



Studio Glam Presents

# Retro POP!

Fashion, Cocktails & Soul

**Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Landmark Ballroom at the**  
**San Jose Woman's Club**

**Soul Supplied by:**  
**THE INCITERS +**  
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Doors Open 8pm | \$8 advanced \$10 door  
 75 South 11th Street San Jose, CA 95112

f RetroPop

## Weekday Specials

- Early Bird Dinner Specials (Mon - Fri before 6 pm)
- Tues.: Kids Eat Free (12 & under, 1 free kids meal with each paid adult meal, 4-9 pm)
- Wed: 2-for-1 Dinner entrees
- Free Birthday Dinner (w/4 paid dinners)
- Happy Hour in Elegant Pub (4-6 Mon - Fri)

Restaurant open daily 6 am - 10 pm  
 Bar open until midnight



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last couple of years, San Jose Jazz has become more and more focused on putting hip, emerging artists into the mix at their festivals, and the Winter Fest allows even more room to do that.

“Part of it is how do you carve some space for experimentation to occur, and for the organization to be excited about that?” says Rawson of his goals. “I think that one of the nice parts about doing arts work here in San Jose is that there is music crossing over lots of different areas.”

The Winter Fest lineup this weekend at San Pedro Square offers a wild mix of artists, made even starker by the fact that unlike the summer festival, the acts are divided into structured stages that highlight particular genres. Friday night has jazz vocalist Jamie Davis and blues band Legally Blue (which features Aart de Geus, CEO of Synopsys, on guitar, and Chris Wilder, CEO of Valley Medical Foundation, on bass). Saturday features saxophonist Grace Kelly, JC Smith’s Blues All Stars and more.

Sunday sees a collaboration by Oakland trumpeter Ambrose Akinmusire and New York pianist

Gerald Clayton and will be headlined by San Francisco’s Rupa and the Fishes, the multicultural, multilingual, multigenre project of Rupa Marya. Marya’s band, driven by a boho Gypsy-jazz sound, is in many ways the essence of the underground, musically explosive vibe with which San Jose Jazz is trying to define its newest festival.

“Labels are tricky. I’m not a fan of them,” says Marya. “I understand that people want to know what they’re getting into. What I have found is if you put our band in front of an audience, we tend to find our way.”

Miller says what San Jose Jazz is going for and will build on every year with the Winter Fest is something “very cool, very cutting edge.”

“It might not be a lot of artists you’ve heard of,” he says, “but I guarantee it be will artists you’ll have heard of down the line.”

► Winter Fest

March 9–11, San Pedro Square,  
 San Jose

## Gracefully

I’VE HEARD the future of jazz, and it is Grace Kelly,” NPR’s David Was proclaimed following the release of the artist’s fourth studio album, *Gracefullee*, in 2008. Kelly was then all of 16. Four years, two more albums and a diploma from one of the nation’s premiere music colleges later, she continues to take the jazz world by storm. On March 10th, the saxophonist, vocalist and composer will take the stage at the Theatre on San Pedro Square as part of the San Jose Jazz Winter Fest.

Kelly picked up music at a young age, beginning with the piano at age 6, shortly followed by the clarinet and months later, her true calling, the saxophone. But while her passion and

talent were readily apparent, she did not immediately envision the great impact that music would have on her life.

“I did not think I was going to become a professional musician,” Kelly says. “It was after around age 12 when things kind of took off, and people started mentoring me, and I guess things just snowballed into recording my first album, which led to another.”

Since then, Kelly has gone on to work with the likes of Wynton Marsalis and Dave Brubeck, all of who have nothing but praise for the rising star. Yet looking back on her career thus far, one of Kelly’s fondest memories comes from a performance with the Boston Pops Orchestra when she was 14.

“It was a very surreal moment, being up there with a whole orchestra and being a soloist, and very exciting—I felt like I had the best seat in the house.”

MONTALVO ARTS CENTER  
CARRIAGE HOUSE THEATRE CONCERT SERIES



**KYLE EASTWOOD BAND**

**FRI, APR 6, 8:00PM**

**"Very sharp work. Kyle has imagination and skill"**  
- *The Observer, UK*

Son of actor **Clint Eastwood**, Paris-based jazz musician **Kyle Eastwood** has become a star in the jazz world. An accomplished and multi-talented musician and composer, his second album, "Paris Blue," rose to number one on the French jazz charts. About his work he says, "My roots remain in jazz but I like adding all kinds of different flavors." Eastwood composed music for several of Clint Eastwood's films, including "Mystic River" and "Million Dollar Baby."



**TAJ MAHAL & THE TRIO**

**FRI, APR 13, 6:30PM & 9PM**

**"No artist has stretched the definition of blues like Taj Mahal"** - *Christian Science Monitor*

A two-time Grammy Award winner, Taj Mahal is one of the most influential American blues and roots artists of the last 50 years. A self-taught composer and multi-instrumentalist, Taj Mahal has done much to reshape the definition and scope of blues music by gathering and distilling countless musical traditions from a wide range of geographical and cultural sources. **Not-to-be-missed!**



**WOMEN FULLY CLOTHED THU, APR 19, 7:30PM**

**"Each sketch is a masterpiece of performance and writing"** - *The Village Post*

With a cast of four Canadian comedy all-stars, "Women Fully Clothed" never disappoints. Using sketches and improvisation, Kathy Greenwood of "Whose Line is it Anyway?"; Robin Duke of "Saturday Night Live"; Janye Eastwood of *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*; and Teresa Pavlinek of "The Jane Show," come together to create the ultimate **"all-estrogen comedy dream team."** (*Toronto Star*)



**MARTINI MADNESS** - For just \$25 per person, all ticket holders to **Women Fully Clothed** can enjoy delicious food and cocktails in the Villa's charming solarium or on the front veranda with views to the Great Lawn (weather permitting).

**Free on-site parking!**

Box Office, 408.961.5858, M-F, 10am-4pm  
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**MULTI-FACETED** Grace Kelly has been called the future of jazz for her playing, singing and composing.

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she says. "We actually debuted one of my original pieces that I wrote for the orchestra."

As further testament to her formidable creative capacity, she concedes that at the time she had no experience composing for orchestra. "I literally locked myself in a room and learned about all these string instruments," she says. "Keith Lockhart [Boston Pops' conductor] told me I should just give it a try. I showed him a 40-page score the day before the performance, and he really loved it, so we went ahead and did it."

After earning her GED at age 16, Kelly went on to study at the renowned Berklee College of Music on full scholarship, graduating just last month. But even between touring, composing and recording, she still managed to make the Dean's List each semester. "I was very lucky that Berklee is a very flexible school and wants their students to be out there doing the real deal," says Kelly. "[It was] a luxury to have teachers who could help me out."

These days, she is giving back to her alma mater through an Artist in Residence series fittingly titled "The Multi-Faceted Band Leader," which, so far, has been receiving positive feedback from her peers.

"We're touching on topics about being a bandleader—everything from putting together a band, rehearsing a band, improvisation, communicating with your audience, music business, getting your music out there." Or in

short, she admits, "Things that I've learned from being on the road, and things I wish I had [been] taught at Berklee."

Looking ahead, Kelly, who has always had eclectic taste in music, anticipates continuing to push the boundaries of her own style. She is working on some singer/songwriter pieces, as well as jazz songs fused with other genres. Through keeping her sound fresh, she hopes to better connect with listeners.

"I'm trying to also bridge the gap that jazz is just for older people," she says. "And to have younger people my age start to really enjoy the music, whether it means that they're listening to stuff that's all mixed up like [what] I've been doing, or just maybe even a pop group that uses jazz chords."

Speaking of youth, one has to wonder just how the artist has managed to balance her career, academics and success so well. For her, the key has been staying close to home in Boston and maintaining tight relationships with friends and family. And while Kelly has had to make some sacrifices, such as leaving high school early to be home schooled, so far it has all been worth it.

"To me being onstage and performing is when everything else just goes away," she says. "So I don't really feel like I missed out on prom or walking for graduation."

It is precisely this maturity that transcends into her music, winning over traditional jazz musicians, critics and fans alike.—*Misa Shikuma*