

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Randy Porter Trio with Nancy King to Headline Fifth Anniversary Montavilla Jazz Festival August 18–19**

*Montavilla Jazz Festival 2018 lineup and event details announced.*

**PORTLAND, Oregon, May 29, 2018** –Grammy-nominated pianist Randy Porter will headline Montavilla Jazz Festival 2018 running August 18-19 at Portland Metro Arts, 9003 SE Stark, Portland, Oregon, 97216. In its fifth anniversary, the nonprofit neighborhood festival features local jazz artists on the forefront of creative expression. This year, several extraordinary local musicians will perform new compositions and feature world-class musicians in their ensembles.

The complete festival lineup and schedule can be found at <https://montavillajazzfest.com/>. A limited number of reserved seating and VIP tickets can be purchased in advance at <https://www.tickettomato.com>, and general admission day passes will be sold at the door during the festival.

The 2018 Montavilla Jazz Festival lineup includes:

- **Randy Porter Trio with Nancy King**—Portland jazz master Randy Porter performs music from his Grammy-nominated album *Porter Plays Porter*, featuring Nancy King, and new music created for this MJF 2018 set.
- **Nicole Glover Quartet**—This New York City rising star and Portland hometown hero returns to perform an energetic acoustic set with Portland jazz masters.
- **Dmitri Matheny and Darrell Grant**—Longtime duo partners Dmitri Matheny and Darrell Grant lead an all-star quartet in a performance of new chamber jazz works.
- **Farnell Newton | Evolution**—Revitalizing jazz, funk, and soul with a new twist, Farnell Newton has been stirring up a ton of noise in the Northwest music scene.
- **PJCE feat. James Miley | Watershed Suite**—In a new suite, renowned composer James Miley honors Oregon’s diverse waterways, from the mighty Columbia to the serenity of Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge.
- **Tim Willcox | Superjazzers**—Tim Willcox’s saxophone sings and, at times, broods passionately and inventively in the vein of Jan Garbarek, as well as modern master Rick Margitza.
- **George Colligan | Other Barry**—Downbeat Poll-winning pianist and Portland State professor George Colligan leads a powerhouse fusion trio and unleashes a new release on PJCE Records.
- **Christopher Brown | Art of the Dialog**—The busiest jazz group in Portland performs for the first time at Montavilla Jazz Festival, presenting a set that explores the dialogue between artist and audience.

- **Creative Music Guild | Sound Foundry**—One of Portland’s most adventurous musical organizations hosts an improvised set with top-flight instrumentalists.
- **Alan Jones | Social Music**—Alan Jones’s Social Music aims to create a refreshing atmosphere of relaxed comradery, with music that is accessible and engaging for audiences.
- **Ryan Meagher's Evil Twin**—Acclaimed for his compositional acumen, Ryan Meagher and his double trio spontaneously compose a set and celebrate their newest release.
- **Shao Way Wu | Salting**—Portland bassist Shao Way Wu’s collaborative project, Salting, features Randy Porter, and Jason Palmer, performing new compositions that examine the role of truth in today’s society.

“We want the Montavilla neighborhood to be the epicenter of arts and culture in East Portland,” said Neil Mattson, executive director for the festival. “We created the Montavilla Jazz Festival to capitalize on the neighborhood’s appreciation and support of local artists and world-class cultural events. Jazz is one of America’s greatest gifts to the arts community, and we are thrilled by what the talented lineup and quality of the festival mean to our neighborhood and community.”

Festival headliner jazz pianist Randy Porter has a refined understanding of improvisation and the spontaneous communication among musicians. Lynn Darroch of the Oregonian has stated, “Porter has built a reputation as a musician’s musician, a knowledgeable, inventive, and sophisticated player with a remarkable sense of time and gorgeous keyboard facility.”

Nominated for the 60th Grammy Awards, Porter’s recent release *Porter Plays Porter* with Nancy King is a mix of swing, harmony, and lyrical adventure. In the spirit of Cannonball Adderley and Nancy Wilson, King’s vocal stylings are interspersed with instrumental tracks featuring the Randy Porter Trio. John Wiitala on bass and Todd Strait on drums bring their wonderful swing, skill set, and intuition.

Nancy King has been called everything from a “cult figure” and an “uncompromising artist” (Earshot Jazz) to “the greatest living jazz singer” (Herb Ellis). As one of the few improvisers in vocal jazz to master the vocabulary, King has “indefatigable scat chops and a remarkably elastic range” (the Oregonian).

Porter currently performs with Charles McPherson, Madeline Eastman, the New York Voices, Rebecca Kilgore, and Nancy King. Bassist David Friesen’s 2001 Trio CD, *Name of a Woman*, received 4 stars from Downbeat in June 2002 and featured Porter as pianist and composer.

Additional artists will perform new, original work and offer attendees the opportunity to explore music that makes Portland a unique city on the forefront of jazz in the new millennium.

### **Montavilla Jazz Festival generates community support for music education.**

Created by a small group of Portland residents, the festival not only showcases local artists but is also focused on supporting the next generation of local music talent.

Addressing a national trend of limited funding for music and arts programs, festival organizers worked closely with the Montavilla business community to create new opportunities for area youth in the form of the Montavilla Schools Music Fund.

This year, after a competitive selection process the festival will award \$2,500 split between Bridger, Creative Science, Harrison Park, and Vestal schools, made possible with proceeds from 2017 festival ticket sales.

Montavilla Jazz Festival is possible thanks to an array of dedicated, community-minded sponsors and partner organizations, from Montavilla and beyond. These include the following MJF 2018 partners: Academy Theater, Adore Wedding Films, Advantage Tax & Accounting, Bipartisan Cafe, Brownstein Rask, BusinessWorks, Catalinbread, City Beautiful Design, Cravedog, East Glisan Pizza Lounge, East Side Printing Co., Eastside Distilling, Hawthorne Dental, Hungry Heart PDX, Kathryn Elsesser Photography, KB Custom Framing, Kirsch Drums, KMHD Jazz Radio, Kristin Thiel Editing, Montavilla/East Tabor Business Association, Mr. Plywood, Music Millennium, Portland Community College Southeast Campus, Portland Jazz Composers Ensemble, Portland Metro Arts, Portland Piano Company, PROWUS (Portland Rock On With Us) , Recumbent PDX, Redwood, Sound Doctor PDX, Vespertine Works, Vino Veritas, Washman, among others.

In the spirit of jazz, everyone has something to bring to the table. The Montavilla Jazz Festival believes that everyone has a part to play in the support of music, culture, and experiences that bring us together. Individuals, businesses, and organizations are encouraged to get involved with the Montavilla Jazz Festival through volunteer and sponsorship opportunities. For opportunities contact [info@montavillajazzfest.com](mailto:info@montavillajazzfest.com).

#### **Dates and Location:**

When: Saturday and Sunday, August 18-19, 2018

Where: Portland Metro Arts, 9003 SE Stark, Portland, OR 97216

**Day Passes:** General admission day passes are available for purchase only at the box office during festival hours on both days. Seating is limited, re-entry is not guaranteed, and no refunds are given. Each day pass costs \$15.

**Reserved Seating:** *Limited Reserved* and *VIP* tickets are available for individual concerts at <https://www.tickettomato.com/>.

**ADA Reservations:** ADA reservations available upon request, please call (971) 220-6051.

**Arts for All:** Montavilla Jazz Festival is proud to offer Oregon Trail card-holders the opportunity to purchase up to two (2) MJF day passes for \$5 each when they present their Oregon Trail card at the MJF box office. MJF is proud to partner with the “Arts for All” program to introduce this new offering to the festival. Go to <https://racc.org/artsforall/> to learn more about this program and to see a list of participating arts organizations.

**Arts Card:** Montavilla Jazz Festival is also proud to be an official *Work For Art: Arts Card* event! Arts Card holders can get 2-for-1 MJF day passes. Go to <https://workforart.org/> to learn more about this program and to see a list of participating arts organizations.

*Note: Arts for All and Arts Card discounts are available for general admission day passes only, and do not apply to Limited Reserved and VIP seating.*

**Contact:**

- For media inquiries, sponsorship opportunities and general questions, please contact: [info@montavillajazzfest.com](mailto:info@montavillajazzfest.com).
- For volunteer opportunities, please contact: [volunteers@montavillajazzfest.com](mailto:volunteers@montavillajazzfest.com).
- For more information, please visit: [www.montavillajazzfest.com](http://www.montavillajazzfest.com) and [www.facebook.com/montavillajazzfestival](https://www.facebook.com/montavillajazzfestival).

**About Montavilla Jazz Festival:**

*The mission of Montavilla Jazz Festival is to support and strengthen local music culture and enrich our community by showcasing the best of Portland's originally composed, progressive jazz. Montavilla Jazz Festival is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.*

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