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Portland country band Denver will perform Saturday, Aug. 20 at the Sou'Wester Lodge in Seaview, Washington.

Hear country rock, experimental pop at Sou'Wester Lodge

SEAVIEW, Wash. — The Sou'Wester Lodge will host live music performances at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 20 and 21. The shows are open to the public, and there is no cover charge. The Sou'Wester Lodge is located at 3728 J Place. For more information, call 360-642-2542.

On Saturday, Portland-based country band Denver will perform. Sharing vocal and songwriting duties, Birger Olsen, Mike Elias and Tom Bevitori are the heart of Denver. The rest of the lineup has long included several of Portland's finest players, currently consisting of drummer Sean MacNeil, bassist Billy Slater and Lewi Longmire on lead guitar.

The band's latest album, "Rowdy Love," showcases the distinct voices of Olsen, Elias and Bevitori. It's a natural melding of styles that's evolved from afternoons on Olsen's back porch, late nights around Elias' fire pit, and every last time they've nailed "The Weight" harmonies at the old Triple Nickel. Denver's

three songwriters may come to the process with varying styles and influences, but Denver's country songwriting is universally honest and bare, whiskey-fueled, sweat-soaked, and steeped in working class life.

On Sunday, a group of songwriting friends — Tara Jane O'Neil, Katy Davidson, Cynthia Nelson and Geoff Soule — will collaborate to bring listeners a night of music.

O'Neil is a multi-instrumentalist, composer and visual artist. She creates melodic and experimental music under her own name and in collaboration with friends. Her recordings and live performances range from solo songing to noise improvisations. She has composed and performed music and sound for films, theater and dance performances, and written large and small ensemble experimental architectures.

Davidson (formerly Dear Nora, Key Losers) writes and performs lyric-driven experimental pop music that explores the liminal zones between reality and alt-realities.

Early music festival set in Astoria

Musica Maestrale Summer Festival features concerts and workshops Aug. 19 and 20

ASTORIA — A festival of concerts, workshops and social events with well-known performers and instructors of Renaissance and Baroque music is coming to Astoria.

The Musica Maestrale Summer Festival will take place Friday and Saturday, Aug. 19 and 20. All concerts and workshops will be at Grace Episcopal Church, located 1545 Franklin Ave.

Musica Maestrale, a Portland-based early music ensemble, brings together local musicians with national and international reputations to perform the varied repertoire from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. Using only historically accurate instruments, Musica Maestrale explores the tone, depth and character of the quieter, temperamental Renaissance and Baroque instruments, and aims to provide a more intimate musical experience than that of the modern orchestral concert.

The festival features morning and afternoon workshops for musicians and auditors as well as noon and 7 p.m. concerts open to the public.

Performers and workshop leaders include: Phil and Gayle Neuman, who focus on Renaissance instruments and consort music; Musica Maestrale Artistic Director Hideki Yamaya, a lute, early guitar and continuo specialist; Christine Beckman, a violin and Baroque instrumental performer; Gwendolyn Toth, a harpsichord and continuo performer; and Arwen Myers, a soprano and Baroque vocal performer.

Friday's events focus on Renaissance music. The



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Violinist Christine Beckman performs frequently with the Pacific Baroque Orchestra, the Salish Sea Early Music Festival, and the Seattle Baroque Orchestra.



Musica Maestrale Artistic Director Hideki Yamaya is a guitarist and lutenist who has been active as a performer and teacher in California and Oregon for over 15 years.



Gwendolyn Toth plays harpsichord and continuo.



Soprano Arwen Myers has been featured as a soloist with such ensembles as the Portland Baroque Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra.

morning and afternoon workshops, taught by the Neumans, are on Renaissance consort performance. The noon concert will feature Yamaya on lute and early guitars. The evening concert from 7 to 9 p.m. will feature a selection of Renaissance music performed by Ensemble de Organographia.

Saturday's events focus on Baroque music. The morning workshop is a Baroque vocal master class taught by Myers and Yamaya, while the afternoon workshop is a Baroque instrumental master class by Beckman and Yamaya.

Saturday's noon concert will feature the Neumans on

extreme early instruments. The evening 7 p.m. concert will showcase Baroque vocal music with Myers and Yamaya, followed by a post-concert gathering.

A variety of different ticket packages are available. Those who want to participate in all events can choose from three packages that include lodging, ranging from \$345 to \$450. The all-event participant package without lodging is \$225. A limited number of scholarships are available for currently enrolled music majors. For more information, email Hideki at hidekiyamaya@yahoo.com

Passes to all four music workshops cost \$170 for

participants and \$55 for auditors. Individual workshop tickets are \$45 for participants and \$15 for auditors.

Passes to all four concerts are \$45 for adults, \$38 for seniors and \$26 for students. Individual tickets to each noon concert are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for students. Individual tickets for evening concerts are available in advance: \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors and \$10 for students. Individual evening concert tickets at the door are \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors and \$10 for students.

For more information or for tickets, visit <http://musicamaestrale.org>