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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MENDOCINO MUSIC FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES THE 32<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL EVENT  
JULY 6-21 FEATURING SIGNATURE RANGE OF MUSIC FROM  
CLASSICAL, JAZZ AND BLUEGRASS TO ZYDECO, OPERA AND SALUTES  
TO BERNSTEIN AND CHOPIN AND IRISH STEP DANCE IN 31  
PERFORMANCES IN A SPECTACULAR LOCALE**

**GUEST ARTISTS INCLUDE MENDOCINO MUSIC FESTIVAL  
ORCHESTRA, CHORUS AND BIG BAND, GEOFF NUTTALL, STEPHEN  
PRUTSMAN, THE PINE LEAF BOYS, THE STEPCREW, SHAWNETTE  
SULKER, LUCIA MICARELLI, CALDER QAU RTET, NEW ESTERHAZY  
QUARTET, ERIC BIBB, CLAIRDEE, THE BAREFOOT MOVEMENT, PERLA  
BATALLA, ALEX DE GRASSI WITH ANDREW YORK AND MORE**

**TICKETS ON SALE MARCH 26**

Mendocino, CA, March 19, 2018 – More than 30 varied concerts and events bringing together performers and audiences with a deep passion for live music will highlight the 31st Mendocino Music Festival—one of the country’s most eclectic music festivals, in a breathtakingly scenic location—scheduled July 6-21 2018 centered on the headlands of the historic seaside town of Mendocino, CA. Festival Co-Founders **Allan Pollack** and **Susan Waterfall** have announced the 2018 Festival lineup including **The Mendocino Music Festival Orchestra, Chorus and Big Band, Geoff Nuttall, Stephen Prutsman, The Pine Leaf Boys, The StepCrew, Shawnette Sulker, Lucia Micarelli, Calder String Quartet, New Esterhazy String Quartet, Eric Bibb, Clairdee, The Barefoot Movement, Perla Batalla, Alex De Grassi with Andrew York** and more. The Festival will open Friday, July 6, with a benefit celebration at a stunning private location featuring music and food in the home and lush gardens of Fedele and Linda Bauccio. Tickets for Festival concerts are priced \$12-\$55 and go on sale to the general public on March 26. A complete Festival schedule may be found below; for information and tickets, visit [www.mendocinomusic.org](http://www.mendocinomusic.org) .

**A Passionate Coming Together of Performers, Audience and Community**

For more than three decades, the Mendocino Music Festival has brought together a passionate group of committed professional musicians—some of them have been with the Festival since the beginning—guest artists and an extraordinarily devoted audience from all over Northern California and beyond. This mix of passion, live music and one of North America’s most spectacular coastal towns makes the

Mendocino Music Festival a destination and a top annual music event.

“It’s like taking a vacation with your favorite composer or performer in one of the world’s most beautiful places,” say 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, and it has resulted in one of the country’s “go-to” festivals. “We look around at rehearsals and performances on stage and in the audience and always see the faces of people who are passionate for great music. Whether people come for one concert from Mendocino or for a weekend or a week from farther away, the Festival brings together those who are passionate about all kinds of music and are looking for the unique combination of performances and place Mendocino offers. Mendocino is large and well-known enough for us to attract great names in music. Yet it is off the beaten track enough to remain one of those Festivals that maintains an intimate, special and inspiring feeling.”

## **2018 Mendocino Music Festival Schedule**

**Friday, July 6 ▶ 6:00 to 9:00 PM**

### **Opening Gala Sostenuito**

#### **At the Little River home of Linda and Fedele Bauccio**

Celebrate all that the Festival represents - music, sustainable food, art, and nature, at the Bauccio’s stunning oceanfront home, featuring fine local wine and a sumptuous al fresco dinner prepared by Bon Appétit Management Company. This year Sostenuito celebrates the cuisine and music of the Caribbean, with performances and dancing to Pankind. The food will be presented at stations throughout the grounds, including two houses; the outdoor kitchen, grill, fire pit and gardens. Organic wine provided by Frey Vineyards.

**Saturday July 7 ▶ 2:00 PM Tent Concert Hall**

### **Soloists Together**

Before their solo turns later in the week, this afternoon Geoff Nuttall, violin, and Livia Sohn, violin, join Stephen Prutsman, piano, to play Telemann’s *Gulliver Suite*, Cesar Franck’s Sonata in A Major, instrumental versions of familiar arias by Bizet, Verdi, and Gluck, and Hubay’s *Carmen Fantasie*.

**Saturday July 7 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall**

### **The StepCrew**

Bringing together three styles of exhilarating dance forms--Ottawa Valley stepdance, Irish stepdance, and Tap—these dancers and musicians take you on an amazing dance journey. As if dancing weren’t enough, The StepCrew boasts world-class fiddlers backed by an ensemble of some of the most talented musicians in the Celtic music scene today.

**Sunday July 8 ▶ 6:00 PM Tent Concert Hall**

### **Festival Orchestra with violinist Livia Sohn and soprano Shawnette Sulker**

The season opens with Bernstein's energetic and rhythmic *Candide Overture*; Copland's inspiring and melodic *Appalachian Spring*; Barber's Violin Concerto; and songs and dances from Bernstein's *West Side Story* and other musicals.

**Monday July 9 ▶ 2:30 PM Preston Hall**

**Business Casual**

This dynamic group combines unexpected musical styles to produce fresh a cappella versions of vintage chart toppers, today's top-40 hits, and award-winning original material. With such powerful leads and sizzling beats, audiences can't believe this group is using only their voices.

**Monday July 9 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall**

**Lucia Micarelli**

Violinist Lucia Micarelli journeys through many musical influences from classical to jazz to traditional fiddle music and Americana, all bound together by her trademark vulnerability and technical wizardry. Micarelli is best known for her collaborations with Josh Groban, Chris Botti, and classic rock band Jethro Tull, as well as her starring role as Annie in HBO's critically acclaimed series *Treme*.

**Tuesday July 10 ▶ 4:00 PM Tent Concert Hall**

**Calder Quartet**

The Festival welcomes the Calder Quartet back for a sixth year of sensitive and eloquent playing. Program: Beethoven: String Quartet No. 10, Op. 74 "The Harp"; Webern: Five Movements for String Quartet, Op. 5; Beethoven: String Quartet No. 16, Op. 135

**Wednesday July 11 ▶ 2:30 PM Preston Hall**

**New Esterhazy Quartet**

"London, 1845: Gratitude to Josef Haydn" will showcase this quartet's core repertoire by playing four of Haydn's string quartets: D minor, C Major, D Major, and B-flat Major. Founded in 2006, the quartet takes its name from the Hungarian estate where Joseph Haydn lived and worked for nearly three decades.

**Wednesday July 12 ▶ 7:30 Tent Concert Hall**

**Eric Bibb**

With a career spanning five decades, three dozen albums, countless radio & television appearances, and concerts all over the globe, Eric Bibb is one of the leading bluesmen of his generation. A fiery singer with soul, gospel and folk roots, his blues are honest and powerful. Born in New York and raised in a musical family, Bibb currently lives in Sweden.

**Thursday July 12 ▶ 2:30 PM Preston Hall**

**The Mattlock Duo Cabaret**

The Mattlock Duo (husband-and-wife team Daniel Lockert and Jenny Matteucci) will transform Preston Hall into a New York cabaret with music that crosses over from favorite standards, to twentieth century "classical" composers, and to the many facets of love and showcase songs with intimate style.

**Thursday July 12 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall**  
**The Barefoot Movement**

Heartfelt, energetic, and down home, The Barefoot Movement has been selected as showcase artists at conferences of both the International Bluegrass Music Association and the Americana Festival, taking listeners to another place and time with a show as fun to watch as it is to hear.

**Friday July 13 ▶ 2:30 PM Preston Hall**  
**Clairdee**

In "A Love Letter to Lena Horne," Clairdee will commemorate the career of the groundbreaking singer, actress, and activist with fresh arrangements of songs associated with Horne from Harlem to Hollywood, Broadway and beyond. The program will include historical references and personal reflections on Horne's significance as an American cultural icon. Clairdee's lustrous voice and soulful delivery hearken back to a time when jazz, pop, and R&B often blended seamlessly together.

**Friday July 13 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall**  
**Opera: *Il Matrimonio Segreto***  
**Guest conductor *Luçik Aprahämian***  
**Stage director Erin Neff**

Cimarosa's felicitous music carries an amusing story refreshingly free of absurd disguises and mistaken identities. A young couple in love schemes to thwart the desires of the maiden's father that she marry someone of higher status.  
*Angela Cadolago, Carolina; Tonia D'Amelia, Elisetta; Sylvie Jensen, Fidalma; Michael Desnoyers, Paolino; Bojan Knezevic, Geronimo; and Ben Brady, Count Robinson.*

**Saturday July 14 ▶ 2:30 PM Preston Hall**  
**Festival Chamber Players**

On the program this afternoon are Bach's Trio Sonata in E-flat Major; Shostakovich's Piano Trio No. 2 in E minor; and Mozart's Quintet in A Major for Clarinet and Strings. Tammy Dyer, violin; Susan Freier, violin; Jay Zhong, violin, Eric Kritz, clarinet; Tom Nugent, oboe; Stephen Harrison, cello; Carolyn Steinbuck, piano.

**Saturday July 14 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall**  
**Festival Big Band with Zoe Ellis, Kim Nalley & Kenny Washington**

A high-octane group of singers and musicians will dazzle you with their interpretations of favorites from the American songbook and jazz repertoire.

**July 15-18 ▶ Chopin: Dreams and Memories of a Lost Homeland**

From the colorful and exotic Polish peasant world to the fascinating salons of 19<sup>th</sup> century Paris, Susan Waterfall's multi-media presentation will captivate you with an in depth look at the life of Chopin. You will broaden audiences' understanding of musical Romanticism with its issues of loss, exile, suffering, otherness and national identity. Although Chopin's art is almost entirely dedicated to music for solo piano,

it has been enormously influential, and to this day is astonishingly well known and beloved.

**Sunday July 15 ▶ 2:30 PM Tent Concert Hall**

**Chopin Series Opening Lecture**

Susan Waterfall will survey Chopin's life with images and recorded examples. His dedication to Bach, Mozart, Italian opera, and traditional Polish music and his relationships with Schumann, Liszt, George Sand, Delacroix and Mickiewicz will be discussed. Learn about Chopin's invention and development of musical genres such as the prelude, the ballade, and the nocturne. While creating an idealized image of Poland, Chopin awakened a universal longing for a lost homeland.

**Sunday July 15 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall**

**Leonard Cohen Tribute**

**Perla Batalla**

Once a Leonard Cohen back-up singer, singer-songwriter Batalla launched her solo career with Cohen's encouragement. The Grammy-nominated Batalla has recorded seven albums, written for both film and television, and toured worldwide.

**Monday July 16 ▶ 2:30 PM Preston Hall**

**Chopin**

Susan Waterfall will play Mazurkas and Barcarolle in F-sharp Major, discuss Chopin's mastery of the folk idiom and daring pianistic innovations. David Kadarauich, cello, and Miles Graber, piano, will perform the Cello Sonata in G minor.

**Tuesday July 17 ▶ 2:30 PM Preston Hall**

**Piano Series, with continued focus on Chopin**

**John Novacek**

You will hear Chopin's *Etude* in A-flat Major, *Nocturne* No. 7 in C-sharp minor, *Impromptu* No. 1 in A-flat Major, and *Ballade* No. 1 in G minor. Mozart's Rondo in A minor, K. 511, Messaien's *Le baiser de l'enfant-Jésus*, and Liszt's *Liebestraum* No. 3 and *Rhapsodie espagnole*, S.254.

**Tuesday July 17 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall**

**The Dustbowl Revival**

With a vibrant mix of vintage Americana sounds, this eight-piece group would have sounded utterly at home within the hallowed confines of Preservation Hall in New Orleans' French Quarter.

**Wednesday July 18 ▶ 2:30 PM Preston Hall**

**Piano Series, with continued focus on Chopin**

**Spencer Myer**

You will hear Haydn's Keyboard Sonata in E Major, Hob. XVI: 31; Debussy's *Estampes* and *L'isle joyeuse*; and all four of Chopin's scherzi: No. 1 in B minor, Op. 20; No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 31; No. 3 in C-sharp minor, Op. 39; and No. 4 in E Major, Op. 54.

**Wednesday July 18 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall**

**Festival Orchestra with pianist John Novacek**

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 in D minor and Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat Major.

**Thursday July 19 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall  
Venice**

Performing together since 1980 and consisting of two sets of brothers, Venice's music is a reflection of growing up in the California beach town for which the group is named. With sounds at once familiar and fresh, their music is a winning hybrid of folk/rock/soul. Venice's trademarks are their beautiful harmonies, personal lyrics, and high-energy shows; their distinctive vocal sounds have allowed them to perform and record with some of the biggest names in the music industry.

**Friday July 20 ▶ 4:00 PM Preston Hall  
Emerging Artists Chamber Music**

The annual recital by the enormously talented young string players from the festival's Emerging Artists Program is anticipated by all who love chamber music.

**Friday July 20 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall  
Pine Leaf Boys**

A smash hit at last year's festival, the Pine Leaf Boys hail from southwest Louisiana and are known for their own inimitable brand of music, blending the sounds of Cajun, Zydeco, Swamp-Pop, Country, and Soul. Their wild shows and thoughtful arrangements have breathed new life into Louisiana music.

**Saturday July 21 ▶ 2:30 PM Preston Hall  
Alex de Grassi and Andrew York**

Fingerstyle guitar master Alex de Grassi is the founder of the Mendocino Summer Guitar Workshop which runs concurrently with the Mendocino Music Festival. Grammy Award-winning classical guitarist, composer and guest workshop teacher Andrew York joins him again this year in a concert program featuring their solo and duo compositions and arrangements that blend the sonorities of steel-string and classical guitar. They will be joined by members of the Mendocino Summer Guitar Workshop in the premiere of a composition for guitar orchestra.

**Saturday July 21 ▶ 7:30 PM Tent Concert Hall  
Festival Orchestra and Chorus**

The season closes with the delightful *Fantasia on a theme by Thomas Tallis* by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Elgar's fascinating *Enigma Variations*, and John Rutter's *Magnificat* sung by massed chorus, with Amy Bouchard, *soprano*.

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