

NEWS RELEASE

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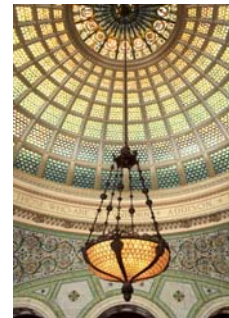
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DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS LAUNCHES NEW MUSIC SERIES IN SEPTEMBER: “CHICAGO UNDER THE DOME” FEATURES CHICAGO-CONNECTED ARTISTS FROM ALL MUSIC GENRES IN A CABARET-STYLE SETTING

KICK-OFF CONCERT FEATURES JAZZ GREATS PATRICIA BARBER AND JIM GAILLERETO
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 6:30 PM
FREE ADMISSION



The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs announces the launch of a new music series, *Chicago Under the Dome*. The series presents Chicago artists of all ages and musical backgrounds – often pairing performers together for the first time – under the magnificent Tiffany dome in Preston Bradley Hall of the landmark Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington Street. Wine and local beer will be available for sale at this cabaret-style series; early arrival is suggested. This event is made possible with generous support from the Goose Island Beer Company. Admission is free.

The featured performers – many who have played locally for years – will be paired together for first time, creating original, one-of-kind musical collaborations. The artists' backgrounds range from classical, jazz and world to pop, rock, and folk. The opening night event features Chicago jazz greats Patricia Barber and Jim Gaillorato's Jazz String Quintet, performing music from their new release, *American Complex*, which includes original music from Patricia Barber, Jim Gaillorato and adapted standards of Jerome Kern, Thelonious Monk and John Coltrane. Jazz String Quintet pays homage to America's greatest jazz legends, and with this timely and exciting collaboration with Patricia Barber, they explore the jazz side of classical music art songs.

Upcoming *Chicago Under the Dome* concerts are scheduled for October 8, November 12, and December 10, the second Thursday of every month. Artists to be announced.

More about the artists

For more than two decades, singer/pianist Patricia Barber, based in Chicago, has led her own band and released a series of highly acclaimed, strikingly singular albums, dating back to 1992's breakout major label album, *Distortion of Love*. It featured her rendition of Smokey Robinson's pop hit, "My Girl." For her latest album on Blue Note Records, Barber applies that "natural form of expressiveness" to breath stimulating and intimate new life into the music of one of the Great American Songbook composers. A 13-tune collection that exhibits her austere power of singing, *The Cole Porter Mix* not only spotlights her artful interpretations of Porter's songs but also features her modern-cool compositional prowess on three Porter-inspired originals that seamlessly fit into the set list. "Cole Porter has always been my songwriting idol," says Barber. "I love his music and I've been singing his songs for so many years."

(more)

Jazz String Quintet is comprised of string quartet and soprano saxophone. Inspired by sources as diverse as Debussy and Ravel to Miles Davis and John Coltrane, composer and saxophonist Jim Gailloreto offers a perfect blend of classical music and jazz: structure and spontaneity. The compositions interweave his own soprano saxophone with skilled modernist writing for string quartet. *“No composer has shaped the structures and layered the phrases of the string quartet to so successfully accommodate full-tilt improvisation,”* writes jazz authority Neil Tesser. Working with longtime associates of The HAWK String Quartet, Jazz String Quintet achieves a true fusion of forms, which has collaborated with such artists as vocalist Kurt Elling, pianist-composer Fred Hersch, Corky Siegel’s “Chamber Blues” and West African kora player Foday Musa Suso.

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