Summer Shines at Wave Hill with its 2024 Sunset Wednesdays Series

Upcoming season to feature diverse range of musical genres and performances. First outdoor concert to kickoff series will be on July 10 at 7pm

Bronx, NY, May 1, 2024— Wave Hill is thrilled to announce its upcoming Sunset Wednesdays concert series for the 2024 summer season. Named by *Time Out New York* as one of the top "10 under-the-radar cultural experiences in NYC," this annual summer tradition returns, bringing four exciting performances on Wednesday evenings in July. Guests are encouraged to pack a picnic and bring their favorite blanket or chair for an unforgettable summer evening in the gardens.

"We are so excited for the public to experience the upcoming Sunset Wednesdays concert series at Wave Hill this summer," said Ray Oladapo-Johnson, Wave Hill's President and Executive Director. "With incredible music, great weather and beautiful, idyllic surroundings, it's a truly extraordinary experience for our visitors."

The hourlong concerts begin at 7pm on Wednesday evenings. Upcoming performances for the Sunset Wednesdays series include:

July 10: Nicole Zuraitis

Nicole Zuraitis is a Grammy Award-winning (2024) jazz singer-songwriter, pianist and arranger, New York-based bandleader, and winner of the prestigious 2021 American Traditions Vocal Competition Gold Medal. With a "heart as big as her remarkable voice," (Jazz Police), Zuraitis has positioned herself as one of the top artists and songwriters whose poetic lyrics and melodies are of "such intricate musical vocabulary as to make a person lean forward in their seat." (Broadway World)



As a recording artist, Zuraitis has released five albums as leader, and her sixth album *How Love Begins* (2023), co-produced with eight-time Grammy-winner Christian McBride, features all original music and was awarded the Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Album. In addition to leading her quartet, Zuraitis is the premier vocalist for the Birdland Big Band and frequently headlines iconic NYC jazz clubs like Dizzy's Club at Lincoln Center, Birdland, the Blue Note, the Carlyle, 54 Below and the late, great 55 Bar. She has appeared as a featured soloist with the Savannah Philharmonic, Asheville Symphony, and Macon Pops, and has supported iconic singers like Melanie, Morgan James, Darren Criss, and Livingston Taylor on piano and vocals.

July 17: Twisted Pine

Praised by *NPR* for their "upbeat, poppy vibe; energetic, driving rhythms; and virtuosic solos," Twisted Pine released their sophomore full-length album *Right Now* in 2020 (Signature Sounds Recordings).

Exploring a sound they call Americana funk, Twisted Pine takes traditional music in exhilarating directions. "This album is easier to feel than describe," Bassist Chris Sartori writes, "Our bluegrass is jazzy, our indie folk is poppy, our grooves are funky." Indeed, Twisted Pine [Kathleen Parks, fiddle; Dan Bui, mandolin; Chris Sartori, bass; Anh Phung, flute] grooves with fearless improvisation and intricate arrangements. *The Boston Globe* writes, "They were once bluegrass, but ... this Boston band has become something else, a wider version of string band, boundary jumpers."



July 24: Edmar Castañeda

Nominated for a Latin Grammy for Best Latin Jazz Album with *Family*, Colombian-born Edmar Castañeda has made a name for himself as the preeminent jazz harp virtuoso. Castañeda's performance was heard in Disney's 2021 film, *Encanto*, which featured original songs by Lin-Manuel Miranda. Castañeda also acts on the soundtrack and served as music consultant.

Castañeda brings forth a brilliance that beautifully merges the jazz tradition with a diverse set of styles and genres while bringing unbridled attention to a somewhat unfamiliar instrument: the harp. Singlehandedly, Castañeda has cemented the harp's place in jazz with innovative technique and heartfelt creativity from a wealth of formidable collaborations with music titans such as Wynyton Marsalis, Bela Fleck, John Scofield, Ricki Lee Jones, Hiromi, Pedrito Martinez, Marcus Miller, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Ivan Lins, The Yellowjackets, Paco De Lucia, and Paquito D'Rivera.



July 31: The Missing Element featuring The Beatbox House

Fusing together awe-inspiring street dancers from Krump, FlexN, and Breaking communities with the virtuosic music-making of The Beatbox House, The Missing Element explores the universal elements of



Earth, Wind, Fire, Water, and Space. Commissioned by Works & Process, this work is an immersive experience where street dancers and beatboxers utilize their abilities to embark on an adventure of sound and dance. Their mission is to work together to find The Missing Element. All music and sound is 100% human-generated.

The Missing Element was commissioned by Works & Process in 2019 and was developed in Works & Process Bubble and LaunchPAD residencies at Kaatsbaan Cultural Park (2020 and 2021), Guild Hall William P. Rayner Artist-in-

Residence (2022), and Catskill Mountain Foundation (2023), made possible in part through the generous support of the Mellon Foundation and Doris Duke Foundation. Past performances have taken place at the Guggenheim Museum, Guild Hall, Jacob's Pillow Gala, Kaatsbaan Cultural Park, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Little Island, National Gallery of Art, NY PopsUp with Amy Schumer, and at the Guggenheim Bilbao's 25th Anniversary. The project started its life in the renowned Brooklyn nightclub House of Yes.

For more information or to purchase tickets today for the season's highly anticipated performances visit wavehill.org.

Also coming this summer are concerts by the <u>Sinfonietta of Riverdale</u> in Wave Hill's Armor Hall (June 23) and <u>Jasmine Rice LaBeija</u> (June 27), an outdoor concert at Wave Hill presented in partnership with Carnegie Hall Citywide.

Images Available Upon Request

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Wave Hill Incorporated is an independent non-profit cultural institution governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. The City of New York owns the buildings and grounds of Wave Hill. With the assistance of the Bronx Borough President and Bronx representatives in the City Council and State Legislature, Wave Hill's operations are supported with public funds through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the Zoos, Botanical Gardens and Aquariums Grant Program administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; the National Endowment for the Arts; and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.





About Wave Hill

A 28-acre public garden and cultural center overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades, Wave Hill's mission is to celebrate the artistry and legacy of its gardens and landscapes, to preserve its magnificent views, and to explore human connections to the natural world through programs in horticulture, education and the arts.

HOURS: Open all year, Tuesday–Sunday, 10AM–5:30PM. Glyndor Gallery 10AM–4:30PM. Marco Polo Stufano Conservatory 10AM–Noon; 1–4PM. On Sunset Wednesdays, the Gallery, Shop and Café remain open until 7:30PM. Grounds close at 8PM. **ADMISSION TO THE GROUNDS**: \$10 adults, \$6 students and seniors 65+, \$4 children 6-18. Free Thursdays. Free to Wave Hill Members, children under 6.

DIRECTIONS at wavehill.org.

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