

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual 2017 SLO Jazz Festival Saturday, May 20, 2017 11AM To 10PM Mission Plaza, San Luis Obispo, CA

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# SLO JAZZ FESTIVAL RETURNS WITH GRAMMY AWARD WINNING PONCHO SANCHEZ AND HIS LATIN JAZZ BAND, THE PURPLE ONES: INSATIABLE TRIBUTE TO PRINCE, GRAMMY AWARD WINNING AIRTO MOREIRA & EYEDENTITY FEATURING DIANA PURIM PLUS MORE PERFORMANCES AND A JAZZ CLINIC

SAN LUIS OBISPO- SLO Jazz Festival returns this year with a powerhouse line up of jazz musicians on Saturday, May 20, 2017, live at Mission Plaza in San Luis Obispo, beginning at 11:00 a.m. and concluding at 10:00 p.m., with the City of San Luis Obispo returning as the title sponsor. The Festival's headliners include the Grammy Award winning Poncho Sanchez and His Latin Jazz Band. Co-headlining is The Purple Ones: Insatiable Tribute to Prince, an 11-piece pop-funk ensemble of Bay Area heavyweights co-led by trumpeter Morty Okin (The New Morty Show) driving the horn section and by Levy Seacer, guitarist who performed with Prince during the New Power Generation years. Adding excitement to the lineup this year is legendary Airto Moreira and Eyedentity featuring Diana Purim. Joining the impressive Mission Stage lineup are Peter Horvath Group featuring Bay Area musical heavyweights Ray Obiedo and Peter Michael Escovedo. Obiedo and Escovedo both performed with last year's headlining act, Pete Escovedo, so we look forward to seeing their contributions on guitar and drums with the amazing pianist, Peter Horvath, who has performed with Randy Brecker, Marcus Miller, and many jazz greats. Local favorites Inga Swearingen with the Cuesta Faculty All-Stars will open the Mission Stage. Joining Inga for the first time together will be Charlie Shoemake, vibraphonist, who performed with George Shearing in the 60's and who has produced over 500 shows through his famous jazz series (now at Pewter Plough Playhouse in Cambria). Completing the lineup on the Broad Street stage are Jon Stephen with his Tropical Brazilian guitar, Dylan Johnson's straight ahead jazz quartet, Dawn Lambeth, a singing pianist newcomer to the jazz festival but not to the Central Coast music scene; then closing with local favorite Mama Tumba with their high-energy African and Latin Rhythm dance music.

We are returning the Youth in Music stage, with three combos who have emerged from Cuesta College which include Samurai Flamenco, Trucks, Trucks, and more Trucks, and Paradigm Shift; plus, the Invitational High School Honor Jazz Band and the Summer Jazz Workshop band, comprised of musicians from our Summer Jazz Workshop; and also adding a High School Band Stage at the Children's Museum this year featuring bands from local high schools.

We will offer one clinic this year, with a jazz theory and keyboard/vibraphone clinic by Charlie Shoemake in the Museum of Art in the afternoon.

New SLO Jazz Festival sponsors this year include Vina Robles Winery, Mega 97.1 Radio, and PRP (Poor Richard's Press). Returning sponsors include the City of SLO (TBID and PCC), KSBY TV, Simply Clear

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Marketing (formerly Tolosa Press), BHE Renewables, Woodstock's Pizza, Left Coast Shirt, Wild Horse Winery, Got You Covered, Rabobank, Vallitix, American Marborg, Big Big SLO, Bliss Café, Cass Vineyard & Winery, John Landon Gallery (who painted the poster artwork), KPIG and The Beach, Bill Gaines Audio, the Drum Circuit, New Times SLO, Santa Maria SUN, SLO Tribune, and Central Coast Party Helpers.

San Luis Obispo native and well-known local jazz musician Scott Andrews, Executive Director, says, "We are excited to bring back Poncho Sanchez, celebrate the life of Prince, and award a 'legend' award to Airto this year. This is our most exciting line-up yet for SLO Jazz Festival, which is now one of the top attractions in San Luis Obispo County. We pride ourselves on bringing International quality jazz to the Central Coast, and showcasing regional and local Central Coast jazz stars in our growing jazz festival. We are grateful for our sponsors, media supporters, vendor, and volunteers who all work diligently to bring this gem of an event back to San Luis Obispo – to celebrate life through jazz music."

Tickets are on sale now through Boo Boo Records and all Vallitix outlets.

For more information and to order tickets, visit the Festival's website: <a href="www.slojazzfest.org">www.slojazzfest.org</a>.

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Photos:

Photos for Poncho Sanchez:















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# The Purple Ones:



Airto Moreira with Eyedentity Featuring Diana Purim:



**SLO Jazz Festival, Inc.** 805-459-6939 info@slojazzfest.org

a 501(c)3 non-profit organization

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Peter Horvath Group with Ray Obiedo and Peter Michael Escovedo











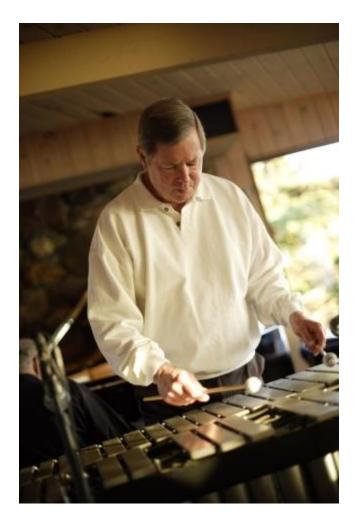


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# Inga Swearingen w/Cuesta Jazz Faculty and Charlie Shoemake



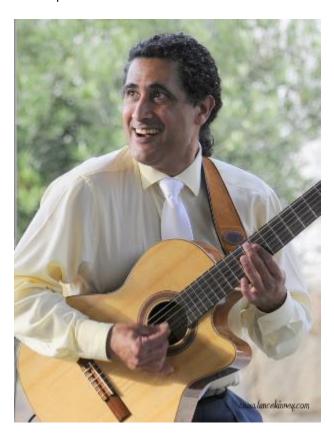






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# Jon Stephen:





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# Dylan Johnson Quartet:



#### Dawn Lambeth:





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Mama Tumba



