



For Immediate Release:

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ART IN THE PARK JAZZ FESTIVAL RETURNS ON SEPTEMBER 18

The public is welcome to attend the second year of the Art in the Park Jazz Festival held outdoors in Severna Park, Maryland on Sunday, September 18. The community event features three trend setting jazz and world music groups and fine art displays in the courtyard and interior of Cafe Mezzanotte at 760 Ritchie Highway (Route 2). Admission is \$40 in advance and \$45 at the door. Parking is free and plentiful. (The rain date is September 25.)

The courtyard and gardens open to ticket holders at 1:00 p.m. Attendees can view and purchase fine art and gift selections from Benfield Gallery, Gallery 564 and Side Street Framers. View works in a variety of media from many of the finest artists in the region and watch artist demonstrations throughout the afternoon. Visit the booths and check out the wares of young entrepreneurs from UEmpower of Maryland.

Delicious Mediterranean food and a vast selection of beverages will be on sale from Cafe Mezzanotte. Attendees will be comfortably seated at socially distanced tables under the sun and on the grass and can enjoy strolling the grounds, getting up to dance when the spirit moves them.

Music begins with the Alex Lacquement Trio, featuring Lacquement on upright bass and vocals, Lucas Choahny on electric guitar and EJ Shaul-Thompson on drum set. Their pleasing and often rousing sound is at the confluence of bluegrass and jazz music. Enjoy Lacquement originals along with works by Bill Monroe and Bill Frisell and other greats.

Those who haven't got up to dance at that point may find the mid-afternoon set hard to resist. An outstanding quartet led by two of the nation's leading Brazilian artists features beloved vocalist Rose Moraes and bassist/bandleader Leonardo Lucini. They'll introduce a variety of captivating styles and sounds in their performance such as samba, bossa nova, Baiao, samba partida and samba funk!

The afternoon winds down with the music of jazz legends performed by Baltimore based Ravita Jazz, led by bassist, jazz educator and radio show host Phil Ravita. Truly one of the Mid-Atlantic's busiest musicians, Ravita performs frequently with symphony orchestras and as a guest with many other jazz ensembles. This set highlights the music of the legendary performers such as Chick Corea, Bill Evans, Thelonious Monk, John Coltrane, Miles Davis, and Charlie Parker. The event ends at 5:00 p.m.

Art in the Park was begun by as a collaboration between Cafe Mezzanotte, Jazz Beyond Borders and Severna Park Voice and the three businesses donate significant in-kind services to the event. The jazz festival is one of two presented under the auspices of the non-profit organization UEmpower of Maryland. Musical offerings received partial funding from Maryland State Arts Council and Arts Council of Anne Arundel County in 2022.

Admission is \$40 in advance and \$45 at the door. Tickets are available from <http://www.instantseats.com> Select Cafe Mezzanotte as the venue.