

Modern, funky jazz will fill the McTavish Room in Astoria

Michelle Medler Quartet is rooted in swing tradition, laced with harmony

ASTORIA — Jazz comes to the Liberty Theater's McTavish Room — again. In the second of Ben Hunt's year-long jazz series, the Michelle Medler Quartet will appear at 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1.

Hunt hosts the weekly jazz show "Jazz Enthusiast" on KMUN, which airs at 6 p.m. Thursdays. His year-long jazz series will bring some of the best Portland and Seattle jazz performers to Clatsop County for local

audiences to enjoy.

The Medler Quartet plays funky, modern jazz sounds, deeply rooted in swing tradition, laced with interesting harmony. The show will be a mixture of jazz, Latin and funk standards and Michelle Medler's original tunes. Medler fronts the band on saxophones, flute, clarinets and vocals.

Based in the St. Johns community of Portland, Medler and her husband, Ben, are also co-directors

of the Portland Youth Jazz Orchestra, where they teach students who age from 11 to 26 the fundamentals of jazz music in five different bands. The couple founded the jazz orchestra in 2001 after directing an award-winning band program at Wilson High School.

Joining Michelle Medler in the band will be Brian Ward on keyboards, Ben Medler on bass and Edwin Coleman III on drums.

The quartet can be heard on their 2006 Shoo-wah Records album, "Balance."

Tickets cost \$10, \$15 or \$20 and may be purchased at the Liberty Theater box office, open from 2 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday and two hours before the show; call 503-325-5922. Tickets are also available through TicketsWest. The McTavish Room is inside the Liberty Theater, located at 1203 Commercial St.



Submitted photo

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Michelle Medler Quartet

7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1

McTavish Room

1203 Commercial St., Astoria

503-325-5922

\$10 to \$20

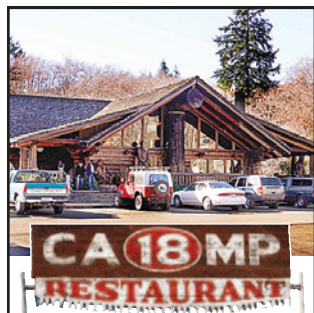
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