

Easy to love

Jazz vocalist returns for seasonal matinee

BY PATRICK WEBB

Vocalist Eugenie Jones, who lit up the Jazz and Oysters festival the last couple of years, is excited about returning to perform on the Long Beach Peninsula.

She will bring her instrumental quartet to perform a pre-Christmas matinee concert Sunday at the Eagle's Nest resort in Ilwaco.

"My band and I are so thrilled to return for another performance," Jones said. "The coast audiences are always so kind and engaged — they make performing a joy."

If You Go

Eugenie Jones and her instrumental quartet Christmas concert

2:25 p.m. Sunday

1:35 p.m. social hour with appetizers and drinks

Eagle's Nest resort, 700 North Head Road, Ilwaco, Wash.

Tickets are \$10 at watermusicfestival.com or at the door if seats remain.

The event wraps up the 2019 season for the Water Music Society, whose annual three-day festival was held in October.

The afternoon begins with a social hour at 1:35 p.m., featuring sweet and savory appetizers and a no-host champagne and wine bar. The concert starts at 2:35 p.m. Because the group is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year, all events start at 35 minutes past the hour.

"Eugenie Jones delighted attendees at Jazz and Oysters the last two years," Diane Marshall, who leads organizers, said. "She and her instrumentalists will present a soulful concert of holiday music to get the season off to a beautiful start."

'An intelligent, thoughtful composer'

Originally from West Virginia, Jones is based in Seattle. Her early musical influences came from her parents, who favored jazz and soul. Her father, a coal miner, directed her in their Baptist church choir and her mother sang lead soprano. Jones earned a master's degree in business administration and had a career in marketing, but her mother's death from colon cancer shifted her focus from leading her own Bremerton, Wash., area congregation to becoming a professional musician.

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Eugenie Jones

Steve Korn
Eugenie Jones will perform Sunday in Ilwaco, Washington.

