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**26th Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival Returns
With Stellar Lineup Of Jazz Stars**

9 Special Days in Wine Country from June 15 - 23, 2024

Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2024 -- Headlining Acts:



2024 Performing Artists:

Samara Joy, Joshua Redman Quartet Featuring Gabrielle Cavassa, Ambrose Akinmusire Featuring Bill Frisell & Herlin Riley, Jazzmeia Horn with the Marcus Shelby Orchestra, Chief Adjuah (Formerly Christian Scott), Brandee Younger Trio, Juneteenth in the Healdsburg Plaza with

Steve Turre Sextet, Houston Person & Eric Person Quintet, The Cookers, Omar Sosa "Quarteto Americanos" & Screening of the Documentary Film "Omar Sosa's 88 Well-Tuned Drums," Bruce Forman, Lisa Fischer & Taylor Eigsti with Special Guests Adji Cissoko & Shuaib Elhassan of LINES Ballet, Natalie Cressman and Ian Faquini, Howard Wiley Quartet, Jazz Mafia New Directions In Brass, Amendola Vs. Blades Featuring Raffi Garabedian, Darrell Grant and MJ NEW, Tiffany Austin & The Healdsburg Freedom Jazz Choir, MJ's Brass Boppers, Sylvia Cuenca Trio, Bill Ortiz Quintet, Kristen Strom Quartet, Poet Enid Pickett, and more!

"one of the best small jazz festivals in the country if not the world." -*San Francisco Chronicle*

"...the festival has retained its homegrown feel while still pulling in jazz's biggest names." -*KQED*

"Best Places to Travel: Healdsburg, Calif. / Located 45 miles north of San Francisco in Sonoma Wine Country...Healdsburg Jazz Festival is planned for [June 15-23, 2024]" -*Travel & Leisure*

"Over the past decades, the annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival has established a national reputation for drawing top jazz talents to Sonoma County while maintaining an intimate small-town atmosphere." -*Santa Rosa Press Democrat*

Healdsburg, Calif. -- Tuesday, April 9, 2024 -- Sonoma County's premier summer music event, **Healdsburg Jazz Festival (HJF)** returns to the heart of Northern California's internationally-renowned wine country for its 26th annual festival from **June 15 - 23, 2024** featuring many of today's top performing jazz legends and emerging artists shaping the future of the genre. Held in exquisite Healdsburg venues, boutique hotels, and acclaimed Sonoma County wineries, Healdsburg Jazz Festival is a one-in-a-kind destination festival with GRAMMY Award-winning stars, master improvisers and rising artists appearing amongst the picturesque Sonoma hills and valleys while music fans take in the sights, sounds, and sips of the finest wines in the world. Healdsburg Jazz Festival is under the direction of lauded composer/bassist **Marcus Shelby**.

Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2024 entices the senses with an incredible opening weekend presenting the ultimate jazz, wine, food, and farm-to-table experience at **Kendall-Jackson Wine Estate & Gardens** in one of California's most prized wine growing regions. Once again, multi-GRAMMY Award-winning vocalist **Samara Joy** returns to Sonoma for a not-to-be-missed **Father's Day** celebration on Sunday, June 16. Set on approximately four scenic acres, the Kendall-Jackson Wine Estate & Gardens provides an idyllic setting to enjoy the most extraordinary young singer to emerge this decade while savoring estate-grown whites, reds, and rosé from across Kendall-Jackson's collection of wines that perfectly pair with an eclectic array of local food-truck favorites. Opening weekend further includes for a third year-in-a-row a special **Juneteenth in the Healdsburg Plaza** jazz jubilee with famed trombonist **Steve Turre Sextet** (HJF 2024 "Master Artist-In-Residence"), saxophone legend **Houston Person** and NYC-based saxophonist **Eric Person**, pianist **Darrell Grant and MJ NEW**, HJF **Poet Laureate Enid Pickett**, **KCSM's Greg Bridges**, educational workshops with **Andi Wong** and **Javier Navarrette**, and vendors selling Afro-centric arts and crafts on Saturday, June 15. At **Elephant in the Room** in central Healdsburg, the great SF Bay Area saxophonist **Howard Wiley** continues the festivities into the evening on June 15 with his quartet performing an outdoor show beginning at 9pm.

Unforgettable concerts at the epicenter of the Festival will be at **Bacchus Landing** ([LINK](#)), where a curated collection of seven boutique wineries -- showcasing a wide range of grape varieties and winemaking styles -- add to the allure of the live entertainment along with wood-fired pizzas available in the beautiful courtyard with theater style seating. Bacchus Landing concerts include headliners **Artistic Director Marcus Shelby** and his orchestra with lauded vocalist **Jazzmeia Horn** (Thursday, June 20); a double bill with **Chief Adjah** (formerly **Christian Scott**) and **The**

Cookers w/ Cecil McBee, George Cables, Billy Hart, Craig Handy, Eddie Henderson, Donald Harrison Jr., and David Weiss (Friday, June 21); a double bill with **Ambrose Akinmusire** featuring **Bill Frisell & Herlin Riley** and the **Brandee Younger Trio** (Saturday, June 22); and famed SF Bay Area's **Joshua Redman Quartet** featuring **Gabrielle Cavassa** as they perform music from his critically-acclaimed **Blue Note Records** debut album, *where are we* (Sunday, June 23).

Festival highlights throughout the week includes a screening of Cuban piano maestro **Omar Sosa's** independent documentary, *Omar Sosa's 88 Well-Tuned Drums*, followed by a live concert with his ensemble **Quarteto Americanos** at Raven Performing Arts Theater on Monday, June 17; a concert in the Healdsburg Plaza with New Orleans-style jazz by Oakland's **MJ's Brass Boppers**, an intimate luncheon show with **Bruce Forman "The Red Guitar" Musical Theater** (Michel-Schlumberger Winery), and a free artist talk with guitarist/historian **Nick Rossi** on **"The Legacy of Duke Ellington: Early Years 1899-1939"** to celebrate 125 years of the legendary composer and trumpeter all taking place on Tuesday, June 18; **Jazz Mafia "New Directions in Brass"** led by **Adam Theis** at Spoonbar (Wednesday, June 19); **HJF 2024 "Rising Artist-in-Residence"** trombonist **Natalie Cressman** and guitarist **Ian Faquini** at Elephant In The Room (Thursday, June 20); a double bill with **Amendola Vs. Blades** featuring **Raffi Garabedian** and a **Miles Davis**-inspired closing set by trumpeter **Bill Ortiz** and his quintet at Elephant In The Room (Friday, June 21); **Healdsburg Jazz Future All Stars** at Healdsburg Farmers Market (Saturday, June 22); a double bill with the **Healdsburg Freedom Jazz Choir** with music director/vocalist **Tiffany Austin** for a **"Tribute to Duke Ellington"** and saxophonist **Kristen Strom Quartet** at St. Paul's Church (Saturday, June 22); a late concert and jam with drummer **Sylvia Cuenca Trio** at Healdsburg Hotel Spirit Bar (Saturday, June 22); and vocalist **Lisa Fischer** and GRAMMY-winning pianist **Taylor Eigsti** with special guest dancers **Adji Cissoko & Shuaib Elhassan** of **LINES Ballet** at Raven Performing Arts Theater (Sunday, June 23).

Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2024 unites Bay Area residents and visitors alike through impeccable programming of brilliant jazz artists set amid the backdrop of 180 surrounding wineries and 30 gourmet restaurants. Healdsburg Jazz Festival partners with GRAMMY-winning artists, Michelin-starred chefs, award-winning wineries, world-class ballet dancers, independent filmmakers, and poets for an unbelievable 9 days in wine country. On any given day, Healdsburg Jazz presents highly curated events throughout its festival in stunning and intimate settings that reflect the natural beauty and creative energy of Healdsburg, Calif.. With both ticketed and free community concerts, the Healdsburg Jazz Festival truly has something for everyone.

"This year marks the 26th year anniversary of the Healdsburg Jazz Festival and will be my 4th year as artistic director," says **Marcus Shelby, Artistic Director of Healdsburg Jazz Festival**. "I am proud to say that we have again created a wonderful summer festival that is musically, artistically, and culturally diverse and takes place in Healdsburg's incredibly beautiful wineries, public spaces, clubs, and theaters. We will honor the African American holiday 'Juneteenth' with a powerful lineup of musical artists, celebrate Father's Day with the inimitable vocalist Samara Joy, and showcase industry masters and RISING stars throughout the week. Healdsburg Jazz Festival is a destination, where people can plan their summer vacations to come and experience all that the festival and region have to offer. We are truly presenting a program at the intersection of the arts with live music, dance, poetry, film, and world-class wine and culinary offerings at the highest levels. For 2024, we are elevating our large format venues with our first-ever collaboration with Kendall-Jackson Wine Estate & Gardens for our marquee Samara Joy concert, and we have more headliners than ever at Bacchus Landing with VIP packages offering the ultimate festival experience. We are very thankful to the city and community of Healdsburg and hope you can enjoy and cherish nine days of music and art in wine country. Thank you!"

To support Healdsburg Jazz's ongoing mission as a mainstay North Bay jazz institution, Marcus Shelby and **Gayle Sullivan (Executive Director, Healdsburg Jazz)** invite the public to their annual gala "The Roaring Twenties" at Montage Healdsburg as they honor **Circe Sher, Cindy Daniel, and Doug Lipton** this year on Friday, April 19, 2024. An elegant multi-course dinner will be paired with fine Ramey wines along with live music by Nick Rossi & The Jazzopatens. For more information, please visit: <https://healdsburgjazz.ejoinme.org/healdsburgjazzgala2024>

Highlights of Confirmed Artists @ 26th Anniversary of Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2024

Healdsburg Jazz Festival opens with a free community **Juneteenth Celebration** in Healdsburg Plaza (corner of Healdsburg Avenue and Matheson Street) on June 15 with a talent-packed triple bill headlined by trombone master **Steve Turré (HJF 2024 "Master Artist-In-Residence")**. Instantly recognizable from his almost four-decade

tenure in the *Saturday Night Live* band, Turré gained early attention performing and recording with reed legend Rahsaan Roland Kirk and trumpet great Woody Shaw before earning acclaim as a prolific bandleader (and pioneer of the conch shells in jazz). The Juneteenth program also features **Person2Person**, a quintet co-led by tenor sax titan **Houston Person** and his younger colleague, fiery altoist **Eric Person**, and pianist **Darrell Grant and the MJ New**, a band that honors and extends the elegant legacy of the Modern Jazz Quartet. With three stellar bands, free pop-up drum classes led by percussionist Javier Navarrette, and a Juneteenth Education Center curated by Andi Wong, this year's Juneteenth program exemplifies the power of music as a liberational force.

Current "**Resident Artistic Director**" for SF Jazz, **Howard Wiley** returns to the Festival with his soul-charged quartet, a potent combo that blends jazz, gospel, and funk with state-of-the-art grooves. A commanding improviser, Wiley has earned international renown while recording and performing with an array of heavyweights including Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown, Miss Lauryn Hill, Kamasi Washington, Sheila E, Cory Henry, Christian McBride, Jason Moran, among others. His quartet features organist **LJ Holoman**, a sought-after studio player with recording credits that include Mary J. Blige, 50 Cent, Busta Rhymes, and Fantastic Negrito; bassist/producer and multi-instrumentalist **Clark Sims**, also known as "The Funk Father," and drummer **Dante "Taz" Roberson**.

In our current golden age for women jazz vocalists, the most extraordinary young singer to emerge this decade is 24-year-old **Samara Joy**, winner of the 2023 GRAMMY Awards for "Best New Artist" and "Best Jazz Vocal Album" for her Verve Records debut, *Linger Awhile* (she picked up a third GRAMMY in February 2024 for "Best Jazz Performance" for her take on the Betty Carter classic, "Tight"). With a voice as warm and plush as crushed velvet and a deeply informed repertoire of under-covered jazz tunes and American Songbook gems, Joy is an era-defining artist who offers a glimpse at jazz's future with each performance. Joy has already earned her fans like Regina King and Elton John, as well as appearances on the *TODAY Show*, *The Tonight Show w/ Jimmy Fallon*, *The Late Show w/ Stephen Colbert*, *CBS Mornings*, *Kelly Clarkson Show*, *Jennifer Hudson Show*, *Drew Barrymore Show*, and others. The special **Father's Day** concert on Sunday, June 16 takes place outdoors at **Kendall-Jackson's** beautiful grounds and on the lawn with both theater style seating and blanket lawn seating.

Longtime Healdsburg favorite the Cuban piano great **Omar Sosa** returns with his **Quarteto Americanos** featuring Cuban bassist **Ernesto Mazar Kindelán**, Berkeley drummer **Josh Jones**, and Oakland multi-reed player **Sheldon Brown**. Though long based in Barcelona, Sosa gained fame while living in Oakland, and his musical journey from Camagüey and Havana to Ecuador and eventually the East Bay is detailed in the new documentary, *Omar Sosa's 88 Well-Tuned Drums*, set to be screened at Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2024. An omnivorously creative figure whose music encompasses Afro-Cuban folkloric chants and European Romanticism, post-bop and hip hop, West African grooves and ambient moods, Sosa's released more than three dozen albums and brings his music to the Raven Performing Arts Theater on Monday, June 17 (film screening: 5pm, live concert: 7:30pm).

A delightful musical theater concert with famed guitarist **Bruce Forman and The Red Guitar** will be the center of a not-to-be-missed luncheon at Michel-Schlumberger's beautiful 100-acre estate in the Dry Creek Valley. Discover hand-crafted, small-production wines while enjoying serene views and a stunning winery. Bruce Forman is a prolific guitarist with twenty-one recordings as a leader, countless sideman recordings including Ray Brown, Bobby Hutcherson, and Roger Kellaway, and conducting soundtrack performances for three of Clint Eastwood's distinguished films -- most notably the Academy Award-winning *Million Dollar Baby*, all while being in residence as an educator at USC's Studio/Jazz Guitar Department in Los Angeles.

In commemoration of the **125th Anniversary of the birth of Duke Ellington**, jazz historian and Ellington scholar **Nick Rossi** will lead a discussion on Duke's early years in Washington DC, as well as his early bands in New York that included his four-year run at the famous Cotton Club in Harlem, and his heroic 1930s that birthed the cultural movement, "It Don't Mean a Thing if it Ain't Got That Swing." Nick Rossi will accompany his talk on Tuesday, June 18 with essential recordings from that era that will illuminate the foundational brilliance of one of our greatest artists and his overall influence on American music and culture. Later that evening, a free concert in Healdsburg Plaza will commence with the **MJ's Brass Boppers** who will bring authentic New Orleans singing and swinging brass fusing traditional NOLA standards, funk, jazz, modern pop and more with a second line twist.

On Wednesday, June 19, grab a seat, luxuriate in the lounge, or hang outdoors in the fresh and vibrant atmosphere of Spoonbar while **Jazz Mafia New Directions In Brass** led by trombonist and composer **Adam Theis** takes the

100-year-old brass band ensemble into the future, with innovative new rhythms that reflect current music while keeping a solid foundation in the tradition of New Orleans Jazz and street party music. The Brass Mafia puts a strong emphasis on heavy backbeats, creative improvisation and a unique mix of songs and arrangements. They have been featured at events for SFJAZZ, SF Annual Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday Parade (7 years) and have collaborated with Lyrics Born, Thomas Dolby, Peter Rowan, and Nicki Bluhm.

On a scene brimming with brilliant young women vocalists, **Jazzmeia Horn** stands out as an artist determined to define herself on her own terms. Beyond her riveting stage presence and vocal prowess, she's a savvy songwriter, imaginative arranger, and commanding bandleader who has steadily expanded her repertoire with original material. Horn has racked up prestigious awards over the past decade, including first place at the **2013 Sarah Vaughan International Jazz Vocal Competition** and top honors at the **Thelonious Monk Institute International Jazz Competition** in 2015. The Monk Competition triumph included a record deal and her supremely confident 2017 debut album, *A Social Call*, which was nominated for a GRAMMY Award and voted the best jazz vocal debut in the **NPR Music Jazz Critics Poll**. Horn rejoins forces with the **Marcus Shelby Orchestra** at Bacchus Landing on Thursday, June 20. Horn and the bassist and Festival Artistic Director first worked together at San Jose Jazz's Winter Fest last year. Shelby has worked with many of jazz's greatest singers, from Mary Stallings and Faye Carol to Kim Nalley and Tiffany Austin. He came away from the concert with Horn convinced that the music's future was in wise, knowing hands.

For the first time since becoming Healdsburg Jazz's new Artistic Director in 2020, **Marcus Shelby** will perform at the Festival with his Orchestra, a big band comprised of some of the Bay Area's most respected and well-known instrumentalists. In many ways, Shelby has turned his orchestra into an exemplar of the kind of equitable society he advocates for off the bandstand. For his inaugural Healdsburg Jazz Festival performance, the first set will feature original compositions composed by Shelby including music from his baseball tribute "**Black Ball: The Negro Leagues and the Blues**" and music by **Duke Ellington** honoring his 125th anniversary year. The second set will feature vocalist **Jazzmeia Horn** and her big band suite that she composed and arranged titled "**Dear Love.**" Tenor saxophonist **Howard Wiley** will be a special guest soloist.

Thursday evening brings Festival attendees over to Elephant In The Room for a special outdoors concert with the duo trombonist/vocalist **Natalie Cressman** and guitarist/vocalist **Ian Faquini**. Inspired by their deep knowledge of both the jazz and Brazilian songbooks -- Faquini was born in the capital Brasilia and moved to Berkeley as a teenager and Cressman hails from an illustrious musical clan known for collaborations with some of Brazil's greatest musicians -- their musical partnership has earned international acclaim over the past five years. Cressman and Faquini's repertoire encompasses jazz standards, American and Brazilian classics, and original songs including from their second album, *Auburn Whisper*. Written and recorded during the dark days of 2020, *Auburn Whisper* finds the two artists exploring a series of luxuriant soundscapes, reflecting on people and places they missed while discovering joy in the present moment. Their third album set to be released this spring, *Guinga*, is a tribute to the legendary Brazilian composer, guitarist and vocalist, who has mentored Faquini for more than a decade. Natalie is well-known for her ongoing work with the **Trey Anastasio Band**.

Hailing from a storied New Orleans musical dynasty, trumpeter **Chief Adjuah** (formerly **Christian Scott**) has fully embraced his heritage as a masterly improviser, stylistically venturesome composer, and far-seeing conceptualist whose sound is deeply inspired by West African forms. The grandson of legendary **Big Chief Donald Harrison Sr.** -- a leader of the Mardi Gras Indians whose knowledge of Black New Orleans culture was unrivaled -- and a nephew of alto saxophone jazz innovator and **NEA Jazz Master Big Chief Donald Harrison Jr.**, Chief Adjuah brings his astonishingly beautiful new realms of African-inspired music to Bacchus Landing on Friday, June 21. Over the past decade, Chief Adjuah has explored what he calls "Stretch Music," while designing and playing several ground-breaking new harp-like instruments, the Adjuah's Bow and Adjuah's N'Goni. In the New Orleans tradition, he approaches jazz as inextricably bound to a capacious continuum of social and ritual music, a sound and sensibility that has attracted artists such as Prince, Thom Yorke, McCoy Tyner, Marcus Miller, Eddie Palmieri, and Mos Def (who've all featured him on projects).

The Cookers share a double bill with Chief Adjuah, an all-star group that features saxophonist and **NEA Jazz Master Big Chief Donald Harrison Jr.**, as well as **Craig Handy** (Tenor Sax), **Eddie Henderson** (Trumpet), **David Weiss** (Trumpet), **George Cables** (Piano), **Cecil McBee** (Bass), and **Billy Hart** (Drums). The Cookers have

foundational history at Healdsburg Jazz Festival as the band was born at the Festival 20 years ago. The Cookers senior core, five players have been in jazz's vanguard since the 1960s and over the years their paths have crossed on dozens of era-defining recordings and bands. The band's youngest member, 59-year-old trumpeter David Weiss, is also the head chief who first assembled the group for Healdsburg Jazz Festival in 2017. A respected arranger who leads several other ensembles, he wanted to create a showcase for veteran masters with significant portfolios of compositions. With every ingredient of the highest quality, The Cookers serve up an aural feast unrivaled by any seven-piece band in the business.

At Elephant In The Room that same evening on June 21, **Wil Blades and Scott Amendola** bring their incomparable duo to the venue with special guest saxophonist **Raffi Garabedian**. Wil and Scott got their start as a group when Scott had the vision of performing Duke Ellington's "Far East Suite" in duo with Wil. While quite a daunting task translating a suite (originally written for a big band) into duo, the Hammond Organ had previously been used in the 1940's and 1950's to emulate the sound of big bands. With Wil's knowledge of this tradition and Scott's desire to push boundaries, they were able to pull it off in an explorative manner. The duo continues to perform the Ellington suite in their live performances, while also developing their original material. In performance, Amendola and Blades cover everything from jazz, funk, bebop, to the avant, to rock.

Longtime **Carlos Santana's** sideman SF Bay Area trumpeter **Bill Ortiz** closes out the show as one of the most in-demand trumpet players for the past four decades. Ortiz brings his quintet to Healdsburg, featuring material from his 2022 solo release: ***Points Of View***, a diverse blend of fusion, Latin bravado and straight-up crazy jazz chops.

On Saturday, June 22, the **Healdsburg Jazz Future All Stars** led by **Music Director Phil Vieux** will perform at the Healdsburg Farmers' Market. The Healdsburg Jazz Future All-Stars is a select ensemble of young musicians who are primarily based in and around Sonoma County and consists of high school and college level students who perform at Healdsburg Jazz events. The **Healdsburg Freedom Jazz Choir**, led by **Music Director Tiffany Austin**, will also perform on June 22 at St. Paul's Church in a celebration of the 125th Anniversary year of Duke Ellington with their program, "**Duke Ellington: 125 Years of Swing!**" Since 2012, the choir has served the Healdsburg community as a free educational program that performs annually and continues to thrive under the leadership of vocalist, composer, and arranger Tiffany Austin. Opening the programming will be saxophonist **Kristen Strom** who has been a mainstay on the SF Bay Area music scene for nearly two decades. Acclaimed for beautifully rendered melodies, exceptional tonality, and accomplished musicianship, Strom has played alongside Manhattan Transfer, Gladys Knight, Natalie Cole, Roberta Flack, Johnny Mathis, and others.

Headlining Bacchus Landing on Saturday, June 22 will be **Ambrose Akinmusire featuring Bill Frisell & Herlin Riley** along with an opening set by harpist **Brandee Younger** and her trio. The trumpeter, composer and ever-evolving curator of new sounds Ambrose Akinmusire is known for exploring new sonic frontiers, and his **Owl Song** trio has become one of his primary vehicles for investigation. Featuring guitar legend and Healdsburg stalwart Bill Frisell and New Orleans drum poet Herlin Riley, the stripped-down ensemble ranges across the broad expanse of American music, providing an intimate setting for conversations with Frisell, a musician who's helped shape Akinmusire's musical vision.

Joining **Owl Song** on a magnificent double bill is a trio of a very different feather. Harpist **Brandee Younger** is a rapidly rising star who honors and extends the legacy of her pioneering predecessors Dorothy Ashby and Alice Coltrane. She's a thrilling improviser and savvy sound designer who thrives in acoustic and electric settings. In 2022, she made history by becoming the first Black woman to be nominated for a GRAMMY Award for "Best Instrumental Composition." Beyond jazz, she's collaborated with cultural icons such as Common, Lauryn Hill, John Legend, and Moses Sumney. The trio she brings to Healdsburg is a sleek and swinging unit featuring ace bassist **Rashaan Carter**, best known for his work with masters like Henry Threadgill, Ravi Coltrane, and Geri Allen, and the similarly sought-after drummer **Allan Mednard**, whose credits include touring and recording with Jeremy Pelt, Ben Allison, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Aaron Park, among many others.

San Jose-reared drummer **Sylvia Cuenca** brings a spirited no-cover concert and jam to Healdsburg Hotel Spirit Bar later in the evening on June 22. A deft bandleader in her own right, Cuenca plays a trio set of hard swinging blues-tinged modern jazz before her group hosts an all-star jam session featuring musicians in town for the Festival in the beautiful club atmosphere of the Spirit Bar located in the Hotel Healdsburg. Since moving to NYC, she has spent

nearly two decades performing regularly with trumpet great Clark Terry, with whom she accompanied distinguished guest artists such as Al Grey, Red Holloway, Jimmy Heath, and Dianne Reeves, to name a few. The Spirit Bar is a favorite of locals and visitors alike, offering a menu of enticing small bites, craft cocktails and beer, and a broad sampling of wine.

Healdsburg Jazz Festival finale includes a daytime performance by *Twenty Feet From Stardom* vocalist **Lisa Fischer** along with GRAMMY-winning piano player **Taylor Eigsti** and special guests **Adji Cissoko & Shuaib Elhassan** of **LINES Ballet** at Raven Performing Arts Theater on Sunday, June 23. Following two live productions all together at Lincoln Center and Kennedy Center in May 2023, the jazz-meets-contemporary ballet performance hits the West Coast as it catapults dance and jazz art forms into a creative communion with one of the most powerful vocalists in the world and the dazzling pianist in collaboration with LINES Ballet. Fischer was a highly sought after background singer when she scored a chart-topping R&B hit, "How Can I Ease the Pain," and a GRAMMY Award for "Best Female R&B Vocal Performance" with her 1991 debut album, *So Intense*. Ultimately, she decided to focus on her thriving career touring with the world's biggest acts, including the Rolling Stones, Luther Vandross, Sting, and Tina Turner. But in the wake of the Academy Award-winning 2013 documentary *20 Feet From Stardom*, which gave prominent play to her essential vocal work, she decided to take the reins of her own career and pursue her solo career. Fischer and Eigsti have been working together since 2018 as a duo and at their Festival appearance, two sensational dancers Adji Cissoko and Shuaib Elhassan -- who both joined San Francisco choreographer Alonzo King's LINES Ballet Company in 2014 -- are featured special guests of their riveting performance.

Beloved SF Bay Area saxophonist **Joshua Redman** caps off what will be an incredible 9 days of music in wine country with his closing festival quartet set featuring vocalist **Gabrielle Cavassa** at Bacchus Landing on June 23. Redman presents music from her Blue Note Records debut, *where we are*, an album that highlights his first collaboration with a vocalist, the captivating newcomer Gabrielle Cavassa. Formatted like a double LP, *where we are* takes an emotional x-ray of the nation via an expansive reimagining of the American Songbook, city by city. The song that first seizes the imagination is a mashup of the swaggering Count Basie classic "Going To Chicago Blues" with an interpolated motif from singer/songwriter Sufjan Stevens' "Chicago." With Cavassa's beguiling blend of old-soul emotional vulnerability, legato phrasing, and cashmere-textured tone, she coaxes Redman into luxuriant balladry. Forged during the first two years of the pandemic via email, text and Zoom sessions, Redman's relationship with Cavassa didn't take on an in-person dimension until they started recording the album. In making his first major foray with a vocalist, he singled out a young artist just starting to introduce herself to the scene.

From north of the Golden Gate Bridge all the way to the Oregon border, Healdsburg Jazz Festival is the place to truly experience a boutique jazz festival committed to hosting celebrated artists on venerable stages with the culinary and wine excellence of Sonoma County within arms-reach. Stay tuned to healdsburgjazz.org.

MAJOR Festival Sponsors: **Hotel Healdsburg, Foley Family Charitable Foundation, Stay Healdsburg, and San Francisco Chronicle.**

Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2024

When: June 15 - 23, 2024

Where: Downtown Healdsburg, Calif.

Admission: www.healdsburgjazz.org

Tickets: Free - \$275 (On Sale to Patron/Angel/Advocate Members on March 29; All Members on April 3; General Public on April 9)

More Info: www.healdsburgjazz.org

Healdsburg Jazz Festival 2024 Artist Lineup

Samara Joy, Joshua Redman Quartet Featuring Gabrielle Cavassa, Ambrose Akinmusire Featuring Bill Frisell & Herlin Riley, Jazzmeia Horn with the Marcus Shelby Orchestra, Chief Adjuah (Formerly Christian Scott), Brandee Younger Trio, Juneteenth in the Healdsburg Plaza with Steve Turre Sextet, Houston Person & Eric Person Quintet, The Cookers, Omar Sosa "Quarteto Americanos" & Screening of the Documentary Film "Omar Sosa's 88 Well-Tuned Drums," Bruce Forman, Lisa Fischer & Taylor Eigsti with Special Guests Adji Cissoko & Shuaib Elhassan of LINES Ballet, Natalie Cressman and Ian Faquini, Howard Wiley Quartet, Jazz Mafia New Directions In Brass, Amendola Vs. Blades Featuring Raffi Garabedian, Darrell Grant and MJ NEW,

Tiffany Austin & The Healdsburg Freedom Jazz Choir, MJ's Brass Boppers, Sylvia Cuenca Trio, Bill Ortiz Quintet, Kristen Strom Quartet, Poet Enid Pickett, and more!

About Healdsburg Jazz Festival

The Healdsburg Jazz Festival is a celebration of the indigenous American art form known as Jazz. Over the past twenty-five years, the festival has become a favorite local tradition with a growing national and international reputation. The 9-day festival of public performances by world-renowned musicians in diverse settings primarily outdoors including Kendall-Jackson Wine Estate & Gardens, Bacchus Landing, Michel-Schlumberger Winery, Healdsburg Plaza, the glamorous Hotel Healdsburg and h2hotel, and historic theaters, nightclubs and other unique settings such as Spoonbar, The Raven Theater, Elephant In The Room, St. Paul's Church, Healdsburg Library, and the Healdsburg Farmer's Market, has grown into one of the North Bay's most celebrated annual musical events.

In addition to the annual festival, held in June each year, the non-profit 501(c)(3) organization sponsors numerous music education programs in Healdsburg area schools for primary and secondary school students, and presents a series of Jazz Masters concerts throughout the year.

For more information, please visit: www.healdsburgjazz.org

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