

TUNESMITH NIGHT RETURNS

■ Saturday concert livestreamed from OK Theatre

ENTERPRISE — The 2020 Tunesmith Night season kicks off in “new norm” mode: a live concert streamed to music lovers everywhere. The gathering of singer-songwriters begins at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, and can be accessed at www.wvmusicalliance.org, YouTube and other social media platforms.

This is the 15th season of Tunesmith Night, a monthly showcase of original music hosted by the Wallowa Valley Music Alliance. Last season’s program was cut short by COVID-19 restrictions, and Music Alliance enters into the arena of livestreaming concerts in partnership with the historic OK Theatre in downtown Enterprise.

The season opener features Toney Rocks, An American Forrest and Margo Cilker.

Toney Rocks

Toney Rocks is an artist caught up in the vortex of erratic cross-country tours, using a pen to dig for a not-so

self-evident truth, chasing an unheard sound and rubbing a match against a brick wall looking

for a spark. There doesn’t seem to be another way for him. He’s crossed the great barrier into the realms of a chaotic maelstrom. Ask him what his style or genre is and he will probably say, “You tell me. You just gotta listen to it.”

The Las Vegas Weekly named Toney Rocks one of the top 10 Acts



to Watch in 2017. He sits between folk, blues and rock with engaging songwriting. His show is rich in diversity featuring his soulful singing supported by acoustic guitars, ukulele and piano.

“Toney Rocks’ voice is cool and sweet, rocking and lyrical. His songs thoughtful and hummable.”

— Kathy Forste, music director of KC Cafe Radio

An American Forrest

“An American Forrest is Western music. Country and folk. Ragged-voiced tales and wild, hybrid style, finger-picked and strummed guitar. Poetic incantations that conjure images: a lone rider silhouetted against a sunset, the day’s fading light, the unspoken bond between horses and people. Songs as detailed as tooled leather about old love and new frontiers.

“An American Forrest is the words and music of Forrest



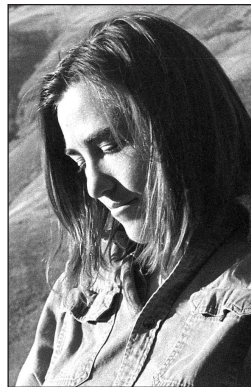
Van Tuyl. Lyrics fly upward from his songs like sparks from a fire. Verses come delivered with the humor of cowboy poets. His riffs have the wood-and-wire wrangling prowess of the folk singers of the second revival. The sensation of his songs hang around like smoke long after the night is gone.”

— Sean Jewell, American Standard Time

Margo Cilker

“Voice inviting and grainy, Margo Cilker sings about love in acute compositions feeding off hard work, understanding, and obscure locales.”

—Austin Chronicle



It’s OK to donate

The unique appeal of presenting three songwriters, sharing their original work in an intimate round-robin format will remain core to the program, as the musicians will be performing live (and safely distanced), on the beautiful stage of the old OK.

Since an in-person audience is not permitted at this time, viewers will be encouraged to show their support for the program via online donations.

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Photos and bios contributed by the Wallowa Valley Musical Alliance.

SAY HELLO TO CLIF & NELDA

JOSEPH — The Josephy Center for Arts and Culture’s free Brown Bag lecture and music series continues Tuesday, Oct. 13, at noon with a special virtual concert by Clif & Nelda’s little BIG Band.

Jazz musicians Clif and Nelda Swiggett, of Seattle, will be in Wallowa County for a few weeks, according to the Josephy Center’s Rich Wandschneider. The duo features Nelda Swiggett on piano and her husband, Clif Swiggett, on trombone and percussion.

“You’ll be tapping your toes when you hear this lively duo with its big, warm sound,” said Wandschneider.

The couple has played music together since the night they first met at a Halloween party in 1987. The little BIG Band duo debuted in 2013. They’ve performed at jazz clubs, private parties, weddings, and concert venues around the Northwest and love to share their joy of music with all audiences.

The little BIG Band plays hundreds of songs, crossing genres including classic jazz and swing standards, lively Brazilian and Afro-Cuban rhythms, and funky hits by Stevie Wonder, Norah Jones and more — all freely interpreted in the moment.



Josephy Center/Contributed Photo

Clif & Nelda’s little BIG Band, a jazz duo, will perform Oct. 13 in a free Brown Bag livestream.

To enjoy the free concert as it happens, join the livestream at www.josephy.org.

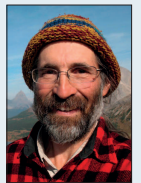
This fall Brown Bag and other Josephy Center events, exhibits and programs are archived on the center’s website and can be view for free anytime.

Watch last week’s Brown Bag

“Eagle Cap Wilderness” with Rick Bombaci

For the Oct. 6 virtual Brown Bag, Rick Bombaci talked about the changing use of the Eagle Cap Wilderness.

He has hiked deeply into the Eagle Cap Wilderness and for several seasons has worked as a Wilderness Ranger. Bombaci was asked to reflect on his years of experience and how the Eagle Caps have been impacted by the pandemic. “I see greater concentration of people in fewer and fewer areas. I see higher percentages of people from urban and faraway areas,” he said. “And I see the same problems that have been with us for decades — trash, poop, overuse...” View the Brown Bag talk at www.josephy.org.



GO!
WEEKEND OUTLOOK



FRIDAY

High 74 Low 45

Mostly sunny



SATURDAY

High 65 Low 41

Showers possible



SUNDAY

High 55 Low 36

Showers possible