

THE NEW NEW ORLEANS WAVE

Contemporary funk masters Trombone Shorty and Galactic come to Oregon

New Orleans can justly claim to be one of the birthplaces of American music, with its legendary gumbo of Caribbean, African and European music influences providing the essential ingredients for the rhythms that spread from the Gulf of Mexico and conquered the music world.

But it takes nothing away from Louis Armstrong, Sidney Bechet, Jelly Roll Morton, Fats Domino, Professor Longhair and other Crescent City legends to admit that for many years, the Big Easy seemed to coast on its reputation, its major venues amounting to a historical theme park exhibiting the music that made it great. The exodus of musicians (including Portland jazzier Devin Phillips) that followed Hurricane Katrina didn't help.

Forward-looking music always bubbled beneath the touristy facade, however, and we're lucky enough to experience some of the recent wave of New New Orleans this month in appearances by the funk masters **Galactic** (appearing Aug. 16 at Portland's Oregon Zoo and Aug. 19 at Jacksonville's Britt Festival) and **Trombone Shorty @ Orleans Avenue** Aug. 15 at The Shedd.

Treme native Trombone Shorty (aka Troy Andrews) was leading a band at age 6 and got his first national spotlight in a documentary tribute to Louis Armstrong. And he refused to be trapped by his hometown's storied past or by the genres it spawned. After playing as a teen with stars from Wynton Marsalis to Lenny Kravitz, Andrews bopped his horn and sang with everyone from Eric Clapton to CeeLo Green to Dr. John, and later garnered national attention for his acting in the HBO series *Treme*.



TROMBONE SHORTY

A virtuoso who doesn't rest on his chops, Andrews takes the trombone to places no other musician (with the possible exception of jazz legends like J.J. Johnson) could have imagined, creatively turning the quintessential backing-band instrument into a true lead axe with broad popular appeal (he's been known to whip out his trumpet on occasion). His double sax and guitar-fueled band, Orleans Avenue, mixes rootsy R&B, funk, hip hop, rock

and jazz elements with all the cheerful disdain for genre his hometown has displayed for centuries.

Andrews' 2013 album, *Say That To Say This*, samples from the spectrum, and while his tight, muscular funk jazz still trumps his more diffuse R&B and soul vocals (which do provide a welcome change of pace in concert), his stage presence guarantees a high-energy New Orleans party, even in that old church on Broadway. ■

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FRI. 8/15 8-11PM
PETER AND WILL ANDERSON TRIO
Virtuosos of clarinet and sax, this brother duo from New York has played Be-bop to Brahms with Wynton Marsalis' and Wycliffe Gordons' bands at jazz meccas such as Dizzy's Coca Cola, and concerts around the world.

SAT. 8/16 6-7:30PM
ACT - SO
YOUTH CONCERT AND FUND RAISER FOR NAACP
Features performances by Gold Medal winner Asia Wooten. The event will be hosted by NAACP Branch President Eric Richardson.

SAT. 8/16 8-11PM
ART LILLARD QUARTET W/ DAVE VALDEZ
Outstanding New York drummer with Portland based Valdez on sax, with Justin Salisbury on piano and Chris Higgins - bass

FRI. 8/22 8-11PM
ROGER WOODS, SAX AND ORGAN TRIO
Grooving the music of Sonny Stitt and Stanley Turrentine, with Dan Gaynor on organ and Ed Pierce on drums. Roger takes us back to the 60's when the B3 and sax sound filled many neighborhood jazz clubs.

SAT 8/23 8-11PM
ADAM HARRIS QUARTET
Adam on saxophones...he loves Be-Bop and will be sure to please fans of the '50s and '60s jazz scene.

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