



JUNE**1-10**

roy haynes | sheila jordan | vijay iyer | kenny burrell | freddy cole michele rosewoman | billy hart | julian priester | craig haynes | graham haynes andy mckee | shotgun wedding | lorca hart | calvin keys | mal sharpe & more

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The Press Democrat







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FRIDAY 6/1

Calvin Keys Organ Quartet

KRUG EVENT CENTER 198 Dry Creek Road (entrance on Grove Street) 7-9PM | \$20

Robb Fisher & Matt Clark Duo HOTEL HEALDSBURG LOBBY 7:30-11PM

SATURDAY 6/2

Jazz & Wine Tasting: Benny Barth Trio with Randy Vincent & Chris Amberger

SEASONS OF THE VINEYARD 113 Plaza Street 4-6PM | No Cover

Dixieland at the Bakery:
Mal Sharpe's Big Money &
Dixieland Jazz Band &
New Horizon Stompers

COSTEAUX BAKERY & CAFÉ 417 Healdsburg Avenue 8PM | \$25

George Marsh Trio with Noam Lemish & Jim Kerwin

HOTEL HEALDSBURG LOBBY 25 Matheson Street 7:30-11PM

SUNDAY 6/3

Freddy Cole Quartet BARNDIVA

231 Center Street Two Shows: 4PM & 7PM \$45 | \$65

MONDAY 6/4

Jazz & Wine Dinner
Kai Devitt-Lee Trio with
Zach Ostroff & Jesse Simpson
DRY CREEK KITCHEN

317 Healdsburg Avenue
7-10PM | Reservation Recommended

TUESDAY 6/5

Azesu: *Latin Rhythms, South American Folklorico & Jazz*

HEALDSBURG PLAZA 6-8PM | Free

Vintage Blues on Vinyl with David Katznelson

BERGAMOT ALLEY 328a Healdsburg Avenue 8-11PM | \$10

WEDNESDAY 6/6

Jazz Night at the Movies with Mark Cantor

RAVEN THEATER 115 North Street 7-9:30PM | \$10

THURSDAY 6/7

Hip Hop Meets Jazz: Shotgun Wedding

SPOONBAR219 Healdsburg Avenue
8-11PM | No Cover

FRIDAY 6/8

Music, Wine & Food Cocktail Hour: Gary Johnson Trio

ACROSS FROM RAVEN THEATER Parking lot at North & Center Streets 6-8PM

Michele Rosewoman Trio with Andy McKee & Billy Hart plus special guest Julian Priester RAVEN THEATER

115 North Street 8PM \$50 | \$30 | \$25 Student/Senior

Lorca Hart Trio with Josh Nelson & Edwin Livingston

HOTEL HEALDSBURG LOBBY 25 Matheson Street 9PM-Midnight | No Cover

SATURDAY 6/9

Master Vocal Class with Sheila Jordan

HEALDSBURG HIGH SCHOOL 1028 Prince Avenue/Band Room 11AM-2PM \$50 participants | \$25 to audit

Panel Discussion with the Roy-al Family Moderated by Billy Hart

RAVEN THEATER 115 North Street 2-4PM | Free

Music, Wine & Food Cocktail Hour: Susan Sutton Trio

ACROSS FROM RAVEN THEATER Parking lot at North & Center Streets 5:30-7:30PM

Kenny Burrell Solo & Trio

RAVEN THEATER
115 North Street
8PM

\$65 | \$45 | \$35 Student/Senior

Lorca Hart Trio with Josh Nelson & Edwin Livingston

HOTEL HEALDSBURG LOBBY 25 Matheson Street 9PM-Midnight

SUNDAY 6/10

Jazz Roy-alty with the Roy-al Family & Friends: Roy Haynes & Fountain of Youth Sheila Jordan & Cameron Brown Vijay Iyer Trio

RODNEY STRONG VINEYARDS 2PM, gates open at 1PM \$45 | \$35 Student/Senior Children 10 and under free Lawn seating, low chairs only & no umbrellas

ONLINE: healdsburgjazzfestival.org

PHONE: 24/7 ticket hotline 800 838 3006 WALK-IN: Levin & C°., 306 Center St., Healdsburg CASH/CREDIT CARD

Last Record Store, 1899 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa CASH/CHECKS



After attending soul-jazz basic training in the bands of Hammond B3 specialists Jimmy Smith, Jimmy McGriff, Jack McDuff and Richard "Groove" Holmes, the Omaha, Nebraska native graduated to the big time with a stint in Ray Charles' band. In Los Angeles in the early '70s, Calvin released a few landmark records on the fondly remembered Black Jazz label, two of which, Shawn-Neeq and Proceed With Caution, have been re-issued on CD. His latest album, Hand Made Portrait (on Silverado Records), allows Calvin to flaunt his fleet, single-note attack style on American songbook classics like "I'll Remember April," "I've Grown Accustomed to Your Face," and jazz standards like "Naima" and "The Good Bait."

For Healdsburg, the emphasis will be on R&B, so be prepared for grooving at our new venue.



Mal Sharpe's been playing Dixieland music for decades. He's had a heck of a good time doing it, and his audience can't get enough of it. But to many jazz fans, Dixieland is at best a historical afterthought, a genre of music played mainly by people who, shall we say, are less than up to date. This is unfortunate and wrongheaded for at least a couple of reasons: 1) If this year's Healdsburg Jazz Festival teaches us anything, it's that the most experienced players have a lot to teach us, and 2) never underestimate a form of music that was created in New Orleans.

Louis Armstrong started playing Dixieland, but then he went ahead and created the jazz solo. For decades that was all the rage—the hero stepping forth to blare his horn in triumph. In the 1960s, when the experimenters came along to stretch the boundaries of jazz, they caught on to something that Armstrong never actually

forgot: while solos may hit us in the gut, it's how the musicians are interacting behind the solo that excites the brain. Or vice versa. That interaction magic—call it polyphony—is what the Dixielanders bequeathed us, and it's something that Sharpe, trombonist and leader of the Big Money and Dixieland Jazz Band, understands in his DNA. The cast he's assembled to play standards like "Beale Street Blues," "Sunny Side of the Street" and "Mood Indigo"—with trumpeter Leon Oakley (who played in Turk Murphy's band for 10 years), clarinetist Dwayne Ramsey, pianist Si Perkoff (veteran of the bands of Buddy Collette, Harry "Sweets" Edison and others), tuba man and bassist Sam Rocha and drummer Carmen Consino—are authentic Dixieland soldiers.

What they can teach us at this concert is something they've always known: Trad is Rad.

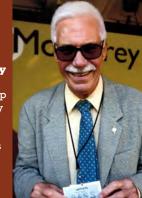
WINE, JAZZ & THE BENNY BARTH TRIO

FERRARI-CARATIO

easons

of the Vineyard

Tasting room | 113 Plaza Street 4-6PM 707.431.2222 seasonsofthevineyard.com Taste wine at Ferrari-Carano, the jazz-friendly tasting room where the **Benny Barth Trio** will be spreading good vibes. Barth began playing in the bebop era and has worked in all the legendary San Francisco clubs of yore. **Randy Vincent**, guitar teacher to the stars, swings his ax, and local veteran **Chris Amberger** caresses the stand-up.





In a culture besotted with youth, some people haven't figured out that musicians only improve with age. It's not like sports, and in this, Freddy Cole's life offers an object lesson. As a high schooler in Chicago, Cole was a football star. But when an injury sidelined him, he focused on the piano instead. Now, imagine if he had gone on to play pro football. His retirement would have commenced, well, 45 years ago. Now, at 80, he's just about hitting his prime. So, the lesson is jazz isn't sports. In jazz, you just keep getting better with age.

Cole, of course, was a late bloomer. Part of that was the need to escape the long shadow of his older brother Nat King Cole, who died in 1965. Not to mention that Nat's daughter and Freddy's niece Natalie Cole has staked a strong claim

to the family franchise. Though there are some similarities between the vocal approach of Freddy and Nat, as would have to be the case with siblings. With Freddy you get a little less crystal and a lot more of the barrelhouse, a trait complemented by the way he digs deep into the piano, swinging it every which way. His 2010 album Freddy Cole Sings Mr. B (that's Billy Eckstine, natch) was nominated for a Grammy in the jazz vocal category, and on his latest disc, Talk to Me, he ups the sass and the class. It's been a long time coming for Freddie, but he has matured into one of jazz's preeminent singers. And if youth is really what you must have, then you won't believe his quitarist Randy Napoleon. The rest of the band, Elias Bailey on bass and Curtis Boyd on drums, is merely ageless.



Financial investigative journalist David Dietz fell in love with Healdsburg in the 1980s. But it wasn't until he and his wife, Joanne Derbort, moved here from San Francisco in 2003 that he really understood why. In those years here, still working full-time at Bloomberg News, he helped on projects he believed in, like the Jazz Festival, and was active in the successful push to save the Healdsburg Memorial Bridge. David passed away on June 1, 2011. One of the things he loved most was listening to amazing jazz in Barndiva's gorgeous back garden.



There must be something in the wine country water that causes quitar prodigies to sprout. Julian Lage was the first. Now meet 18-year-old Kai Devitt-Lee, a Healdsburg-raised fret wonder who made his Healdsburg Jazz Festival debut last year. Now living in New York and studying at the New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music, Kai has already racked up an impressive list of accomplishments. His fleet fingers and pure tone have brought him victories in several competitions, earning him slots in the Monterey Jazz Festival Next Generation Jazz Orchestra, the National Foundation for the Advancement in the

Arts YoungArts Week in Miami, the Brubeck Institute Summer Jazz Colony at the University of the Pacific, and several more institutions. At Healdsburg, Kai is backed by two other young Bay Area talents currently making waves in New York: **Zach Ostroff**, 19, on bass and **Jesse Simpson**, 22, on drums. Ostroff is highly melodic player who has shared stages with Julian Lage, George Cables, Howard Wiley and Taylor Eigsti. Simpson's volcanic playing has gotten him work with Benny Green, Cedar Walton and others.



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The beauty of Healdsburg is unsurpassed.

Make your reservations now for the Healdsburg Jazz Festival.

Lodging choices range from quiet, cozy B&Bs to a luxury hotel on the historic Healdsburg Plaza.

707.433.6935 | HEALDSBURG.COM



Orestes Vilato has played with practically every Latin jazz or Latin rock artist of note—from Ray Barretto to Carlos Santana to Carlos "Patato" Valdez to Chico O'Farril—not to mention he's lent his timbales skills to stars like Aretha Franklin, Willie Nelson and Wynton Marsalis. So when the 67-year-old Cuban-born percussionist wanted to put together a new group, he found just the right lead singer.

For Azesu, which is playing a dance concert at the Healdsburg Plaza, Vilato

tapped Venezuelan native Maria
Marquez to supply the lead vocals.
Marquez has one of the more beguiling
vocal timbres around, low and rumbling,
perfect for the kind of omni-Latin
music Vilato has in mind. Rounding
out the band are Venezuelan Omar
Ledezma Jr. on percussion, Peruvian
bassist David Pinto, and two
Americans: reed ace Sheldon Brown
and pianist Jonathan Alford. Azesu
has released a self-titled CD that lays
down a new marker for hybrid Latin jazz
—a marker you can dance to on the Plaza.

BERGAMOT ALLEY PRESENTS VINTAGE BLUES ON VINYL FEATURING DAVID KATZNELSON

BERGAMOT ALLEY

328a Healdsburg Ave 8-11PM | \$10 | bergamotalley.com



To continue the day-long music celebration from the square, revelers should next head down to Bergamot Alley Bar & Wine Merchants to indulge in an evening of vintage blues and R&B. DJ David Katznelson will be serving up a sizzling platter of tunes by John Lee Hooker, Fred McDowell, Slim Gaillard, Amos Milburn, Roscoe Gordon, Ruth Brown, Howlin' Wolf, Etta James, and many more. Katznelson is renowned for the KUSF-in-Exile Internet radio show *The Cotton Exchange*. For more on his current projects, visit thecottonexchange.net.



JAZZ NIGHT at THE MOVIES with MARK CANTOR

RAVEN THEATER

115 North Street 7-9:30PM | \$10 | 707.433.8720

Though jazz festivals are first and foremost about presenting live music, promoters have known for decades that a secret to any festival's success can be a program of jazz films from the vaults of **Mark Cantor**. For 40 years, this passionate archivist has been enthralling audiences with screenings from a collection of more than 4,000 performances—all eras and styles of the music, some even predating jazz. He's been a mainstay at the Healdsburg Jazz Festival, and this year he returns to the Raven Theater for Jazz Night at the Movies with lots of surprises.

Cantor doesn't like to announce what he'll be showing beforehand, but we did manage to squeeze a few revelations out of him. Expect to see John Coltrane and Stan Getz playing together on the same stage. How? Because they both ended up as part of the same European tour. Also, a trip in the way way back machine brings us to New Orleans pre-"jazz" clarinetists George Lewis and Alphonse Picou playing with trumpeter Punch Miller. "This is the first time that this performance will have been seen in public in more than half a century," Cantor says. Also new for Healdsburg: the 1958 film and television debut of alto bop great Art Pepper.

As for the rest, who knows? Could be Bird, could be Bing, could be Ella, Duke, Newk, Goodman, Monk or . . .



Shotgun Wedding is one of the small outfits in Adam Theis' Jazz Mafia franchise, delivering the most bang for the buck. With this group, he manages what very few have accomplished: a successful artistic melding of jazz with hip-hop-flavored beats, narration and electronics. Theis grew up in Sonoma County where he started creating musical possibilities for local players while still in high school. From running a hotshot horn section for hire, Theis turned into a jazz impresario who received a \$50,000 grant from the Wallace Alexander Gerbode and William and Flora Hewlett Foundations to produce a 60-piece hip-hop symphony

called "Brass, Bows & Beats" that he toured around North America.

On Shotgun Wedding's latest CD, Tales From the Barbary Coast, Theis creates vivid musical mash-ups that unfold like suites and are reminiscent of some of the more cinematic music created by Ellington and Mingus—noir, enhanced by samplers and loops. Vocalist MC Dublin recites lurid tales from the bygone era indicated on the album's title. Also playing sampler and violin, Dublin is joined by Theis on bass, trombone, synths and sampler; Joe Cohen on saxes and keyboards; and Pat Korte on drums and sampler.





Ask the musicians: Some of the most fun to be had at the Healdsburg Jazz Festival takes place at night in the lobby of the Hotel Healdsburg, where the playing goes until midnight. The final Friday and Saturday nights of the fest, the Lorca Hart Trio will be holding forth.

The son of drumming titan Billy Hart, Lorca Hart has been carving out his own niche on the instrument, showing the kind of versatility that's gotten him work with folks like Calvin Keys, Julian Lage, Hugh Masakela and Red Holloway. Marinating in the L.A. scene while studying at Cal Arts enabled him to put together the crack band he'll have at the hotel: pianist Josh Nelson, who's worked with Christian McBride, Tom Scott and Matt Wilson, and bassist Edwin Livingston, a Texas terror sought out by Elvin Jones, Los Hombres Calientes and Hubert Laws. They both played with Natalie Cole, and together, the trio self-produced the 2010 CD Recollections.

This is the place to be when the Raven concerts get out. You never know who will stop by and sit in.

MUSIC, WINE & FOOD COCKTAIL HOUR: GARY JOHNSON TRIO

ACROSS FROM THE RAVEN THEATER
Parking lot at North & Center Streets
Sponsored by Simi
6-8PM | Free | Complimentary food bites | Wine tasting \$1

Founded in 1876 and located just down the road off Healdsburg Avenue, Simi is one of Sonoma County's most historic wineries. As part of the weekend festivities, we invite you to stop by the "Simi Winery on Wheels," parked across from the Raven Performing Arts Theater, and relish locally inspired bites crafted by Simi's resident head chef, each artfully paired with either the 2008 Simi Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon or the 2010 Simi Sonoma County Sauvignon Blanc—available on tap!





Those who have been lucky enough to catch Michele Rosewoman's occasional homecoming performances in the Bay Area over the decades can feel like members of a secret society, pilgrims to the shrine of a piano goddess who has illuminated mysteries of the keyboard that very few have accessed. Raised in Oakland and schooled by Northern California's late piano guru Ed Kelly, Rosewoman was a prodigious talent who, while still in her teens, had multiple strains of jazz and world music dancing in her head. Around the time she moved to New York in the late 1970s, she was like a magnet to many of the rising stars of the day-Oliver Lake, Billy Bang, Julius Hemphill and many more.

Technique is what immediately bowls you over about Michele's playing. She is equally virtuosic at in-the-pocket post-bop playing, rippling romanticism, atonal flights and the Afro-Cuban clave. But while many have chops, few can muster them with the sense of

equipoise that Michele brings. Like a dancer in the eye of a hurricane, Michele choreographs the piano keys in a way that's electrifying. For this evening's concert at the Raven, Michele brings together a cadre of veterans: Billy Hart on drums, Andy McKee on bass, and special quest Julian Priester on trombone. Michele has played with Hart and Priester separately for years, but this evening marks not only the first time the three will have worked together but is also a reunion of Priester and Hart, who played on Herbie Hancock's ground breaking Mwandishi album from 1971. Andy McKee is a prodigiously talented bassist who was schooled in the bands of Philly Joe Jones and Elvin Jones and went on to play with Mal Waldron, Don Cherry, Michel Petrucciani and many others.

Between Michele, Billy, Julian and Andy, you have a résumé that could fill the Raven Theater. Be prepared for magic.



GETTING YOUR ACT TOGETHER

Master Vocal Class with Sheila Jordan

HEALDSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

1028 Prince Avenue/Band Room 11AM-2PM | \$50 participants | \$25 to audit The class is open to all levels of expertise.

2012 NEA Jazz Master and Healdsburg Jazz Festival featured performer **Sheila Jordan** invites singers of all levels to this vocal master class.

Teaching since 1978, Sheila is as passionate about passing on her knowledge as she is about singing. "My purpose in life is to keep this music alive," Sheila says. "I'm going to die one day. Is the music going to die with me? No!"

In this class, Sheila will talk about her life—how she learned singing and what her approach is to it. She will cover bebop and scat singing, and teach at least one song that the class can sing together. She urges anyone who wants to learn a specific song to bring in a lead sheet, although that's not necessary.

"I want to give people the jazz fever,"
Sheila says. "Once they get the jazz fever,
they won't want to sing anything else."

From 1978 until 2005, Sheila taught jazz singing at City College of New York. She teaches every year with Jazz in July at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and at the Vermont Jazz Center in Brattleboro. She also conducts workshops around the world. She says she believes in teaching from the heart, offering encouragement to build confidence.

OPEN PANEL DISCUSSION with the ROY-AL FAMILY

Moderator: Billy Hart

RAVEN THEATER

115 North Street | 2-4PM | FREE

Why is the music of NEA Jazz Master Roy Haynes important? What kind of influence has he had on drums? On the jazz world at large? What is it about Roy that has made him one of the most sought-after drummers in jazz history?

Any artist who has worked with the likes of Louis Armstrong, Charlie Parker, Sarah Vaughan, Lester Young, Gary Burton, Sonny Rollins, Miles Davis, John Coltrane and Chick Corea has something going on that deserves being discussed.

In honor of 2012 Healdsburg Jazz Festival Headliner Roy Haynes, fans are encouraged to attend a panel discussion on jazz's Roy-al family. Roy Haynes will air his thoughts and take questions, and his sons, drummer Craig and cornetist/ electronic music artist Graham, will talk about what it was like to grow up with a dad who happened to be a star in the jazz firmament. They'll talk about how he encouraged them and influenced them. Billy Hart, a first-call drummer who teaches at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, the New England Conservatory of Music, the New School and New York University, will moderate and discuss Roy's impact on drummers and on the jazz world in general. Perhaps he'll reveal some tricks he learned from Rovor vice versa!

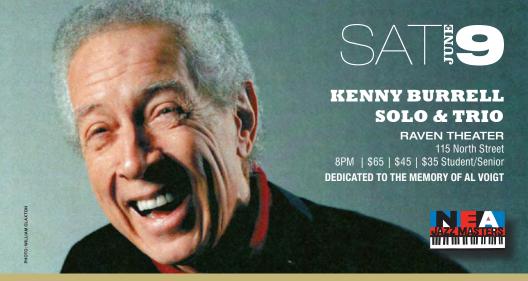


JAZZ, WINE & FOOD COCKTAIL HOUR: SUSAN SUTTON TRIO

ACROSS FROM THE RAVEN THEATER

Sponsored by Simi

5:30-7:30pm | Free | Complimentary food bites | Wine tasting \$1 (see June 8 for details)



With **Kenny Burrell's** two sets ringing in the final weekend, the Healdsburg Jazz Festival's Jazz Masters begin showing what it's like at the top of the artistic mountain. Burrell, who turned 80 last year, picked up his Jazz Masters knighthood from the NEA in 2005, just another feather in the cap of a musician who's got a room full of them.

Kenny has been hitting the sweet spots on his fretboard since 1951, when, as a young guitarist in Detroit, he landed a record date with Dizzy Gillespie.

After arriving in New York, Kenny instantaneously became a hot ticket among the jazz elite. He had to figure out how to balance making his own records against calls from people like John Coltrane, Billie Holiday, Jimmy Smith, Tony Bennett, Lena Horn and many more.

What's his secret? He told the Los Angeles Times that music "has to be a balance between heart and mind. The thing is to not let your technique or your analytical side overshadow your feelings."

On his way to recording over 100 albums as a leader and appearing on hundreds more, Burrell has demonstrated two sentiments: an abiding love of Duke Ellington's music (Ellington called him his favorite guitarist) and a penchant for teaching. He combined the two passions in 1978 when he created a class at UCLA called Ellingtonia, teaching it for 18 years and then becoming director of the Jazz Studies Department.

Burrell will play two sets at the Raven. The first will be solo guitar, where the audience is likely to hear the remarkable picking and finger-style technique he displayed on his new album of live solo guitar, *Tenderly*. For the second set, he will front a trio. Expect the polished drive and swing that has made him arguably the most respected guitarist in jazz history.





The grand finale for the 14th annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival is a truly special affair. It's a day to celebrate Roy-altydrummer/bandleader/NEA Jazz Master Roy Haynes and his family and friends. Each of the three acts is part of Roy-alty. During his own set with the Fountain of Youth band, Roy's son Craig-who has obviously learned the necessity of dancing behind the drum kit from Dadwill be questing on percussion. Second on the bill, fellow Jazz Master Sheila Jordan, has been a family friend of Roy's since the early '50s; she pushed newborn Craig around in a stroller along with her own daughter. Opening act Vijay Iyer, a fast-rising star in jazz, has invited Roy's son Graham, a brilliant cornetist/ electronic music artist, to sit in as a special quest. There's another thing each of these musicians shares with Roy-a compulsion to perform at the highest level. Please come welcome Roy-alty to Healdsburg.

SET 1: VIJAY IYER TRIO with GUEST GRAHAM HAYNES

Vijay Iyer, who earned a Ph.D. at UC Berkeley in the '90s while playing jazz piano in dives around town, moved to New York in 1998. He gradually established himself as one of the leading lights of creative improvised music. His last album *Historicity*, earned a Grammy™ nomination, and his just-

released Accelerando has been attracting nonstop raves for his radical yet sensual trio interpretations of tunes like Michael Jackson's "Human Nature" and Herbie Nichols' "Wildflower."

Vijay is an original. With influences that include Indian ragas and African dance and drumming, he's created a music that moves like an ocean current, ebbing and flowing, propelled by his band's interlocking rhythms and his brooding, rumbling piano playing. It sounds like nothing else. Longtime bassist Stephan Crump brings the elasticity and drummer Tyshawn Sorey the symphonic sweep required to conjure Vijay's vision. Adding more spice to this set, Roy Haynes' son Graham Haynes, a veteran of New York's experimental movement and a virtuoso cornetist, will be Vijay's special guest.

SET 2: SHEILA JORDAN & CAMERON BROWN VOCAL & BASS DUO

Something that can't be said about many singers is true of **Sheila Jordan**. She doesn't sound like anybody else. Emerging in Detroit in the late 1940s, Jordan fell under the sway of Charlie Parker. That wasn't unusual for singers, but Sheila found a way into bebop that was unique. Instead of merely singing the horn solos or the melody, she treated the tunes much as a great visual artist



uses a block of clay, cutting tantalizing aural sculptures with precision vocal strikes that swoop, shock and delight.

Sheila just earned her Jazz Master designation from the NEA, which enhances the ties she already has with Jazz Master Roy Haynes, with whom she shares the bill at Healdsburg. Even though they haven't worked together (Roy rarely plays with singers), the two have known each other since 1951. Sheila and Roy's late wife Lee were great friends. Roy and Lee's son Craig and Sheila and then-husband Duke Jordan's daughter, Tracey, were born a week apart in 1955.

For most of her career, Sheila has worked in duet with bass players—a sub-genre she created in the '50s. At Healdsburg she'll be performing with the towering bassist **Cameron Brown**. She appreciates the openness of the bass, which gives her more opportunities to do what she does best: reinvent in every moment. Don't miss this moment to catch a true jazz original.

SET 3: ROY HAYNES & FOUNTAIN of YOUTH with GUEST CRAIG HAYNES

Roy Haynes, at 87, is jazz Roy-alty. He's one of the greatest drummers of all time, he's an NEA Jazz Master with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Grammys, he's played with practically every significant jazz artist of note going back to Louis Armstrong, he's produced two sons and a grandson who each are great musicians—and even his name means "king."

How to describe the genius of Roy? It comes down to two things: a drumming system and attitude. Roy isn't known for a specific style or pinned to a specific era. What he did was create a formula that could work equally well with swing, bop, funk, soft ballads, Latin or free jazz. It's a dancing full-body system, utilizing precision drum tuning that allows him to play rhythm, melody and even harmony all at once. Call him a one-man band inside a band. The attitude part? Roy's bandmates—even the leaders who hire him—know that this drummer is going to put them through the paces. And they're going to have to rise to the occasion.

For the grand finale at Healdsburg, Roy brings his Fountain of Youth—Martin Bejerano on piano, David Wong on bass, and Jaleel Shaw on alto sax—with Roy's son Craig Haynes, an in-demand drummer in his own right, sitting in on percussion.

Will there be surprises? Impossible to say, but with all the jazz royalty occupying Healdsburg this year, it wouldn't be wise to count anything out.



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