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Somerville Arts Council
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The Nave Gallery and the Somerville Arts Council present:
SqueezeBox Slam!
A festival celebrating the accordion

Saturday, June 15, 2013

Accordion Stroll: 1-3; Concert: 3-6

(Rain date: 6/29, same times)

7 Hills Park, Davis Square, FREE!



About the Event

The 2nd Somerville Squeezebox Slam cometh! This is a celebration, of accordions, button boxes and other free standing reed instruments. As with the first festival, accordionists of all skill levels and musical genres are invited to stroll around the neighborhoods of Somerville, sharing their melodious sounds, and like pied pipers from an alternative fairy tale, beckon all to come and follow them as they head to Davis Square for a concert of some of New England's finest squeezebox players. So dust off your grandfather's squeezebox that's been sitting in the attic and join us for an afternoon of pumping the bellows! Accordion themed art/crafts and Redbones BBQ food will be for sale. Curated by Michael McLaughlin.

About the Accordion Stroll

From 1-3pm Accordionists will stroll around Somerville, ultimately congregating in Davis Sq. Local accordionists bring your boxes, band together or find your own corner and play. There are no rules! This is accordion anarchy. At 3pm, head to Davis Sq. where Lady Kielbasia will get the concert rolling.

Concert Lineup; full act descriptions follow

Hosted by Lady Kielbasia (in photo above, left)
3-3:30 pm Sandy Theodorou
3:30-4 pm Ralph Tufo
4-4:30 pm Marié Abe Sextet (in center photo)
4:30-5 pm Cory Pesaturo (in photo above, left)
5-5:30 pm Grand Fatilla



City of Somerville, Joseph A. Curtatone, Mayor



Sandy Theodorou, 3-3:30pm

Sandy (Matoula) Theodorou plays accordion and laouto, and sings with the Boston-based Greek bands, Rebetoparea ("Rebetika"/Greek urban blues) and Meraki ("Paradosiaka"/traditional Greek music). She has danced with the Boston Lykeion Ellinidon Greek folk dance group. Sandy was born in Pireas, Greece, with family roots in Greek villages in Epiros and the Ionian island of Kefalonia. Sandy is mother to a wonderful daughter and works professionally as a School Psychologist.



Ralph Tufo, 3:30-4pm

For over thirty years, Ralph Tufo has been a part of the Boston music scene as a player of piano accordion, Cajun accordion, concertina, and keyboards. One of the founding members of the Boogaloo Swamis with whom he won four Boston music awards, he now plays with the Squeezebox Stompers and the Gloucester Hornpipe & Clog Society. His recordings are often played on NPR and is also a author of several collections of poetry and plays including the musical "Rockin' Ralph's Roadhouse" about the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina



Marié Abe Sextet, 4-4:30pm

Marié Abe is an active performer of the accordion and piano, with frequent concert tours and collaborations with recording artists from the United States and Japan. She is currently performing with the Boston-based Ethiopian groove collective, Debo Band (Sub Pop/Next Ambience), which has been featured in the New York Times, Rolling Stone Magazine, NPR, and other media. She is a co-producer of the NPR radio documentary "Squeezebox Stories" (premiered in Fall 2011), which tells stories from Californian immigration history using the accordion as a common trope. Abe holds an MA and a PhD in Ethnomusicology from the University of California, Berkeley, and a degree in sociology, anthropology, and ethnomusicology from Swathmore College, and is an Assistant Professor of Music at Boston University.



Cory Pesaturo, 4:30-5pm

From Cumberland, Rhode Island, World Digital Accordion Champion (Coupe Mondiale) and World Acoustic Accordion Champion (Primus Ikaalinen) Cory Pesaturo (C Pez) is the only person to ever win world championships on Acoustic Accordion, Digital Accordion, and Jazz performance. Pesaturo's extensive performance resumé includes stages throughout the world and at four appearances at the White House for President and Senator Clinton. The first being when he was 12. While in town, Pesaturo occasionally performs with the Fringe with whom he has recorded two CD's.



Grand Fatilla, 5-5:30pm

Grand Fatilla began as an informal trio when Club d'Elf bassist, Mike Rivard; electric mandolinist, Matt Glover; and accordionist Roberto Cassan got together to explore their mutual love for folk music from all over the world, especially the styles born out of the gypsy diaspora. Like an iPod on shuffle the group jumps from Argentine Tangos to Italian Tarantellas... from Turkish sacred Sufi songs to Irish reels...Moroccan trance to Bulgarian dance music, all performed with an emphasis on improvisational group interplay and playful spontaneity. In this age of heightened global consciousness the repertoire that Grand Fatilla performs acknowledges and pays homage to the idea that it is indeed One World that we all live in, and the music of diverse cultures enriches us all.



About the emcee, Lady Kielbasia

Kielbasia is an Accordion-Playing Drag Lunch Lady. She's been voted Best Drag Queen with an Accordion in San Francisco, and was named Provincetown's Family Favorite. After a long and illustrious career in cabaret, burlesque, and shameless private party entertainment in San Francisco, Provincetown, LA, and NYC, she is now semi-retired with her kitty and garden in Somerville.