



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Announcing MOJO, a four-day Rhythm & Blues Festival coming to Bainbridge Island Museum of Art July 11-14

Bainbridge Island, WA - Bainbridge Island Museum of Art (BIMA) is celebrating the art of rhythm and blues this summer with the first-ever **Mojo Rhythm & Blues Festival**, a four-day extravaganza of live music, film, lectures and more. The festival takes place in the Museum's auditorium and galleries Thursday, July 11 through Sunday, July 14 and will feature three nights of headlining musical acts including Tiffany Wilson & Friends, Stephanie Anne Johnson (of NBC's *The Voice*), and a double-bill with blues guitar phenom Ian Moore & The Mescal 4 (Austin, TX) and Mark Pickerel & the Peyote 3. All daytime events are free and seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Evening concerts go on sale May 20<sup>th</sup> and run \$22 - \$29. **For a complete list of events and the schedule**, visit [www.biartmuseum.org/mojo](http://www.biartmuseum.org/mojo).

"The goal with Mojo Rhythm & Blues Festival is to put together an accessible program of free events for all visitors to experience alongside a world-class ticketed concert series that highlights the art of the rhythm and blues genre," explains Jesse Ziebart, Cultural Programs Manager at BIMA. "This is going to be one of the most fun weekends at the museum all summer."

In addition to the ticketed concerts, the galleries will host free informal performances by Tina Dietz and Chebon Tiger. Rounding out the festival are free screenings of blues documentary films *And This Is Free* and *The Howlin' Wolf Story*, a panel discussion on blues with Mark Hoffman, Jim Basnight and Steve Franz, and a lecture on the life and work of musician Sonny Boy Williamson II. Sprinkled throughout the weekend are listening parties with rhythm and blues aficionados in the auditorium.

## Evening Performance Details:

**Tiffany Wilson & Friends**

Thursday, July 11 at 7:00 p.m

Frank Buxton Auditorium; \$22 members / \$26 non-members

Tiffany Wilson is a true musical artist and songwriter whose voice speaks to something real and soulful. Not content with writing only standard love songs, her latest album "#SeeSharp" also speaks of inner and outer change, politics, and vision of a brighter future. The production is a conscious blend of the sounds of the past and the future. It is a mix of classic live soul & funk music filtered through her contemporary R&B roots and sensibilities. Eschewing the retro soul fad and moving towards a unique combination of past, present, and future—Ms. Wilson is a true original. *Seattle Magazine* said of Wilson: "In the case of vocalist Tiffany Wilson—whose recent KEXP performance stopped me in my tracks when I heard it two rooms away streaming from my husband's phone—there's no denying the power and passion of her voice."

### **Stephanie Anne Johnson**

Friday, July 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Frank Buxton Auditorium; \$22 members / \$26 non-members

Inspired by her life in the Pacific Northwest and the strong women that raised her, Stephanie Anne Johnson writes and sings the way she lives: loud and full of emotion. From national television to intimate house concerts, she can rock your night, make you fall in love, bring you to tears, and empower you. Though classically trained, Stephanie's repertoire covers Americana and R&B to arias and rock and roll. She brings real life to every performance and takes the audience on an unforgettable ride. "She's remarkably talented." - Cee Lo Green, *The Voice*

### **Ian Moore & the Mescal 4 with Mark Pickerel & the Peyote 3**

Saturday, July 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Frank Buxton Auditorium; \$25 members / \$29 non-members

**Mark Pickerel** has quite the back story which started as playing drums for seminal grunge faves **The Screaming Trees**. He has since played on albums with **Mark Lanegan**, **The Dusty 45s**, **Brandi Carlile**, **Neko Case** and **Nirvana** and then stepped out as a frontman for various groups including Mark Pickerel and His Praying Hands and now The Peyote 3.

Austin-based blues-rocker **Ian Moore** first gained experience touring as a guitarist with **Joe Ely** which led the way to a solo tour opening for the Rolling Stones and ZZ Top, later signing with Capricorn; three records followed from 1993-1995: Ian Moore, *Live from Austin* EP, and *Modernday Folklore*.

Ian's musical journey has been vast and ambitious. His first two records pushed the envelope of the blues/rock genre, including psychedelic, power pop, and heavy art influences. His mid-period, coinciding with a move to the Pacific Northwest, found him exploring psychedelic folk on records such as his YepRoc records, Luminaria, which *No Depression* said belonged alongside Grant Lee Phillips and Wilco, channeling Scott Walker and the Beach Boys. *Pop Matters* put it succinctly as they summed up his career to date, saying "sure, he's got his peers, but he's ballsier than Josh Rouse, bluesier than Josh Ritter, grittier than Matthew Sweet, brainier than Ryan Adams, and more muscular than Grant-Lee Phillips. Moore's transformation from trade bluesman to restless pop chameleon may be most closely echoed by Chris Whitley" which is short form of saying that Moore is not easily tagged by genre and comparison, and in his diversity and understanding of form, he is unique in his time.

## **Free Daytime Events:**

### **Friday, July 12**

- 11:00am-1:00pm - Acoustic blues in the galleries with Tina Dietz
- 1:00-3:00pm - Acoustic blues in the galleries with Chebon Tiger

- 3:00-5:00pm - Screening of documentary *And This Is Free* in the Auditorium

**Saturday, July 13**

- 1:00-2:00pm - Blues Listening Party with Steve Franz and Mark Hoffman in the Auditorium
- 1:00-3:00pm - Acoustic blues in the galleries with Chebon Tiger
- 2:00-4:00pm - Screening of documentary *The Howlin' Wolf Story* in the Auditorium (brought to you by Joe Lauro at Historic Films)

**Sunday, July 14**

- Noon-1:00pm - Blues Panel Discussion with Mark Hoffman, Jim Basnight and Steve Franz in the Auditorium
- 1:00-2:00pm - Blues Listening Party with Steve Franz, Mark Hoffman and Jim Basnight in the Auditorium
- 2:00-3:00pm - Lecture on the life and work of Sonny Boy Williamson II by Jim Basnight in the Auditorium

**About Bainbridge Island Museum of Art:**

BIMA inspires curiosity, wonder and understanding by connecting people with the contemporary art and craft of the Puget Sound region. Fueled by creativity and collaboration, BIMA commits to building a world where art is essential to thriving communities. The Museum exhibits, interprets, preserves, collects and promotes works of proven cultural value as well as new works by emerging artists and craftspeople.

BIMA is open daily 10am-6pm and gallery admission is always free. The Museum is located in 35 minutes from Seattle by ferry in beautiful downtown Bainbridge Island, at the corner of Hwy 305 and Winslow Way—just steps from the Bainbridge Island ferry terminal and easily accessible via public transportation or by car from the Kitsap Peninsula.

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