



For Immediate Release

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CURTIS STIGERS OPENS FREE JAZZ CONCERT SERIES JULY 31
Jazz at Vail Square serves up cool jazz outside the Arrabelle in Lionshead

Vail, CO July 24, 2008 – As the Bravo! season of classical music winds down in the Vail Valley, the Vail Jazz Foundation is gearing up to continue Vail's great musical tradition with outstanding live jazz performances throughout the summer. From July 31 through the end of August, music lovers can check out Jazz @ Vail Square, a free concert series, held Thursdays from 6-8pm at Vail Square in Lionshead.

July 31st is the first Jazz @ Vail Square concert, featuring multi platinum selling vocalist Curtis Stigers. "Curtis is the hottest jazz singer in Europe today", said Vail Jazz Foundation chair and artistic director Howard Stone, who organizes the Vail Jazz Festival. "We are really lucky that Curtis loves Vail and has fit us into his busy schedule," continued Stone.

Stigers is a singer, saxophonist, and songwriter who pushes the envelope by creating new jazz standards. Stigers' distinctive voice and storytelling style allows the poetry of the lyrics to come through. Stigers will be arriving here following a European tour, where he played the Montreux Jazz Festival.

The concerts will be held in Vail Square outside the Arrabelle Hotel. The venue will offer tented seating for approximately 200 people, and several local establishments, including Blue Moose Pizza, Centre V and Rimini Gelato, will offer outside café tables adjacent to the venue.

"We've designed the venue to be both intimate and inclusive", said Mia Vlaar, Executive Director of the Vail Jazz Foundation. "The Town of Vail and especially the Lionshead merchant community have been tremendously supportive of the concerts and everyone is really excited about Curtis Stigers opening night." Vlaar continued.

John Dawsey, director of sales and marketing at the Arrabelle and sponsor of the event, agrees. "This is a chance to bring folks back into Lionshead to check out the newly completed village core, shops, and restaurants, while taking in some awesome entertainment," said Dawsey.

With jazz styles ranging from New Orleans to Latin, Swing to Straight-Ahead, cabaret-style jazz, the Jazz at Vail Square lineup promises plenty of ways to enjoy live jazz in Vail all summer long.

Jazz @ Vail Square: At a Glance

July 31	Curtis Stigers
August 7	Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue
August 14	Jeff Hamilton Trio
August 21	Chuchito Valdes
August 28	Clayton Brothers Quintet & VJF All-Stars

EVENT SPONSORS

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ABOUT THE VAIL JAZZ FOUNDATION

The Vail Jazz Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, celebrating 14 years of providing outstanding jazz music and jazz education programs in the Vail Valley of Colorado. For more information, visit www.vailjazz.org

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