

Marblehead Festival of Arts

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Marblehead Festival of Arts Features Performing Arts and a Film Festival

Marblehead MA (June 3, 2010) – Among the highlights of the Marblehead Festival of Arts (MFoA) to be held on July 1-5 are the Performing Arts Festival and the Film Festival. Both take place at Crocker Park, overlooking Marblehead Harbor, at 111 Front Street. The Performing Arts Festival occurs over three nights and two days, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, July 2-4, while the Film Festival is on Friday evening, July 2.

Beginning at 6:00 pm Friday, July 2, Jubilee Mule, a string band with roots in American traditional music, will take the stage. Founded in Marblehead ten years ago, the ensemble features banjo, guitar, mandolin, percussion, uke, and fiddle, as well as vocals. At 7:00 pm, Session Americana will follow with a bluegrass/country/folk repertoire. This group is the cream of the local roots community and is considered a regional institution. It will be joined by Rose Polenzani, who is a mesmerizing singer, multi-instrumentalist and songwriter.

At 9:00 pm, the Film Festival will cap off the evening, featuring 15 short films in a 90-minute program. Committee chairpersons Mike Evers and Laurie Stolarz explain, "These works are intended to show the many ways that film and video can be used as an art form to inform and express. They are not commercial films that one can find in a standard multiplex." Although some of these works can certainly be enjoyed by children, not all of the films will be understood by them. Parents should review the lineup to decide if their young children will find pleasure in them.

The films and their filmmakers are: Rehearsing the Future (Shin Lim), The Boundary (Julius Onah), Plastic (Sandy Widyanata), Keoun and Russell (Bryan DeLeon), Inexhaustibly for Anya (Steve Stuart), Don't Look Back (Julius Onah), Little Brother (Cinda Danh), The McCombie Way (Nick Higgins), Rachel (Chris King), Too Rare to Die (Shawn Story), Linus (Julius Onah), Dog Show (Theodore Collatos), Life After (Carl Hansen), The Test (Eric Cassaccio) and Cheese

(Damien Patrik).

Local Artists Showcase, a part of the Performing Arts program, opens at noon on Saturday, July 3, with Orakular and its alternative/progressive rock sound; Spang, a pop/rock group; the Jessica Prouty Band, a rock group; and The Gravel Project, featuring a rock/blues/funk sound.

Saturday evening, Violette will perform her jazz/soul music beginning at 6:00 pm. Her warm and inviting voice, tinged with the diverse influences of jazz, blues, soul and gospel, immerses the audience in the heart of a genuine emotional experience. She will be followed at 8:00 pm by Machine 475 and its electronica/pop/rock presentation, incorporating electronic beats, guitar, vocals, harp, sitar, violin, percussion and other instruments.

Local Artists Showcase will recommence on Sunday, July 4, at noon. Musicians include Chloe Cicoria, an acoustic folk performer; Matthew Keen, a folk rock artist; Tom Conlon, with his Indie acoustic rock/traditional sound; and Lee Harvey, with indie/rock/pop.

Sunday evening, beginning at 6:00 pm, KBMG, a folk/blues/rock/country band will play. KBMG generates a musical engine that can scream and purr with huge dynamic ranges of sound, song and lyric. It will be followed at 8:00 pm by the Adam Ezra Group, an acoustic folk and roots rock group that has risen to the top of the Boston music scene. The performance will pause for the traditional July 4 harbor illumination and fireworks at dusk.

According to Performing Arts chairperson Brian Wheeler, "We will have 13 outstanding acts over three nights and two days. The committee is proud to present this lineup and is grateful to present the program in the beautiful, natural concert venue that is Crocker Park." He added, "If it rains, we'll try to get the show in. When the rain stops, listen for the music and then come join us!" For more information, visit www.MarbleheadFestival.org.

About Marblehead Festival of Arts (MFoA)

Founded in 1962, the Marblehead Festival of Arts has a rich history in producing a premier summer arts festival that has become a unique forum for artistic expression. Traditionally held each year over the July 4th weekend, the Marblehead Festival of Arts hosts a wide range of art exhibits (painting, sculpture, photography, drawing, etc.), outdoor music concerts overlooking Marblehead Harbor, Writer's World, the Street Festival, Artisans' Marketplace, and many other cultural activities designed to provide a fun and enriching experience for the entire family.

The Marblehead Festival of Arts is run by an all-volunteer organization comprised of more than forty committees and involving several hundred volunteers. It operates year

round and relies solely on donations to fund its operations. Individuals, families, and businesses may become Festival Sponsors by making a tax-deductible contribution. For additional information on MFoA, a calendar of events, volunteer opportunities and sponsorship, please call 781-639-ARTS or visit www.MarbleheadFestival.org.

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