

IN HOUSE JAZZ – Intimate House Concerts Return to the Central Coast

Over a year ago, the first INHOUSE JAZZ concert took place in Newport Heights in August of 2012. This event featured an art exhibit by well-loved local painter/sculptor Ann Miller and the music of Portland pianist Gordon Lee. Karen Candelario of Ozone Fine Art painted live while music lovers listened and danced. Proceeds beyond expenses were donated to OCCA's 2012 Oregon Coast Jazz Party. A few months later, some local jazz lovers welcomed in the New Year in a South Beach home to the music of the original jazz group The Blueprints Trio, premiering their newly recorded CD of original compositions.

As the 2013 spring summer season approached, new opportunities emerged, setting the scene for more INHOUSE concerts. According to musician Annie Averre, after the New Year's Eve INHOUSE, Frank Geltner former OCCA director, suggested she host a series to feature regional jazz pianist/composers. With the opportunity to perform playing a beautiful Steinway Grand piano showcasing their music, it wasn't difficult to find willing musicians. Soon Averre was approached by community members interested in opening their homes and the 2013 INHOUSE JAZZ Series manifested! The 2013 INHOUSE JAZZ Series offered concerts featuring groups and individual artists highlighting each musician's unique style and compositions. Annie Averre sang a few select songs with each, introducing these diverse musicians to coastal jazz enthusiasts.

Session one of Spring INHOUSE began April 14 at the Ona Beach Bed and Breakfast in South Beach with a group of musicians who have all worked with each other in various settings, but never as a group, similar to the jazz party format of Newport's local festival. Musicians were Portland guitarist Christopher Voitach, tenor saxophonist Lee Wuthenow, and bassist Ron Green. Christopher Voitach plays a wide range of jazz styles, from Dixieland to Free jazz, Ragtime to Bebop. His compositions reflect his diverse musical tastes and abilities, combining the intricacies of Baroque counterpoint with the freedom of modern jazz. Lee Wuthenow, originally from Seattle, now one of Portland's legendary horn players has a melodic tone whose ease lends an appropriately sultry touch to every song he interprets. Upright bassist Ron Green was the most familiar to local audiences. Ron lived for many years in Seal Rock, but now resides in Albany. He performs on the coast regularly with the popular gypsy jazz group Hot Club de Jour.

All INHOUSE Concerts are from 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM on Sunday afternoons, every month from April to September. The INHOUSE JAZZ atmosphere is informal; providing an opportunity for audiences to enjoy an intimate concert, free from the noise and distractions often associated with a restaurant or bar. There is no charge for these sessions, but a donation of \$15 - \$30 is suggested to cover concert costs. Any funds collected beyond expenses are donated in support of local arts and education. The audience is encouraged to bring their own beverages and potluck treats. All interested in attending should RSVP 360-606-7136 or email Annie at aaverre@hotmail.com prior to each concert.

Looking ahead, to 2014 there will be some artists returning and some new sounds, a special Fourth of July INHOUSE is slated at OZONE Fine Art gallery on Newport's historic bayfront with a great view of the fireworks after the music. The summer sessions will each showcase regional and local premiere jazz composers and players. So, if you're a jazz enthusiast and are around the Central Oregon Coast this spring and summer, don't forget to put INHOUSE Sunday afternoons on your calendar!