

**"YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE
IN A STUFFY TIE TO COME
AND ENJOY A SHOW."**

Continued from Pg. 4

"It's very much a family-like atmosphere," he said. Accumulating all of that variety is a year-round effort and festival organizers are always looking a year ahead.

Clark said the performers have extremely busy schedules. Coordinating that into the festival's program takes time and patience.

A big part of that coordination is finding accommodations for everyone, a task that Clark said would not be possible without the citizens of Astoria.

"We couldn't do this without them opening their homes," he said, noting that about 90 performers will be staying in private homes, adding a layer of intimacy to the festival.

The impetus of the festival, Clark said, is to bring world-class performances to music lovers who may not have a chance to attend them in Portland, New York or London.

People are noticing: When the festival conducted an audience survey a couple of years ago, about half of the attendees were from out-of-town.

"This great music — music as great as you would hear in Carnegie Hall — shouldn't be limited to those who live in big cities," he said. "It belongs to everybody."

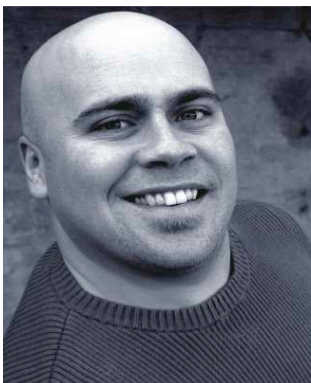
Nebeker agrees, saying that the festival is a good fit for Astoria.

"Astoria is such fertile ground for the arts and people who appreciate the arts," he said. "I'm sure it couldn't happen in most comparable areas."

For a full list of events, visit astoriamusicfestival.org.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA BESSEX
Angela Meade will return to sing Verdi at the 2016 Astoria Music Festival.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Deac Guidi, an Astoria resident and baritone



PHOTO BY DWIGHT CASWELL
Israel Nebeker, a North Coast native, is the co-founder of Oregon indie rock band Blind Pilot.

The Half Hearted to perform whole heartedly

LONG BEACH, WASH. — The Half Hearted — a Portland duo reminiscent of U2, Simon & Garfunkel, and Roy Orbison — return to the Peninsula Arts Center 7 p.m. Saturday, June 10.

Tickets are \$15 and available on Brown Paper Tickets, or by emailing events@peninsulaartscenter.org or calling Bill at 360-901-0962.

Open mic

The arts center (504 Pacific Ave. N.) holds an open mic the Friday before each concert. Sign-ups begin around 6:30 p.m.; the music begins at 7 p.m.

"Singers, instrumentalists, poets, spoken-word artists, stand-up come-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Half Hearted

dians and dramatists are all welcome," organizers wrote. "Or, just come to listen and be amazed by the breadth of talent we

have on the Long Beach Peninsula."

Wine, beer, and other refreshments will be available for purchase.

Concerts benefit the Long Beach Peninsula Acoustic Music Foundation, a nonprofit charitable organization.

Hearts of Oak plays Olney Saloon

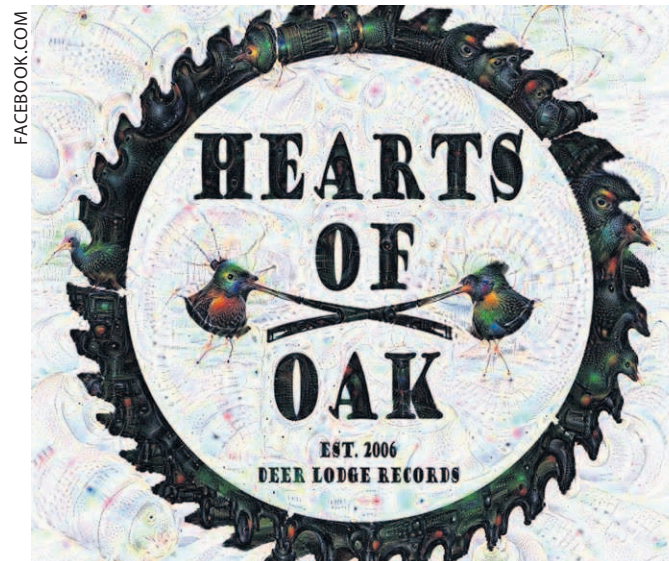
ASTORIA — Hearts of Oak, a Portland shoegazer-country band, will play at Olney Saloon 8 p.m. Saturday, June 17. The show is in support of the quintet's newest album, "New England," a nine-track collection produced by Deer Lodge Records. No cover. No minors.

Influenced by popular Americana with traces of Crazy Horse, Velvet Underground and Spiritualized, the songs chronicle "tales of love, loss, and longing," according to press materials, which describe the band's sound as "druggy," "psyche-

delic" and the album as an "acid-laced trip."

The band consists of Nate Wallace, the songwriter and frontman (who is from New England); Ezra Meredith on guitarist; J Lever on drums and Aron "Big Urn" Christensen on bass; and Barry Walker, Jr. on pedal steel.

"Shoegaze" is "a genre of late '80s and early '90s British indie rock, named after the bands' motionless performing style, where they stood on stage and stared at the floor while they played," according to Allmusic.com.



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Questions? Contact Mike Johnson at 503-381-8173

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