

music notes

Flogging Molly, Violent Femmes to play Les Schwab Amphitheater

Flogging Molly and the Violent Femmes will perform Oct. 15 at Les Schwab Amphitheater, according to an Old Mill District announcement.

The punk bands are co-headlining a concert tour in September and October around the country. The last time the Celtic punk rockers Flogging Molly were scheduled to play in Central Oregon was March 2018, but the concert was canceled due to inclement weather and was not rescheduled. Violent Femmes are celebrating their 40th anniversary in 2021.

Online presale starts Thursday at 10 a.m. at bendconcerts.com, with the password, "encore," according to the website. Regular sales will begin at 10 a.m. Friday at either bendconcerts.com or the Old Mill District Ticket Mill, located between Lush and Tumalo Art Co.

LSA announces Brantley Gilbert, Pink Martini shows

Country artist Brantley Gilbert will perform on Aug. 8 at the Old Mill District amphitheater, according to an Old Mill District announcement.

Gilbert released the full-length "Fire & Brimstone" in 2019, followed by last year's deluxe edition. This month saw the release of the single "The Worst Country Song of All Time," for which he teamed with Toby Keith and HARDY.

Oregon's genre-blending "little orchestra" Pink Martini will bring its flair for Latin, jazz and pop to the amphitheater on Sept. 19.

With these additions, Les Schwab Amphitheater has announced 24 shows for the season, with more to come, according to the Old Mill District.

Online presales run from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday at www.bendconcerts.com, with the password "local," according to the release. Regular sales will begin at 10 a.m. Friday at either bendconcerts.com or the Old Mill District Ticket Mill, located between Lush and Tumalo Art Co.

\$20 tickets available for 20 concerts

In celebration of the Les Schwab Amphitheater's 20th anniversary, the venue will offer \$20 tickets to 20 select concerts this season. Only 20 tickets per show will be available and must be purchased in person at the Ticket Mill starting at 10 a.m. Saturday. These tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis with no additional fees attached with a limit of two tickets per customer.

"Central Oregon's been supporting us for two decades," said Marney Smith, general manager of the amphitheater in a press release. "This is something special for the locals in the area to help celebrate where we've been and where we're headed."

The amphitheater hosted Lyle Lovett on June 26, 2002, the first of just three concerts that year. This year, the venue aims to host 26, the most in a single year, according to the release.

Only the following concerts are eligible for the \$20 deal: Brantley Gilbert, RebeLution, Trampled by Turtles and Mt. Joy, Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats, Primus, Atmosphere and Cypress Hill, Old Dominion, Dirty Heads and Sublime with Rome, Modest Mouse, Brandi Carlile (both nights), Death Cab for Cutie, Lake Street Dive, NEEDTOBREATHE, Pink Martini, Foreigner, Lord Huron, My Morning Jacket, 311 and Iration, and Flogging Molly and Violent Femmes.

— The Bulletin staff reports

Bandcampin': Good stuff for your ears

BY BEN SALMON • For The Bulletin

Bandcamp is an online music platform used largely by independent artists and record labels to stream songs and sell merchandise. It's also a vibrant virtual community teeming with interesting sounds just waiting to be discovered. Each week, I'll highlight three releases available on the site that are well worth your time and attention. If you find something you dig, please consider supporting the artist with a purchase.



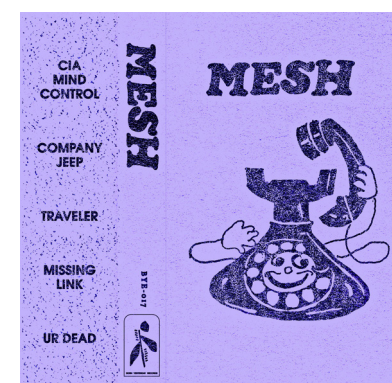
FRUIT BATS, "The Pet Parade"

With downtown Bend's annual pet parade canceled yet again, "The Pet Parade" — the 10th album from Eric D. Johnson's wonderful Fruit Bats project — will have to suffice as a replacement. For two decades, Johnson has been one of the best singer-songwriters working in the world of indie-folk-pop-rock, thanks in large part to his honeyed voice and his seemingly endless supply of lovely melodies. This is perfect sunny summertime hangout music; it's a balm in a world that feels harsher than ever. Put it on when you need something unhurried and uncomplicated and unassuming and reliably, relentlessly beautiful.



MAMMAN SANI, "La Musique Electronique du Niger"

I'm not going to tell you that I knew the name Mamman Sani, or that I knew he's a legendary avant garde musician from Niger, or that I knew he's a pioneer of electronic music in West Africa. I didn't know any of that until the Portland-based Sahel Sounds record label told me. That's the cool thing about labels like Sahel: They're out there finding new and old music by far-away artists like Sani and delivering it to ears around the globe. Sahel is one of the best, and so is "La Musique Electronique du Niger," which was originally released in 1978 and still today spills over with minimalist electronic music that merges traditional Nigerien melodies and once-modern organ buzz.



MESH, "Mesh"

Over the past couple of years, buying music on Bandcamp has significantly expanded my collection of cassette tapes. For smaller bands and labels, producing a run of cassettes is a lot less expensive than pressing to vinyl, and as someone who wants to own my music if possible ... well, I buy their tapes. The latest is this EP from the Philadelphia punk band Mesh, which has only five tracks — all killer, no filler. These folks mix a bit of Devo influence into their sound but unlike a lot of their peers, they don't overdo it. The result is a set of songs that are weird and fidgety, but still sturdy and awesome.

■ Ben Salmon is a Bend-based music journalist and host of *Left Of The Dial*, which airs 8-10 p.m. Thursdays on KPOV, 88.9 FM and streams at kpv.org.

"The Pet Parade" is perfect sunny summertime hangout music; it's a balm in a world that feels harsher than ever. Put it on when you need something unhurried and uncomplicated and unassuming and reliably, relentlessly beautiful.