

Big-city talent at inaugural music festival

'STACKSTOCK SOUNDS OFF

By Erick Bengel
EO Media Group

Facing a rapt audience at his feet and a bright crescent moon over the Pacific, Colin Meloy, the frontman of The Decemberists, took the stage at the first-ever 'Stackstock Music Fest, offering up a solo set tailored to the coast.

At the Sept. 23 show, held at Martin North's Haystack Gardens in Cannon Beach, the songwriter of the Portland indie folk-rock band performed classics such as "Oceanside" and "Down By The Water," plus songs from an upcoming album.

And, since this was Meloy — a musician who knows what he is known for — his bitter-sweet ballads, though playing to the coastal experience, "also pours water on that, sort of like a miserable coastal experience," he said.

"But that's sort of what you get when you invite me to play your festival on the idyllic coast of Oregon," he reminded the crowd.

Meloy — the kind of high-level big-city talent the North Coast rarely books — closed out an eight-hour concert featuring prominent



Colin Meloy, frontman of The Decemberists, plays solo at the first 'Stackstock Music Fest.

Portland bands: Wonderly, the Edna Vazquez Acoustic Trio, Cardiod, the OK Chorale PDX, Ages and Ages and Pure Bathing Culture.

Organized by Ryan Snyder, president of Martin North hospitality company, 'Stackstock drew roughly 600 people total — some locals, many Portlanders — who flowed in an out of the outdoor venue throughout the day, Snyder estimated.

Attendees consumed food and drinks — some in VIP quarters — brought lawn chairs and reveled in a music event they described as "relaxed," "intimate," "breezy and amica-

ble." There was space enough on the synthetic lawn to dance, mingle and share an aesthetic experience with plenty of elbow room.

A new energy

Some band members joined the audience after their sets.

Hanging out with her father and stepmother, Adrien Young, who plays bass in Cardiod, said the band agreed to perform at 'Stackstock "because the lineup was already so good."

Ages and Ages' Sarah Riddle, a vocalist who also plays percussion and keyboard, was

there — on her birthday — with her favorite people: her boyfriend, stepmother and bandmates. Riddle said the 'Stackstock organizers "made a smart move keeping it small the first time around. Intimate is always good for your first run."

Jim Kingwell, co-owner of Icefire Glassworks across the street from Haystack Gardens, said, "I'm loving this. It's a kind of energy we haven't felt here."

Calling the festival "low-key posh," Kingwell said 'Stackstock "doesn't have the affectations of more sophisticated venues," he said. "You can be comfortable and absolutely yourself in this scale of an event."

Next to Kingwell sat Marty Giguere, co-owner of Cannon Beach's RE/MAX Coastal Advantage, who likened 'Stackstock to a small-scale rendition of Jacksonville's Britt Festival.

"The energy that the Britt Fest creates — this is Cannon Beach's version of it, nailed," Giguere said.

Music lovers in media 'Stackstock attracted people plugged into the Pacific Northwest's music scene.

Jen Emerson, a DJ with the

Portland Radio Project who has interviewed Cardiod's lead singer, Lizzy Ellison, came to support her.

Sean Edgar, a Portland journalist, came to cover it for Paste Magazine.

"Portland's been through a lot recently, I think, with the fires," he said, "and I think having this nice little seaside gathering with a bunch of Portland bands took some of the pressure off."

Though Meloy has been featured on the cover of Paste, Edgar had never seen him play live. The idea of seeing the man who composed "The Mariner's Revenge Song" perform in a maritime setting was "too much for me not to do."

Mark Evans, of 94.9 The Bridge morning show, said he and his wife, Mickie, came to see Ages and Ages — a band the Seaside-based station plays often — as well as Meloy.

Noting that "it's great to have the indie acts perform here locally," he added: "It's just a start; it's the very first one, so I think there's more to come after this."

A special moment

After the show, Snyder said he "could not be any

Jessica Wicker, part of 'Stackstock's security team, watches Cardiod play on stage from near the VIP section.

more elated about today." But he doesn't yet know if there will be a 'Stackstock II.

"Do I do it again? Maybe, maybe not. I'm not sure," he said. He has tried not to think beyond the inaugural show "because this moment is so special to me."

The music festival is part of an ongoing transformation of Martin North — formerly Martin Hospitality — which opened Public Coast Brewing Co. last year and, last month, threw the Hayday! craft brew fest at Haystack Gardens.

Snyder said he's had many sleepless nights in recent weeks. "It's been very intense because of my desire not to disappoint," he said.

Snyder, who once co-founded an independent record label, said he can't name anyone more fortunate than himself these days; he's been able to concentrate on his passions: food, beverages, hospitality — and now music.

The company's goal, he said, is to create experiences that will make people want to return to town, that will make them tell their friends: "You're not going to believe what we just did in Cannon Beach."

Coast Happenings Calendar YOUR GUIDE TO MUSIC, ART, COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL EVENTS ON THE NORTH COAST

Friday, Oct. 6

Artist Reception

3 p.m., Hoffman Center, 594 Laneda Ave., Manzanita, 503-368-3846, www.hoffmanblog.org. Lara Blair is the featured artist in the October exhibit "Earth. Water. Sky" showing her work in encaustic.

Art Reception

6 p.m., Cannon Beach History Center, 1387 Spruce St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-9301, www.cbhistory.org. The fall exhibit features the work of Scott Johnson and Debra Carnes with a memorial to Steve McLeod, refreshments and live music.

Thistle & Rose

6 p.m., Seasons Café, 255 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1159. Thistle and Rose play folk, Americana and bluegrass music from the 70s and 80s, and original tunes.

Wes Wahrmond

6 p.m., The Bistro, 263 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2661. Wes Wahrmond's classical guitar skills amaze with light jazz and original tunes.

Maggie & the Kats

6:30 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1539, www.cafesweetbasils.com, no cover, 21+. Maggie & the Kats play world-class blues music, Creole, jazz, funk, rhythm-n-blues and soul.

RJ Marx Quartet

7 p.m., WineKraft, 80 10th St., Astoria, 503-468-0206, www.winekraftpnw.com, no cover, 21+. Saxophonist RJ Marx leads the quartet in a repertoire of jazz music with John Orr (guitar), Joe Church (bass) and Dave Gager (drums).

Texas Hold'em

7 p.m., American Legion, 1216 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973, 21+. Cannon Beach American Legion offers a Friday night Texas Hold'em poker tournament, doors open at 3 p.m.

"Blithe Spirit"

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre.com, \$20 to \$25, rated PG. Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit" is a supernatural comedy to die for.

Saturday, Oct. 7

Weaving Class

11 a.m., Cannon Beach History Center, 1387 Spruce St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-4426, www.cannonbeacharts.org. Learn how to weave baskets using sea grass with Donna Crispin; register online.

Gearhart ArtWalk

2 p.m., celebrate creative art forms during the monthly Gearhart ArtWalk at businesses and galleries in Gearhart; look for "Welcome to the Shore" flags at participating merchants.

NW Author Series

2 p.m., Cannon Beach Library, 131 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1391, www.cannonbeachlibrary.org, free. Christine Colasurdo, author of

"Mount St. Helens: A Volcanic Journey through 40 Years of Change" will be featured.

Oyster Feed

5 p.m., American Legion, 1216 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973, \$20. The American Legion offers an Oyster Feed and Fish dinner on the first Saturday of the month, sides and salad bar available.

Saturday Art Walk

5 p.m., enjoy original artwork, live music and refreshments during Seaside's monthly First Saturday Art Walk, includes artists receptions and demonstrations; look for art walk signs at participating merchants.

Exhibit Reception

6 p.m., Cannon Beach Gallery, 1064 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-0744. A reception for a new exhibit features basket works by Donna Sakamoto Crispin and Debra Carnes.

Wes Wahrmond

6 p.m., The Bistro, 263 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2661. Wes Wahrmond's classical guitar skills amaze with light jazz and original tunes.

Trashion Show

7 p.m., NCRD Theater, 36155 9th St., Nehalem, 503-368-7764, \$30 to \$35. Get ready for CARTM's annual trashy little fashion show fundraiser, featuring original and recycled costumes, followed by an upcycled party with live music.

"Blithe Spirit"

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, \$20 to \$25, rated PG.

Sunday, Oct. 8

Writing Lab

10 a.m., Hoffman Center, 594 Laneda Ave., Manzanita, 503-368-3846, northcoastsquid@gmail.com, \$10. Writers who want to submit work for the 2018 North Coast Squid are invited to attend a workshop to get feedback from fellow writers and to better polish submissions, sign up requested.

NAMI Meeting

2 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-6165, www.nami.org. The National Alliance on Mental Illness welcomes individuals and caregivers of anyone who suffers from mental illness.

Adams & Costello

7:30 p.m., Seaside Brewing Co., 851 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-7065. Julie Adams and Michael Costello play a visceral blend of original music and soulful covers.

Monday, Oct. 9

Burgers & Jam

6:30 p.m., American Legion, 1216 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973. The Legion offers burgers and music on Monday nights.

Tuesday, Oct. 10

Intro to Excel

8:30 a.m., CCC Seaside Campus, 1455 Roosevelt, Seaside, 503-338-2402, \$20. Students with a basic foundation of Excel will continue to learn skills used in a work environment; registration required.

Art of Aging

3 p.m., Hoffman Center, 594 Laneda Ave., Manzanita, 503-368-3846, www.hoffmanblog.org, \$5. Tela Skinner will present a program on "Priorities: Getting Clearer About What You Want for the Rest of Your Life" at the next Art of Aging/Art of Dying series.

City Council

5:30 p.m., Cannon Beach City Hall, 163 Gower St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1581, www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us. This is a work session.

Wednesday, Oct. 11

Thistle & Rose

5 p.m., The Bistro, 263 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2661. Thistle and Rose perform original tunes, folk and Americana from the 70s and 80s.

Thursday, Oct. 12

LNWC Speaker Series

7:20 p.m., Pine Grove Community Center, 225 Laneda Ave., Manzanita. Join Katie Voelke of North Coast Land Conservancy for a presentation on ongoing efforts to conserve the wild.

Floating Glass Balls

8 p.m., Bill's Tavern, 188 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2202, www.billstavernandbrewhouse.com, no cover. The Floating Glass Balls plays bluegrass, Caribbean, folk, swing, contemporary and country music.

Wes Wahrmond

6 p.m., The Bistro, 263 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2661.

3 Leg Torso

7:30 p.m., NCRD Performing Arts Center, 36155 9th St., Nehalem, 971-308-0309, www.ncrd.org, \$18 to \$23. The ensemble

Friday, Oct. 13

Thistle & Rose

6 p.m., Seasons Café, 255 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1159.

Wes Wahrmond

6 p.m., The Bistro, 263 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2661.

Maggie & the Kats

6:30 p.m., Sweet Basil's Café, 271 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1539, no cover, 21+.

Texas Hold'em

7 p.m., American Legion, 1216 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973, 21+.

"Blithe Spirit"

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, \$20 to \$25, rated PG.

Saturday, Oct. 14

Fall Festival

9 a.m., United Methodist Church, 241 Holladay Drive, Seaside. Bring family and friends to a pre-Halloween fall festival and craft fair serving hot chili and cornbread.

Watercolor Class

11 a.m., Cannon Beach History Center, 1387 Spruce St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-4426, www.cannonbeacharts.org. Learn different formulations using watercolors with Drenda Duff; register online.

Book Reading

3 p.m., Tolovana Hall, 3779 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, www.tolovanaartscolony.org. This is a free public reading and reception for the 48th edition of Rain magazine.

Benefit Dinner

4:30 p.m., Cannon Beach Conference Center, 289 Spruce St., Cannon Beach, \$15. The community is invited to the 70th annual volunteer firefighters benefit dinner where proceeds go to Cannon Beach Volunteer Fire Department.

Wes Wahrmond

6 p.m., The Bistro, 263 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2661.

3 Leg Torso

7:30 p.m., NCRD Performing Arts Center, 36155 9th St., Nehalem, 971-308-0309, www.ncrd.org, \$18 to \$23. The ensemble

performs an eclectic repertoire of chamber, tango, klezmer, Latin and Roma music on violin, cello, accordion, percussions and bass.

"Blithe Spirit"

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, \$20 to \$25, rated PG.

Sunday, Oct. 15

Legion Breakfast

9 a.m., American Legion, 1216 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, \$4 to \$8. Proceeds help support local veterans, families, community organizations and the high school scholarship fund; open to the public.

"Blithe Spirit"

3 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, \$20 to \$25, rated PG.

Evensong

6 p.m., Cannon Beach Community Church, 132 Washington St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1222. Evensong features performers Jennifer Goodenberger and Wes Wahrmond, meditative songs and quiet reflection.

Monday, Oct. 16

Burgers & Jam

6:30 p.m., American Legion, 1216 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2973.

Tuesday, Oct. 17

Paint Party

6:30 p.m., Crabby Oyster, 150 Broadway, Seaside, www.proofinpainting.com, \$35. Create an original piece of art in a relaxed setting with food and drink, all levels welcome, art instruction provided.

Wednesday, Oct. 18

Garden Club

Noon, Tolovana Hall, 3779 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, www.tolovanaartscolony.org. Attendees should bring lunch, coffee, tea and dessert provided; annual dues are \$5, new members welcome.

Thistle & Rose

5 p.m., The Bistro, 263 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-2661.

Bunco!

6:30 p.m., American Legion, 1216 Hemlock St., Cannon Beach. The Cannon Beach Women's Auxilia-

the
Local Grill & Scoop

Experience Family Dining in a Relaxed & Friendly Environment

Serving Seafood, Pizza, Sandwiches, Espressos, Beer, Wine, Ice Cream and our Homemade Desserts

We have a fabulous patio where you can enjoy the weather and your meal.

Breakfast
Lunch
Dinner

"TO-GO" Orders Welcome

156 N. Hemlock • Cannon Beach
503.436.9551
Owned and Operated by the Cleary Family

THE WINE SHACK
EST. 1977
CANNON BEACH

CANNON BEACH'S BEST SELECTION OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON WINE!

UPCOMING TASTINGS

Oct 7 • Great Fall Wines
Oct 14 • Award Winning Wines
Oct 14 • Columbia River Wine Cruise
Oct 21 • Wine Shack Favorites
Oct 28 • Walla Walla Wines

"Best Wine Shop"
- 2016 Reader's Choice Award

124 N. HEMLOCK, CANNON BEACH - 503.436.1100 - WWW.THEWINEHACK.WINE