



MESA ARTS CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mesa Arts Center Mirage Summer Music Series 2022 June 25 – August 27, 2022

Mesa, AZ - Mesa Arts Center is delighted to announce a new summer series featuring a collection of national, international and local musicians for all to enjoy. **The Mirage Summer Music Series** begins June 25 and runs through August 27, 2022.

This diverse ten-show line-up offers jazz, folk, soul, world, eclectic, classical and more. The music series provides an exciting opportunity to beat the summer heat while enjoying live music.

Tickets go on sale **Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at noon**. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com

Tickets are \$11* each or subscribe to the entire series for \$100*.

**Plus service fee*

Dom Flemons

June 25 | 8: 00 p.m.

GRAMMY Award Winner, Two-Time EMMY Nominee, 2020 U.S. Artists Fellow
Dom Flemons is originally from Phoenix, Arizona and currently lives in the Chicago area with his family. He has branded the moniker *The American Songster®* since his repertoire of music covers over 100 years of early American popular music. Flemons is a songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, producer, actor, slam poet, music scholar, historian, and record collector. He is considered an expert player on the banjo, guitar, harmonica, jug, percussion, quills, fife and rhythm bones.

XIXA

July 2 | 8:00 p.m.

The New Southwest is a raw, mystical place. XIXA, Tucson's dark, dusty gothic overlords, have their genesis here; it has nurtured them, and it is home. XIXA have always been uniquely attuned to the desert and their Latin influences. Combining gritty guitars, the bumping grind of Peruvian chicha, and dark, swirling psych-rock into a mesmerizing stew, the guitar-slinging six-piece have spent years exploring this sonic territory.

Jeff Parker and William Tyler

July 9 | 8:00 p.m.

Jeff Parker is recognized as one of contemporary music's most versatile and innovative electric guitarists and composers. With a prolific output characterized by musical ideas of angularity and logic, he works in a wide variety of mediums - from pop, rock and jazz to new music - using ideas informed by innovations and trends in both popular and experimental forms.

William Tyler is a Nashville guitarist and composer. He spent years woodshedding and touring with Nashville groups like Lambchop and Silver Jews before breaking away to focus on his version of instrumental guitar music.

Arouna and Zaza Diarra/ Arouna Diarra Music

July 16 | 8:00 p.m.

Arouna Diarra, a twelfth-generation musician was destined to bring traditional West African music into the modern-day and further develop it while remaining true to its roots. Zaza Wright has a great passion for music and children. She is deeply involved in the local music scene as she performs with and manages Arouna Diarra LLC alongside her husband Arouna Diarra.

Qais Essar

July 23 | 8:00 p.m.

Qais Essar's music is a sonic time portal from the ancient Hindu Kush to the modern era. Essar is a contemporary Afghan composer, instrumentalist and producer who channels his melodic designs through the rabab, a 2,500-year-old instrument from Afghanistan. He has toured extensively, sharing his new genre of music nationally and internationally. His first LP, *The Green Language* (2014), quickly became an Amazon #1 bestseller, followed by *Tavern of Ruin* (2016), and his 3rd album, *The Ghost You Love Most* (2018) to critical acclaim.

Rising Sun Daughter

July 30 | 8:00 p.m.

Grace Rolland-Redwood is a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist based in Mesa, Arizona. Her ear for sound and poeticism brings rich texture to her songwriting. In 2010, Rolland joined the traditional folk-Americana band Run Boy Run as cellist and vocalist. The band won the coveted Telluride Bluegrass Band contest (2011), appeared on A

Prairie Home Companion twice (2011, 2012), released four studio records, and toured across the United States in the short span of five years. During that time, Rolland began performing as Rising Sun Daughter and released her debut EP *I See Jane*, named one of [The 20 Best Folk Albums of 2019](#) by PopMatters.

Califone

August 6 | 8:00 p.m.

Califone is an acclaimed musical project centered around Tim Rutili and a regular and rotating list of contributors, including long-time collaborators; producer, Brian Deck, percussionist Ben Massarella and producer, guitarist Michael Krassner. Formed out of the Chicago band Red Red Meat, they've been exploring the tension between experimental noise, acoustic texture, technology, humanity, cinematic images and microscopic poetry since 1998 with over a dozen albums of sleeper hits and enduring classics.

Raquel Denis

August 13 | 8:00 p.m.

Raquel Denis is a softly powerful singer-songwriter and poet based in Akimel O'otham land. Her heart-centered folk songs range from meditative to visceral—songs about an ailing mother, insurrections at the U.S. capitol and parables of oak trees offer raw expressions of grief, worth, forgiveness, defiance and familial love. At the center of her work is honest lyricism and the spiritual healing power of music.

Carly Bates

August 20 | 8:00 p.m.

Carly Bates is a pianist, educator, and artistic collaborator from Phoenix, creating with all kinds of storytellers such as musicians, movers, poets, and theatre artists. She has a background in classical, jazz, and popular styles of piano, a multi-threaded music lineage that she shares with those eager to learn. Currently, she teaches privately and as a Faculty Associate at ASU's Popular Music Program. Alongside her teaching practice, Carly performs with multiple local acts including Raquel Denis and Pariah Pete, and at a local theatre company, Playback Arizona.

Downtown Chamber Series Featuring the Mill Ave Chamber Players

August 27 | 8:00 p.m.

The Downtown Chamber Series features compositions for woodwinds, horn and piano, including the Mozart Quintet for Piano and Winds, Poulenc Sextet for Piano and Winds, and selections for solo piano. Mill Ave Chamber Players have received local and national recognition for their performances, vibrant repertoire, and community engagement.

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ABOUT MESA ARTS CENTER

Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning, international award-winning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art

studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment and performances, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The facility is an architectural showpiece and a destination for visitors to the Phoenix area. Mesa Arts Center's mission is to invite all people to create and discover entertaining, challenging and diverse art and arts experiences within joyous, dynamic and welcoming environments. For more information, visit mesaartscenter.com.