



ERYKAH BADU
APRIL 18,
ARLENE
SCHNITZER
CONCERT
HALL

SOUL SATISFIED

Nicholas Harris tells me that nine years ago, Portland's **Soul'd Out Music Festival** was founded because "the Pacific Northwest was painfully lacking in the diversity of its cultural programming." Since then the festival, owned and produced by Harris, has brought in artists pushing the medium of soul music to its limit. And this year, Soul'd Out Music Festival brings to Portland road trip-worthy acts like **Erykah Badu, De La Soul, Bettye LaVette, Wyclef Jean, J.I.D** and **EarthGang**.

"It was our intention to widen the scope of what type of music is celebrated here," Harris says. Soul music is sometimes hard to define, but Harris says it's anything resonating deeply with the hearts and minds of an audience. "We strive to present a wide array of legends in their respective genres," he says, "alongside the next wave of artists that blur the lines between genres and set the tone for what will be next."

Since its founding, Soul'd Out Music Festival has seen steady growth, with audiences traveling from all over the West Coast and beyond. "Last year saw our first ticket sales on the East Coast and internationally," Harris says. With the 10-year anniversary approaching, Harris says Soul'd Out is looking forward to a blow-out festival next year.

"We have been in talks with other markets in other parts of the country about possible expansion partnerships," he says. "But for now, our focus remains making this the best festival happening in the Northwest."

"The support we have received thus far has been tremendous," Harris says. "The more the Northwest supports Soul'd Out, the bigger and better we can continue to make it moving forward!"

A key component of growth for Soul'd Out is attracting bigger artists. So far, the festival's efforts to do so have been stymied by Southern California music fest megasaur Coachella, which contractually prevents artists from playing another festival within a 1,300-mile radius. Soul'd Out just filed suit to change what it sees as an anti-trust violation.

Soul'd Out Music Festival runs April 18-22 at a variety of venues around Portland. All-access passes are sold out, but tickets for individual shows remain at souldoutfestival.com. — Will Kennedy



J.I.D AND EARTHGANG
APRIL 21,
WONDER
BALLROOM



J.I.D AND EARTHGANG PHOTOS BY TODD COOPER

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EUGENE

4/20
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