

Walle Larsson Presents Smooth Sundays at The Lyric Theatre in Assiniboine Park Winnipeg Canada

July 12th The Walle Larsson Band www.wallelarsson.com

After catapulting to smooth jazz success in the United States with two Top-20 Billboard chart singles and two #1 New York Music Chart singles from his CD, *After the Night*, Canadian saxophonist Walle Larsson has recently returned from performing at the Bahamas Jazz Festival and a week long tour in Israel. Walle has six solo cds to his credit.

July 19th guitarist Soren Reiff <http://sorenreiff.com/>

Soren has been a Musical Director on some of the most popular TV-shows on Danish National TV. He has performed with some of the biggest artists in the global music industry including David Sanborn and Chaka Khan. Reiff has released two albums as a recording artist. In 2003 the first album: Reiff jr Funky Flavas – this album also features [Mike Stern](#), Michael Ruff, and [Nabiha Bensouda](#).^[4] In 2010 the second album was released: Soren Reiff – Miss you – which features David Garfield (keyboards), Will Lee (bass),^[5] Steve Ferrone (drums), Ricky Lawson (drums), John Peña (bass) Veronica Mortensen (vocals) and Michito Sanchez (percussion).^[6]

July 26th saxophonist Will Donato www.willdonato.com

Southern California smooth jazz saxophonist Will Donato has always played a sunny brand of music that befits his environs. His fifth album, *Universal Groove*, is no different. He's again joined here by noted guitarist and programmer Steve Oliver (who also coproduced and cowrote much of this material), bassist Eddie Reddick, keyboardist Tateng Katindig, and few guests. Nonetheless, Donato's saxophone remains front and center throughout, driving home the melodies with a relatively dry (for smooth jazz) tone that recalls classic R&B more than the watery sound of some of his contemporaries. The grooves are dancefloor-ready, with standouts like "Grand Slam," "Two Can Play at That," and the funky, bass-driven "Jaywalkin'," as well as new takes on the evergreen "Play That Funky Music" and the R&B classic "Show & Tell." Those seeking

babymaking music can cue up “Everlasting,” but the main purpose of Universal Groove seems to be getting people up out of their seats and dancing.

August 2nd guitarist **Marc Antoine** www.marcantoine.com
Contemporary jazz guitarist Marc Antoine blends his classical training with a multi-cultural urban groove. After studying at the Edouard Paiteron College and the International School of Classical Guitar, he played with a typically varied cast of artists: pop stars like Sting, Basia, and Selena, rappers like Guru's Jazzmatazz project and Queen Latifah, plus acid jazz hipsters the Solsonics and DJ Greyboy. Signed to the New York City subsidiary of GRP Records, Antoine recorded his solo debut Classical Soul in 1994. The album climbed to the top of the contemporary jazz charts, thanks to the single "Unity." Urban Gypsy followed a year later, and in 1998, Antoine resurfaced with Madrid; Universal Language, his first LP for new label Polygram, appeared in early 2000; Cruisin' was released a year later.

August 9th saxophonist **Richard Elliot** www.richardelliott.com
Saxophonist Richard Elliot has arrived at a very special anniversary for blowing audiences away with his soulfully robust playing. 2014 marks 30 years since the release of his debut solo album, Initial Approach (ITI – 1984), on which he stepped out showcasing his tenor sax, soprano sax, Lyricon and writing skills. What does a red-blooded Scottish sax man raised in Los Angeles – now with a wife and five children – do for a 30-year encore? Well, this one-time member of the classic soul band Tower of Power proves he’s “not a young man” and drops the most overtly sensual, romantic and intimate album of his career in collaboration with contemporary jazz production/guitar giant Paul Brown. The title of this 17th solo project is Lip Service (the artist’s first for Heads Up/Concord Music Group)

August 16th **Steve Oliver with special guest vocalist Mae Losa** www.steveolivermusic.com Oliver plays a great many of the "instruments" you hear on his albums. The man is literally a one man symphony, band and ensemble... Steve Oliver blew a passionate Global Kiss to fans everywhere on his 2010 album release, scoring

two number 1 hits (Global Kiss and Fun In The Sun) on the Billboard chart. Further defining his unique role as a musical World Citizen. Special guest for this evening will be **Mae Losa** who just finished recording her debut CD in Los Angeles. The album was produced by Walle Larsson and Steve Oliver and enlisted the talents of top-end players such as the Yellow Jackets' Russell Ferrante and Tom Schuman, Rick Braun on trumpet, and, of course, Steve Oliver on guitar and Walle on sax. To top things off, Grammy Award winning engineer Rich Breen was brought in to mix and master Mae's debut CD.

Jazz in the Garden

July 5th **Dr. Dave**

July 12th **Dave Lawton**

July 19th **Jay Harrison** www.bigjay.ca

July 26th **Janice Finlay** www.janicefinlay.com

August 9th **Connor Derraugh**

August 16th **Shannon Kristjanson** www.shannonkristjanson.com

August 23rd **Bill McMahon**

August 30th **Klowak / Cummings group**

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