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28TH ANNUAL SAN JOSE JAZZ SUMMER FEST 2017
Friday, August 11 – Sunday, August 13
Plaza de César Chavez Park, Downtown San Jose, Calif.
Event Info: summerfest.sanjosejazz.org

2nd Artist Announcement:

Oscar Hernandez and Alma Libre, California and Montreal Guitar Trios, Peter Cincotti, Dayme Arocena, Orgone, Anton Schwartz Sextet, Eddie Henderson Quartet, Kalil Wilson With Love, Naughty Professor, Allan Harris Quartet, Hip Bone Big Band with Michael Davis, Zydeco Flames, Claudia Villela Quintet, Jackie Gage, The Sons Of The Soul Revivers, JC Smith Band, Aaron Lington Sextet, Conjunto Karabali, Juan Pollo Raffo, A.C. Myles, Big Sandy and His Fly Rite Boys, CABANIJAZZ Project, Carlitos Medrano, The Bay Area Salsa All-Stars featuring Jimmy Bosch, Lily Hernandez Orchestra featuring Calixto Oviedo, and additional artists to be announced!

San Jose, Calif. -- Silicon Valley's premier annual music event, **San Jose Jazz Summer Fest 2017** returns for its 28th festival season from Friday, August 11 through Sunday, August 13 in and around Plaza de César Chavez Park in downtown San Jose, Calif. A showcase for jazz, blues, funk, R&B, salsa and related genres, SJZ Summer Fest is also nationally recognized as one of the biggest Latin festivals in the country. A standout summer destination for music lovers, concert-goers and families alike, the three-day event features 120+ performances on 10 stages, attracting tens of thousands of visitors to downtown throughout the weekend. San Jose Jazz welcomes an exciting new title Main Stage sponsor, **The Sobrato Organization**, for SJZ Summer Fest 2017.

Brendan Rawson, executive director of San Jose Jazz, comments about the 2017 title sponsor, "This year, we're thrilled to bring on board The Sobrato Organization as Main Stage sponsor. Generations of the Sobrato family have strived to build a better Silicon Valley and their support of Summer Fest underscores their commit to enhancing the quality of life for all of us."

Three-day passes for SJZ Summer Fest 2017 are on sale at Early Bird prices now through April 23. On April 24, single day tickets go on sale and prices of three-day passes increase from Early Bird to Advances prices. Take advantage of the great Early Bird pricing of \$45 (GA) - \$285 (VIP) while supplies last.

Four distinct levels of access are offered to best experience SJZ Summer Fest 2017. VIP, Priority and All Stages levels allow access to all outdoor stages plus four indoor venues: the beautiful Hammer Theatre, intimate Cafe Stritch and Jade Leaf Lounge, plus iconic Club Regent at the Fairmont San Jose, offering many of the festival's premier world-class jazz and global artists indoors in air-conditioned, acoustically-rich environments. General Admission (GA) gives basic access to all outdoor stages only. Three-day passes: GA: \$45 early bird through April 23, \$60 advance April 24–July 31, \$70 gate; All Stages (includes all indoor venues): \$70 early bird through April 23; \$90 advance April 24–July 31, \$100 gate; Priority Access (skip-the-line privileges and more): \$140 early bird through April 23, \$160 advance April 24–July 31, \$170 gate; VIP (exclusive main stage seating, complimentary food and wine, garage parking): \$285 early bird through April 23, \$325 advance April 24–July 31, \$345 gate. Single day tickets, ranging from as low as \$15 to \$150 for a VIP experience advance, April 24–July 31; see website for benefits and pricing. All ticket prices will increase to Gate Price on August 1.

For nearly three decades, San Jose Jazz has embraced its steadfast commitment to presenting today's most distinguished acts from around the world and homegrown Bay Area talent at one of North America's foremost festivals: GRAMMY® Award-winning artists, the hottest salsa and Latin bands, classic jazz pioneers, world music stars, top local emerging musicians, and genre-busting hip-hop, R&B, and soul artists.

The 28th Annual San Jose Jazz Summer Fest 2017 features an acclaimed lineup, and today San Jose Jazz announces its second round of confirmed artists: **Oscar Hernandez and Alma Libre, California and Montreal Guitar Trios, Peter Cincotti, Dayme Arocena, Orgone, Anton Schwartz Sextet, Eddie Henderson Quartet, Kalil Wilson With Love, Naughty Professor, Allan Harris Quartet, Hip Bone Big Band with Michael Davis, Zydeco Flames, Claudia Villela Quintet, Jackie Gage, The Sons Of The Soul Revivers, JC Smith Band, Aaron Lington Sextet, Conjunto Karabali, Juan Pollo Raffo, A.C. Myles, Big Sandy and His Fly Rite Boys, CABANIJAZZ Project, Carlitos Medrano, The Bay Area Salsa All-Stars featuring Jimmy Bosch, Lily Hernandez,** and additional artists to be announced!

Artists also appearing at San Jose Jazz Summer Fest 2017, including headlining sets on the Sobrato Organization Main Stage: **Chris Botti; George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic; Maceo Parker; The Whispers; Angélique Kidjo's Celia Cruz Tribute with Pedrito Martinez; Dr. Lonnie Smith Trio; Jazz By Five with Javon Jackson, George Cables, Randy Brecker, Eddie Gomez & Jimmy Cobb; San Francisco String Trio with Mimi Fox, Mads Tolling and Jeff Denson; Cyrille Aimée; The Seshen; Pacific Mambo Orchestra; Danny Green Trio; Carmen Lundy; Sasha Masakowski; Emilio Solla Quartet; Dmitri Matheny Jazz Noir; Tia Brazda; Gregory Page; Kavita Shah; Ray Obiedo; Tommy Igoe Groove Conspiracy; Brian Andres Afro Cuban Cartel; Somos el Son;** and additional artists to be announced!

Not only will SJZ Summer Fest 2017 transform downtown San Jose into an explosive hub of jazz, it'll be the nation's epicenter of Latin jazz, drawing on both a mix of internationally renowned Latin artists and top Bay Area salsa bands, co-curated by San Jose Jazz Board Chair Emeritus Arturo Riera, AKA **Mister Latin Jazz**. Spanish Harlem Orchestra's bandleader and pianist **Oscar Hernandez** performs at the Hammer Theatre with his group Alma Libre, including saxophonist Justo Almario, drummer Jimmy Branley, and bassist Carlitos Del Puerto. Hernandez presents music from his latest recording, *The Art Of Latin Jazz*.

SJZ Summer Fest 2017 showcases two exciting acts from Argentina, **Juan Pollo Raffo** and **Emilio Solla Quartet**. Cuba's **Dayme Arocena** and Brazil's **Claudia Villela Quintet** perform headlining shows. Half of all the Latin performers are set to release new albums as they gear up to appear at the festival, including **La Rebeldia, Carlos Medrano Band, Somos El Son** and **CABANIJAZZ Project**. Salsa legend **Jimmy Bosch** will be a special guest artist with the **Bay Area Salsa All-Stars**, and the Salsa Stage features sets by the GRAMMY-winning **Pacific Mambo Orchestra, Brian Andres Afro Cuban Cartel, Somos el Son, CABANIJAZZ Project, Carlitos Medrano,** and **Lily Hernandez Orchestra featuring Calixto Oviedo**.

SJZ Summer Fest is way too much fun for only one day, with late night programming and a Club Crawl through the wee hours. For those traveling to San Jose, limited discounted rates for hotels on or near the festival site are offered exclusively through the SJZ Summer Fest website: summerfest.sanjosejazz.org/hotels.

Bruce Labadie, one of the founders, is San Jose Jazz's Artistic and Festival Director, and with the help of locally-based co-curators programs the artists for the San Jose Jazz Summer Fest.

Highlights of Newly Confirmed Artists @ 28th Annual San Jose Jazz Summer Fest 2017

Three-time GRAMMY® Award winner and leader of world renowned Spanish Harlem Orchestra, **Oscar Hernández** appears in an intimate setting with his band **Alma Libre**. Bandmates Justo Almario (saxophone), Jimmy Branley (drums), and Carlitos Del Puerto (bass) join Hernandez as they feature music from their new album, *The Art of Latin Jazz*, at the Hammer Theatre. Over the course of his acclaimed career, Hernandez has worked with many seminal musicians including Ismael Miranda, Tito Puente, Celia Cruz, Paul Simon, Conjunto Libre among others.

Featuring six virtuoso guitarists from an array of countries (Japan, Canada, Belgium and the United States), **California Guitar Trio** (CGT) and **Montreal Guitar Trio** (MG3) fuse over 40 years of combined performing experience into one unique six-by-6-string "phenomensemble." CGT's steel-stringed guitars blend naturally with MG3's nylon-stringed guitars to compliment one another's original and new compositions of progressive rock, world, jazz and classical music. From unique arrangements to dazzling interpretations of music from artists such as Queen, the Beatles, Bach, Beethoven, and the Ventures, their wide-ranging repertoire covers almost everything.

After attracting the attention of Harry Connick, Jr. at age seven, turning professional at age 12 and topping the jazz charts with his debut release at age 18, pianist and singer/songwriter **Peter Cincotti** is no stranger to some of the world's most prestigious venues and legendary musicians. From Carnegie Hall and L'Olympia to Andrea Bocelli and David Guetta, Cincotti's music has been spotlighted in the blockbuster film *Spiderman 2* and he starred in an episode of Netflix's *House of Cards*, singing a duet with the President played by Kevin Spacey.

Rooted in Santeria chant, rhythmic complexity, and a nuanced Afro-Cuban soulfulness, singer/composer **Dayme Arocena** is one of the "most inviting ambassadors" for Cuba's contemporary music. *The New York Times* raves that "Ms. Arocena unites cosmopolitan

musicianship with deep roots,” and *Billboard* adds that, “while US and Cuban politicians...struggle to find common ground, Arocena’s big voice finds harmony in the two countries’ shared musical history.” Her third album, *One Takes*, was released on Gilles Peterson’s Brownswood Recordings label and features Horace Silver’s “Golds of Yoruba,” among a collection of masterfully reimagined covers that further bridge her musical worlds.

A friendship based on an affinity for gritty soul records of the ‘60s and ‘70s and colliding with the colorful music cultures brewing in Los Angeles during the late ‘90s, Orgone is an eight-piece powerhouse delivering raw soul to the funk faithful. *Relix Magazine* describes **Orgone’s** sound as “a compelling palette of funk, soul and space disco.” Orgone’s latest studio album, *Beyond the Sun*, is a record that Okayplayer notes as a “lightning rod of inspiration for a new generation of funk music lovers.”

Saxophonist **Anton Schwartz** has earned a national reputation for his big tone and intelligent compositions. Each of his five albums have received glowing reviews and robust airplay. His most recent release *Flash Mob* was deemed one of *DownBeat Magazine’s* “Best CDs of 2014.” Schwartz has performed at some of jazz’s most prestigious clubs and festivals, including Blue Note and Dizzy’s (NYC), Blues Alley (DC), Yoshi’s (Oakland), Jazz Alley (Seattle) and the Monterey Jazz Festival.

As a key member of Herbie Hancock’s trailblazing Mwandishi sextet, trumpeter **Eddie Henderson** is admired for his wide palette of expressive brass nuances. After leaving Hancock’s group, the trumpeter worked extensively with Pharaoh Sanders, Norman Connors and Art Blakey’s Jazz Messengers. His expressive rhythmic jazz-fusion thrust manifests itself on his Blue Note recordings, *Sunburst* and *Heritage*, and in 1977, his single “Prance On” (from the album *Comin’ Through*) reached the Billboard chart. He has performed with such jazz greats as Dexter Gordon, Roy Haynes, Jackie McLean, Joe Henderson, Elvin Jones, Johnny Griffin, Slide Hampton, Benny Golson, Max Roach and McCoy Tyner.

American jazz vocalist **Kalil Wilson** is embarking on an incredibly bright career having already by the age of 35 performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Opera, the Oakland East Bay Symphony, at Walt Disney Concert Hall, and the Getty Museum. In 2012, Wilson was invited to perform at the Hollywood Bowl in a collaboration with Herbie Hancock, Marcus Miller, Wayne Shorter, Cindy Blackman, Zakir Hussain, Dave Holland, George Whitty, and Carlos Santana for an all-star concert, “Celebrating Peace.” In January 2017, Wilson joined the faculty at the California Jazz Conservatory. He’s released two albums, *Classical Voices* and *Easy to Love*.

Formed with a mission to embody the jazz-influenced party culture of the Big Easy in a constantly evolving, high-energy funk/soul outfit, **Naughty Professor** quickly commanded the attention of New Orleans royalty George Porter Jr., Galactic, and The Revivalists. The sextet has shared the stage with various artists including Snarky Puppy, Victor Wooten, Rebirth Brass Band, Fitz and the Tantrums, and more.

Throughout his twenty-year career, **Allan Harris** has released eleven albums and won numerous awards including the New York Nightlife Award for “Outstanding Jazz Vocalist” and *DownBeat Magazine’s* Critic’s Poll Award for “Rising Star Vocalist.” His music is a combination of swinging jazz, rich R&B, balladry and a deeply resonant baritone/tenor. Harris has performed at the 2012 Olympics in London as well as New York’s Lincoln Center and D.C.’s Kennedy Center.

Over his 35-year career, trombonist/composer **Michael Davis** (leader of **Hip Bone Big Band**) has traveled the globe on five world tours with the Rolling Stones. He’s toured and recorded extensively with Frank Sinatra; released 11 CDs as a solo artist; and appeared on over 500 CDs, television themes and motion picture soundtracks. Davis has worked alongside Michael Jackson, Jay Z, James Taylor, Bob Dylan, Aerosmith, Tony Bennett, Paul Simon, and Terence Blanchard. A multiple recipient of awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, he maintains his own jazz groups and projects through Hip-Bone Music where he is the founder, creator and president.

As the West Coast’s premiere zydeco band, **Zydeco Flames** delights fans with hot zydeco in the tradition of masters like Clifton Chenier, Buckwheat Zydeco and Queen Ida. The group has been awarded “Best Zydeco Band” by the West Coast Blues Society, and “Best Original Song” for “Don’t Worry” by the West Coast Cajun & Zydeco Association. With a unique brand of Louisiana-spiced rhythms and infectious energy, Zydeco Flames have released ten original albums and compilations.

Brazilian born vocalist **Claudia Villela** boasts a glorious five-octave range and draws on a vast range of Brazilian traditions (samba, bossa nova, carnival groove partido alto, baião). Villela attracted the attention of tenor sax titan Michael Brecker, bass virtuoso Harvie Swartz and revered Brazilian guitarist Toninho Horta, all who appear on her album, *Supernova*. Her latest releases include: *Asa Verde*, *Inverse Universe* and *Dream Tales*.

Now Harlem-based, San Jose’s very own **Jackie Gage** possesses a musical grace that channels torch singers of decades past, mixing elements of jazz, soul and R&B into her original compositions. Gage has performed at a slew of venues on both the East and West

coasts including Blue Whale, BB Kings, Philadelphia's South Kitchen, Catalina Jazz Club and most notably, her sold out album release show for *Siren Songs* at Yoshi's Oakland. Garnering critical praise for *Siren Songs*, *All About Jazz* raves, "the highlight is Gage's genuinely gifted vocals" and *AfroPunk* touts that Gage "establishes herself firmly as one of the most vital artists in the jazz world."

Descendants of the group the Soul Revivers, The **Sons Of The Soul Revivers** harness an unmatched blend of family harmony built from more than 20 years of singing gospel music. The Sons Of The Soul Revivers have performed alongside leading gospel figures the Canton Spirituals, the Mighty Clouds of Joy, the Jackson Southernaires, and the Gospel Keynotes. The Bay Area Gospel Academy Awards rewarded The Sons Of The Soul Revivers with the "Best Quartet" award six times. The Sons Of The Soul Revivers release a new album, *LIVE! Rancho Nicasio*, on Little Village Foundation in July 2017.

As the winner of the "2006 Bay Area Blues Society West Coast Blues Band of the Year Award", **JC Smith** is an electrifying guitarist and singer. Smith's most recent album, *Defining Cool*, entered the Living Blues Radio Charts at #16 and was a "Pick to Click" on XM Radio. He has shared stages with notable artists such as Hubert Sumlin, BB King, Buddy Guy, Buddy Miles and Pinetop Perkins.

With recognition among jazz's finest baritone saxophonists in both the *DownBeat* Reader's and Critic's Polls, GRAMMY® Award-winning saxophonist **Aaron Lington** has been celebrated for his "finely honed melodic sensibility" by the *San Jose Mercury News*. Lington's performance and compositional credits include collaborations with the San Francisco Symphony, Maynard Ferguson, the BBC Radio Orchestra, and the Count Basie Orchestra. In addition to his position as Professor at San José State University where he serves as Coordinator of Jazz Studies, Dr. Lington is also the Director of the San Jose Jazz High School All Stars.

Co-led by renowned percussionists Mike Spiro and Karl Perazzo, **Conjunto Karabali** is one of the Bay Area's hottest Latin dance bands bringing "old school" salsa sound back to life. The group's co-leaders have performed and recorded with almost every major Latin artist of the last 30 years, from Eddie Palmieri and Carlos Santana to Tito Puente and Celia Cruz. Additionally, they've received multiple GRAMMY® Awards and nominations for their work for internationally recognized jazz, Latin jazz and pop artists.

Formerly the leader of several popular groups in Argentina, composer **Juan "Pollo" Raffo** has a sound that combines the rhythms and character of South American music with the spirit of jazz improvisation. Raffo graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Jazz Composition from Berklee College of Music and earned his Master of Arts degree in Composition from New York University (NYU). He has worked as an arranger, keyboardist, and musical director for some of the most outstanding representatives of Argentinean popular music, including Juan Carlos Baglietto, León Gieco, Los Piojos, Divididos, No Te Va Gustar and more.

As one of the more expressive and emotionally engaging guitarists/vocalists in the blues/rock arena, **A.C. Myles** has been the sideman to notable artists Fillmore Slim and John Nemeth. His musical style ranges from traditional blues to '60s and '70s blues-rock, following influences all the way to southern rock and soul. Myles has performed at Lucerne Blues Festival, Davies Symphony Hall, BB Kings Blues Club and Cognac Blues Passions, among others.

Since forming 25 years ago, **Big Sandy and his Fly-Rite Boys** have toured continuously and become torchbearers of American roots music with their fourteen-album catalog presenting a joyful mix of rockabilly, rock & roll, honky-tonk, and doo-wop. Big Sandy and the band have made three appearances on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, and their music has been featured on NPR programs *Fresh Air* and *All Things Considered*. The group's latest album, *What A Dream It's Been*, is a collection of the band's favorite original numbers.

As one of the most in-demand groups in the San Francisco Latin jazz and salsa scenes, **CABANIJAZZ Project** is an octet led by Javier Cabanillas. Cabanillas has worked as a conga player with Pacific Mambo Orchestra, and the CABANIJAZZ Project performed at the Redwood City Salsa Festival in 2016 to a crowd of 20,000.

The self-taught, Havana-born **Carlitos Medrano** percussionist and bandleader has collaborated alongside Orlando Sanchez, Danay Bautista, Bobby Carcases and Alexis Bosch. He has appeared at numerous festivals such as Cuba Caribe Festival, Benecia Jazz Festival, Russian River Jazz and Blues Festival, and Healdsburg Jazz Festival. Medrano formed his own group, Sabor De Mi Cuba that features standout Bay Area musicians fusing Afro-Cuban with world music influences.

The Bay Area Salsa All-Stars featuring Jimmy Bosch is a project envisioned by Arturo Riera (San Jose Jazz Summer Fest's Latin music Curator) and directed by Latin jazz flautist John Calloway. Jimmy Bosch is considered to be a key catalyst in the ignition of the "salsa dura" movement, blending old school tradition with a modern approach on the New York scene. Bosch performed alongside Ray Barretto in the golden years of the late '80s and early '90s, and has also performed with Ruben Blades, Eddie Palmieri, Pete Rodriguez, Celia Cruz and Spanish Harlem Orchestra.

Bandleader and vocalist **Lily Hernandez** has toured Europe, thanks to her ability to expertly channel numerous Latin music styles. Hernandez's band La Sonora Clásica has performed on stages worldwide and alongside renowned Latin jazz musicians such as Ruben Blades, Danilo Pérez, Osmany Paredes, Oscar Stagnaro and Chucho Valdés.

Get ready for an electrifying lineup of acclaimed artists appearing at the 28th San Jose Jazz Summer Fest 2017! Additional artists will be announced in the coming weeks.

28th Annual San Jose Jazz Summer Fest 2017

When: August 11 - 13, 2017

Where: Plaza de César Chavez Park, San Jose, CA

Admission: summerfest.sanjosejazz.org/buy-now

More info: summerfest.sanjosejazz.org; 408.288.7557

Summer Fest 2017 Artist Lineup

Friday, August 11 – Sunday, August 13

Chris Botti; George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic; Maceo Parker; The Whispers; Angélique Kidjo's Celia Cruz Tribute with Pedrito Martinez; Dr. Lonnie Smith Trio; Jazz By Five with Javon Jackson, George Cables, Randy Brecker, Eddie Gomez & Jimmy Cobb; San Francisco String Trio with Mimi Fox, Mads Tolling and Jeff Denson; Cyrille Aimée; The Seshen; Pacific Mambo Orchestra; Oscar Hernandez and Alma Libre; California and Montreal Guitar Trios; Peter Cincotti; Dayme Arocena; Orgone; Anton Schwartz Sextet; Eddie Henderson Quartet; Kalil Wilson With Love; Naughty Professor; Allan Harris Quartet; Hip Bone Big Band with Michael Davis; Zydeco Flames; Claudia Villela Quintet; Jackie Gage; The Sons Of The Soul Revivers; JC Smith Band; Aaron Lington Sextet; Conjunto Karabali; Juan Pollo Raffo; A.C. Myles; Big Sandy and His Fly Rite Boys; Danny Green Trio; Carmen Lundy; Sasha Masakowski; Emilio Solla Quartet; Dmitri Matheny Jazz Noir; Tia Brazda; Gregory Page; Kavita Shah, Ray Obiedo, Tommy Igoe Groove Conspiracy, Brian Andres Afro Cuban Cartel; Somos el Son; CABANIJAZZ Project; Carlitos Medrano; The Bay Area Salsa All-Stars featuring Jimmy Bosch; Lily Hernandez; and many others soon to be announced.

Artist interviews are available upon request.

Ticket Information

3-Day Pass Adult VIP (\$285 early bird; \$325 advance; \$345 gate)

Includes Reserved Main Stage Seating Sat & Sun, Free Food & Beverages in Exclusive VIP Pavilion, Priority Access to All Indoor Fest Venues, Complimentary Garage Parking During Festival Hours

3-Day Pass Adult PRIORITY ACCESS (\$140 early bird; \$160 advance; \$170 gate)

Skip the Line at All Indoor Fest Venues, \$20 in Beverage Tickets

3-Day Pass Adult ALL STAGES (\$70 early bird; \$90 advance; \$100 gate)

Access to ALL Indoor & Outdoor Fest Venues

3-Day Pass Adult GENERAL ADMISSION (GA) (\$45 early bird; \$60 advance; \$70 gate)

3-Day Pass Child (\$15)

Admission for one child aged 5-12, with access to stages and hospitality areas at SJZ Summer Fest according to the access level of an accompanying adult. This low-priced ticket is designed to allow families to affordably enjoy the Fest and is not discounted from the Gate Price.

Single Tickets (\$15 – \$140 advance, April 24–July 31; \$20 – \$150 beginning August 1)

Friday, August 11: VIP \$65 advance, April 24–July 31, \$75 beginning August 1; GA \$15 advance, \$20 beginning August 1.

Saturday & Sunday, August 12-13: VIP \$140 advance, April 24–July 31, \$150 beginning August 1; Priority Access \$65 advance, \$75 beginning August 1; All Stages \$35 advance, \$40 beginning August 1; GA \$20 advance, \$25 beginning August 1.

<https://summerfest.sanjosejazz.org/buy-now>

About San Jose Jazz

Founded in 1986, San Jose Jazz is a public benefit corporation celebrating jazz as a dynamic, evolving art form and is producer of the annual San Jose Jazz Summer Fest and Winter Fest. With its singular music programming and innovative educational offerings, San Jose Jazz preserves the jazz tradition while actively supporting the next generation of performers within the genre and beyond. For more information, please visit sanjosejazz.org.

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