location—scheduled July 8-23 2016 at various venues in the historic seaside towns of Mendocino and Fort Bragg, CA. Festival Co-Founders **Allan Pollack** and **Susan Waterfall** have announced the 2016 Festival lineup of 28 concerts and events. Artists for the 30th Festival include the **Festival Orchestra and Chorus, Peter Mawanga, Stephen Prutsman, Geoff Nuttall, Gloria Cheng, Paul McKenna Band, Calder Quartet, Alex De Grassi, The Stray Birds, SanFran6, Alex de Grassi/Andrew York Duo with Badi Assad, Robert Henry, Christopher Atzinger, Carol Welsman, Nora Jane Struthers and the Party Line, Jack Broadbent and Liz Vice, David McCarroll, Julian Waterfall Pollack with Sveti and ROSA, Buckwheat Zydeco, Gwyneth Moreland** and others. The Festival will open July 8 with a benefit celebration at a stunning private location featuring music and food in the home and lush gardens. Tickets for Festival concerts are priced \$12-\$53. A complete Festival schedule may be found below; for information and tickets, visit www.mendocinomusic.org.

“We celebrate three decades of great music and great relationships,” observe Festival co-founders Allan Pollack and Susan Waterfall, whose vision together with the late Walter Green was to partner a vibrant arts community in one of the world’s most scenic locations with musicians from around the world that has resulted in one of the country’s long-standing, “go-to” festivals. “This is such a special place, made more special each July by musicians from virtually every genre coming together with members of the community and visitors from all over to create more than performances, but a festival that permeates every aspect of the community.”

2016 30th MENDOCINO MUSIC FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Allan Pollack and Susan Waterfall, Co-Founders

July 8 6-9 PM Opening Celebration and Benefit

Sostenuto: A Celebration of Sustainability

Festival supporters will enjoy a sumptuous seasonal buffet presented at stations in the kitchens, at the grill, and throughout the gardens. *Sostenuto* celebrates the Festival's goals for its sustainable future, and honors the commitment of our hosts, Linda and Fedele Bauccio, to sustainable local food. *Sostenuto's* culinary delights are created by chefs of the Bon Appétit Management Company: Marco Alvarado, Executive Chef, and chef Holly Winslow, Event Manager, and their professional food and service staff. The signature *Sostenuto* cocktail and fine wines will accompany appetizers. Beer from local sources will be served.

Sostenuto is one in a series of culinary events that bring people together each year in celebration of music and the vibrant food and beverages of Mendocino; events that are also one of the principal ways the festival raises funds to ensure its long-term sustainability.

July 9 2:30 PM Tent Concert Hall

Violinist Geoff Nuttall and Pianist Stephen Prutsman

Consummate artists Stephen Prutsman and Geoff Nuttall celebrate the opening of the Festival with a performance of one of the great pillars of Classical Music: the complete Bach Violin Sonatas.

July 9 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall

Peter Mawanga

A self-proclaimed "Voice for the Voiceless" and leader of the premier band in Malawi, Mawanga fuses traditional Malawian rhythms, compositions and vocal arrangements with modern instrumentation for socially conscious and inspirational music.

July 10 6:00 PM Tent Concert Hall

Festival Orchestra with Pianist Stephen Prutsman

Celebrating 30 years with the joyous Allegro con brio from Beethoven Symphony No. 7; Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3; and Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5. Ticket includes 5:00 PM Pre-concert Lecture by Patrick Gomes.

July 11 2:30 PM Preston Hall Piano Series

Gloria Cheng

The Grammy-winning pianist will present her recent documentary project, "Montage: Great Film Composers and the Piano," and follow with a concert of selected pieces in the film

July 11 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall

Paul McKenna Band

Combining their love for Celtic, folk and traditional music, Paul McKenna Band offers exciting sounds with a contemporary approach.

July 12 4:00 PM Tent Concert Hall

Calder Quartet

Returning for a fourth year of insightful and moving playing, the internationally acclaimed Calder will perform the Debussy String Quartet; Anders Hillborg *Kongsgaard Variations*; and Beethoven Romance for Violin Op. 59 No. 2.

July 13 2:30 PM Preston Hall

SanFran6

A new and upcoming vocal band/*a cappella* group, with styles ranging from R&B to pop and funk. Competing in NBC's "The Sing-Off" in 2014 launched them on their exciting career.

July 13 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall

The Stray Birds

Hailing from Pennsylvania and flying high since the 2012 release of their critically acclaimed self-titled album, The Stray Birds is a genre-melding acoustic trio of classically trained musicians who have been making music of all kinds since childhood.

July 14 2:30 PM Preston Hall Piano Series

Robert Henry

Fascinating programming and gorgeous pianism from this charming young pianist from Georgia. Haydn Sonata No. 38 in F Major Hob. XVI:23; Lili Boulanger *Trois morceaux*; Carl Vine Sonata No. 1; Robert Helps *Portrait*; Brahms *25 Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel*.

July 14 7:30 Tent Concert Hall

Double Bill: Alex de Grassi/Andrew York Duo and Badi Assad

Alex de Grassi and Grammy award winner Andrew York are widely acclaimed as leading innovators and virtuosos of acoustic and classical guitar; the duo combine their distinctive compositions, arrangements, and technical mastery to deliver an astonishingly diverse program of music. Assad is a vibrant and exciting singer/guitarist from Brazil who transcends traditional styles with her unique mixture of pop, jazz and ethnic sounds from around the world.

July 15 2:30 PM Preston Hall

Jazz Vocalist Clairdee

With her lustrous voice, soulful delivery, and scene-stealing charisma, she has honed a repertoire of standards set to state of the art arrangements that are equally smart and entertaining. Pianist Ken French has been performing jazz piano professionally for nearly two decades on the San Francisco scene and as far afield as Japan and the Atlantic seaboard.

July 15 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall

Opera: The Abduction from the Seraglio

Mozart's first operatic masterpiece, comic but passionate, written in the fervor of love for his soon-to-be wife, Constanze. Full of spectacular arias and charming "Turkish" orchestral effects.

July 16 2:30 PM Preston Hall Piano Series

Christopher Atzinger

Praised for his interpretive vision and power, Atzinger's program includes his signature performance of the monumental Barber Sonata. Mozart Piano Sonata No. 17 in B flat Major, K. 570; Brahms *Sechs Klavierstücke*, Op. 118; Pierre Jalbert *Toccata*; Chopin Fantasia in F minor, Op. 49; Barber Sonata for Piano, Op. 26

July 16 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall
Festival Big Band with Singer Carol Welsman

Canadian-born and now based in Los Angeles, jazz vocalist and pianist Welsman has been nominated for five Juno Awards. *Downbeat Magazine* gave her new album "Alone Together" five stars.

July 17-20 A Beethoven Tribute

Join Susan Waterfall for five days of lectures and narrated concerts exploring the life and music of Beethoven, the most influential and consistently popular composer in Western music. Beethoven's life became the defining archetype of the artist's life. He left us with a body of work unsurpassed in its capacity to exalt, reveal, and profoundly heal the human condition.

July 17 2:30 PM Tent Concert Hall
All about Beethoven

A witty and penetrating multi-media lecture by Susan Waterfall, providing an overview of Beethoven's life, music, family, friends, patrons, fellow musicians, Napoleon, the Viennese cultural milieu, and the ongoing controversy about the "immortal beloved". Images by Mina Cohen

July 17 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall
Nora Jane Struthers and The Party Line

American singer/songwriter Nora Jane Struthers, a former Brooklyn high school English teacher, grew up singing and playing music with her father, a bluegrass musician. Making a major life and career change during a visit to the Telluride Bluegrass Festival in the early 2000's, she made the decision to move to Nashville and went on to win the 2008 Telluride band competition with her first solo-fronted group, the Bootleggers.

July 18 2:30 PM Preston Hall
Young Beethoven (1792-1802)

Arriving in Vienna from Bonn, the socially awkward Beethoven strives to attain the stature of Haydn and Mozart, mastering all genres before his hearing loss becomes pronounced. Op. 11 Clarinet Trio; Op. 20 Septet; Op. 24 Violin Sonata *Spring*.

July 19 2:30 PM Preston Hall
Beethoven: The Heroic Period (1802-1812)

Accepting his deafness and physical infirmities, Beethoven vows to "seize Fate by the throat" and pursue his artistic goals. Op. 35 Prometheus (*Eroica*) Variations; Op. 72 Arias from *Fidelio*; Op. 57 Piano Sonata *Appassionata*.

July 19 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall
Double Bill: Jack Broadbent and Liz Vice

Gospel, soul and R&B infused artist Liz Vice is a passionate storyteller whose dynamic soulful lyrics feel timeless and reference her deep-rooted spirituality. Broadbent hails from rural England and is acclaimed as one of the most exciting modern bluesmen, leaving audiences spellbound with his unique style of slide guitar.

July 20 7:30 Tent Concert Hall

Festival Orchestra with violinist David McCarroll

Violin virtuoso David McCarroll returns to dazzle Festival audiences with his rapturous, yet tender, interpretation of Beethoven's great Violin Concerto. The Festival Orchestra also performs Beethoven's majestic Eroica Symphony, full of drama and pathos. Two defining symphonic masterpieces from Beethoven's Heroic Period, and a soloist of international repute

July 21 2:30 PM Preston Hall

Late Beethoven (1813-1827)

After the renunciation of his "immortal beloved," in social withdrawal and complete deafness, Beethoven forged a final style. Op. 98 *An die ferne Geliebte*; Piano Sonata Op. 109 in E Major; String Quartet Op. 132 in A minor.

July 21 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall

Julian Waterfall Pollack with Sveti and ROSA

An exciting and many faceted evening inspired by traditional Serbian folk music. Enjoy Julian with drummer Marko Djordjevic's band, Sveti, and their amazing compositions based on Serbian folk rhythms. The international women's vocal group ROSA, specializing in Serbian non-tempered singing, will round out a complex and riveting musical evening!

July 22 4:00 PM Preston Hall

Emerging Artists

This is the annual, much anticipated recital by the outrageously excellent young string players from the festival's Emerging Artists Program.

July 22 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall

Buckwheat Zydeco

Stanley "Buckwheat" Dural's Zydeco band is recognized as one of America's most high-powered and accomplished folk ensembles carrying on the traditions of home-grown Louisiana music.

July 23 2:30 PM Preston Hall

Gwyneth Moreland and Friends

Mendocino coast resident Gwyneth Moreland is a musician-songwriter known for her heartbreakingly beautiful voice, describing her music as folk with jazz influences. "Slaughterhouse Gulch," the first single from her latest album, landed her on the Folk Airplay charts.

July 23 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall

Festival Orchestra and Chorus

The season closes with Bach's moving and magnificent *Mass in B minor*, a sublime choral experience with orchestra, chorus. The *Mass in B minor* shows Bach at the height of his powers, expressing the grandeur of heartfelt spiritual expression as no one else has ever been able to do. Nothing can compare to the glory of a great chorus and orchestra to soothe the soul and comfort the weary along the mysterious journey of life.

About the Mendocino Music Festival

Established in 1986, the Mendocino Music Festival was the dream of Allan Pollack, Susan Waterfall and the late Walter Green. The Festival is a magical blend of fine music by outstanding performers in one of the most enchanting sites in Northern California. Evenings include orchestra concerts, Big Band, chamber music ensembles, dance, blues, jazz, world, folk, bluegrass and popular contemporary music. Daytime concerts include lecture/recitals at the Piano Series, a performance by participants in the Emerging Artists Program, and small concerts in intimate venues throughout the historic towns of Mendocino and Fort Bragg.

About the Festival Founders

Maestro **Allan Pollack** has guided the Mendocino Music Festival as Artistic Director and Conductor since the first note was played in 1987. Over the years, memorable performances have taken shape under his baton including Verdi's Requiem, Brahms' Requiem, Beethoven's 9th Symphony, Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde, and Stravinsky's Rite of Spring. In addition to leading The Festival Orchestra in the classics, Mr. Pollack has conducted many fully staged operas.

With a Ph.D. in composition from UC Berkeley, Maestro Pollack has composed a variety of pieces especially for the Festival Orchestra and musicians: The Spiral Dance for chorus and orchestra; Two Movements in Time for orchestra; From the Song of Songs for soprano and orchestra; A Summer Evening at the Boonville Fair for orchestra; Albion Song: Jazz Concerto for Saxophone; a Vibraphone Concerto; and a String Quartet. As a jazz musician, he leads the fabulous Festival Big Band and sometimes takes a solo on saxophone.

Allan is also Music Director and Conductor for Symphony of the Redwoods.

Pianist **Susan Waterfall** creates yearly multi-media, narrated settings for chamber music for the Festival. These have included: *Voyage a Paris* (2001); *Argentina: Gauchos and Tangos* (2002); *Bartok's Women* (2003); *Tales of a Parisian Salon: Winnaretta Singer, Princesse de Polignac* (2004); *Young Brahms* (2005); *Scandalous Music! Satie, Ravel, Debussy, and Stravinsky* (2006); *Leos Janacek: A Solitary Genius* (2007); *Degenerate Music! Kurt Weill, Schoenberg, and Hanns Eisler in Weimar Berlin* (2008); *They Left A Light, Masterpieces from Nazi Prison Camps* (2009); *Hallelujah America* (2010); *Irresistible Grooves* (2011), *Music for a Teahouse* (2012), with Wu Man, compositions of Bright Sheng, Tan Dun, and traditional Chinese music; and *Umi no Hi* (2013), an entire day of events celebrating Japan's contemporary and historic music and culture, featuring the compositions of Toru Takemitsu. In 2014, she designed and performed in the four-day Bach Festival *Bach Fest*, featuring lectures and concerts. With *Mozart in Mendocino* (2015), Waterfall continued her in-depth exploration of the music, life, and cultural milieu of a major composer. This summer's *Beethoven Tribute* will similarly offer an array of programs designed to provide the listener with an understanding of Beethoven's pivotal role in Western music and culture.

Waterfall studied piano with Ivan Moravec and Karl Ulrich Schnabel and musicology with Roland Jackson and Glenn Watkins. In the 1970s Susan lived, studied, and performed South Indian Classical Music with the legendary Dhanammal family in Madras (Chennai) India. Susan brings an enhanced sensibility of the role of music in culture to all of her concerts. Susan and Allan are the parents of the acclaimed jazz pianist Julian Waterfall Pollack.

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