

The duo Sage & Stone plays Side A-lley

By John Vollinger

Go! Magazine

LA GRANDE — Local act Sage & Stone is set to play the next Side A-lley concert on Friday July 23, at Side A Brewing, 1219 Washington Ave. The music starts at 7:30 p.m.

Sage & Stone is Corie Sorenson on vocals and flute, and Steve McLaughlin on guitar. They play some covers of acoustic classic rock and country music, but largely write and perform original music. The band describes their sound as a "mixture of folk rock, country and classic rock. Some might say there are hints of reggae and jazz in our originals as well."

In further describing their sound, they say their music "flows through the wind to bring everyone good time." Providing the leading vocals, Sorenson is a gigantic aid

SIDE A-LLEY CONCERT SERIES

Who: Sage & Stone
When: 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 23
Where: Side A Brewing, 1219
Washington Ave.
Info: sideabeer.com

to this sensation — throughout all of Sage & Stone's songs, her voice smoothly flows over the music, effortless as the wind. Providing a grounding vocal accompaniment, as well as the warm acoustic guitar element of the band's sound, is McLaughlin.

This sensation of their music — the balance of the ethereal and the earthly — is an apt description of their music, as the subject matter of their lyrics tends to tread a similar path. Their lyrics vacil-



Side A/Contributed Photo

The duo Sage & Stone plays Friday, July 23, for the Side A-lley concert at Side A Brewing in La Grande.

late between descriptions of the natural world and meditations on how to navigate through the difficulties of life.

Sometimes these themes even collide, like the nature of their sound, such as in the song "It Never Rains." The band takes the metaphor of "every cloud having a silver lining" further, giving its qualities to having perhaps being your own beacon of hope to get through dark times.

Other notable examples of this dichotomy would be "My Own Way," which

contemplates not only how we all have to make choices, but how this process should be celebrated in its own right, and the song "The Moon and Stars" describing a majestic journey with another through beautiful landscapes, but not without tribulation.

If curious, head to www.sageandstonemusic.com to read a bit more about the band and get a sampling of their music. They also post concert information on Facebook and Instagram.

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