



BUTTONWOOD ART SPACE
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Press Release

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BLUES & JAZZ MUSIC INFLUENCES ART

KANSAS CITY, MO, FEBRUARY 12, 2016: The *Art of Blues & Jazz, KC Style* will open on First Friday, March 4, 2016, from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., at Buttonwood Art Space, 3013 Main, Kansas City, Missouri, 64108. The gallery exhibition includes 95 artworks by 27 artists and expresses the influence of music, especially Blues and Jazz, through painting, photography, mixed media, fiber and sculpture. The exhibit will be held in conjunction with KC Crossroads March First Friday Art Walk.

Purchases of art during the exhibit will benefit two local music organizations: Kansas City Blues Society and KC Jazz ALIVE. Half of the sale price compensates artists for their beautiful art with the remainder going to the music organizations as charitable donations.

Meet participating artists, enjoy Food Truck flavors from Chris Miller Foods, listen to musical performances by Karla Bauer and by duo Karla Peterie and Jim Herbert and enjoy a beverage at the March 4th Opening Reception. A special VIP event from 5:00 - 6:00 is ticket-only. If you are unable to attend the March 4th reception; gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or by appointment.

Sponsors of the Exhibit include: Buttonwood Financial Group, Chris Miller Foods, Lynxspring, Husch Blackwell, Musicians Karla Bauer, Karla Petrie and Jim Herbert, Kansas City Blues Society, Kansas City Jazz ALIVE, and a number of Blues & Jazz fans across the Kansas City region!

Background Information:

KC Blues Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which for the past 35 years has been dedicated to preserving the rich Blues Heritage of Kansas City, supporting Blues education to ensure the future of this uniquely

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PAGE 2

American art form, celebrating Blues excellence, and bringing value to its Members, Musicians and its Community.

For more information please visit <http://bluessocietykc.com/about-2/>

Kansas City Jazz ALIVE is a 501 (c)(3) catalyst group organized to implement opportunities for the Greater Kansas City jazz community. Its members work in concert to "Raise the Tide that Lifts all Jazz Boats". The mission of Kansas City Jazz ALIVE is to:

- A-Build AWARENESS of the needs of the metropolitan jazz community
- L-Serving as a LISTENING body
- I-Provide a platform for the integration of IDEAS
- V-Function as a VOICE for the jazz community
- E-Provide EXPOSURE to applicable resources for the Kansas City jazz community.

For more information, please visit <http://kcjazzalive.org/about/>

The performers for First Friday opening will be:

5:30-6:30, Karla Bauer; Karla will be performing her cuts from her new CD, "Everything Must Change".

"Everything Must Change" is a soulful Jazz tribute to the great Nina Simone encapsulating the striking vocal power and beauty of the Kansas City-based singer. "Everything Must Change" tells a story opening with a direct message to the listener. The final track plays out as if someone yanked the curtains up in a dark room. It's truly staggering how taking this project as a whole, the "vintage-made-new" songs address the same desires of peace and hope today that Nina Simone sang of so many years ago. The nostalgic mood of this CD is the perfect fit for Karla as an artist who reached back decades for her inspiration. Karla assembled the collection of songs once recorded by Nina Simone to radiate a message that to change the world we all must become the change. For more information please visit <http://www.karlabauer.com/>



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PAGE 3

7:00-8:00 pm. Karla Peterie and Jim Herbert; Karla and Jim are a talented duo who came together to share a love of American roots music. Creating a timeless sound all their own, they pay tribute to the old southern string bands and classic blues masters. Playing songs that have weathered the generations, Karla & Jim perform music ranging in style from old time jug band blues & boogie woogie up thru the driving rhythms of early rock & roll. Karla & Jim were recent semi-finalists in the 2016 International Blues Challenge in Memphis competing against over 90 Solo/Duo entries from around the world. They will be performing songs from their self-titled CD, "Karla and Too Bad Jim".



KC Crossroads First Friday: On the First Friday of every month, thousands of residents and visitors fill the sidewalks of the Crossroads in Kansas City, enjoying what has become the city's liveliest and most popular event. Arts organizations, galleries, studios, and a wide variety of local businesses feature regional and national artists as well as live entertainment starting at 5 p.m. Best explored on foot, the First Friday tradition continues to grow with up to 10,000 attendees. Most make it an evening, with dinner and drinks from a colorful array of restaurants and entertainment venues. For more information, please visit <http://kccrossroads.org/first-fridays/>

Buttonwood Art Space was founded by Jon and Wendy McGraw in support of the arts in Kansas City. The McGraw's purchased the 1860's Buttonwood building in 2005, and expansion in 2013 doubled the size of the gallery to 7,500 sq. ft. A portion of all sales go to support local and regional charities as the gallery is designated as a place for artists to exhibit and sell their works, and for non-profit groups to raise funds and awareness.

Buttonwood Art Space is underwritten by Buttonwood Financial Group, an independent wealth management firm based in Kansas City, Missouri. Buttonwood works closely with individuals and families to simplify the complexity that comes with wealth. The Buttonwood Team serves as a Family CFO, coordinating and integrating tax, insurance, estate planning, investments, cash flow, retirement, education, and business strategies to achieve client specific goals. For more information please visit <http://www.buttonwoodartspace.com/about.php>

For additional information please contact Jon McGraw, Buttonwood Art Space, at 816-285-9040 or Jon@ButtonwoodArtSpace.com.

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