

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Deb Bissen / Jennifer Wormser (703) 790-1953 / <u>dbissen@mpaart.org</u> (239) 691-7548 / <u>mpaartfest@mpaart.org</u>



## MPA Announces MPAartfest 2018 Musical Lineup Presented by TTR Sotheby's International Realty, expanded musical program features international roster of critically acclaimed artists

McLean, VA: McLean Project for the Arts has released the line up and programming for MPAartfest 2018, set for October 7, 2018 in McLean Central Park. Featuring everything from Go-Go music to world-music and jazz and a 15-piece youth swing big band, the MPAartfest Music Stage schedule offers something for every age and musical interest. The MPAartfest Music Stage is presented by TTR Sotheby's International Realty.

Curated by Ken Avis, radio host of Antidote (<u>WERA 96.7 FM</u>) and a performing musician with the award-winning band Veronneau, MPAartfest's musical lineup features artists fresh from the stages of venues such as the Kennedy Center, Blues Alley, Strathmore and DC Jazz Fest.



The JoGo Project

**Project Locréa will kick off the day at 10:00 am**. Comprised of musicians from Bulgaria, Argentina, USA, Azerbaijan, China and Brazil, Project Locréa combines the traditional music of its members with a non-traditional combination of instruments and sounds, resulting in an earopening, virtuoso mix.

Freshly graduated from her year with the prestigious Strathmore Artist in Residence program, **Cecily will take the stage at 11:00 am**. Known for her sweet soprano, honest lyrics and pure vocals, Cecily brings a fresh vocal interpretation to the rich soul/jazz traditions epitomized by such artists as Minnie Riperton, Gil Scott-Heron and Anita Baker.

**At 12:00 noon, MPA fan favorites The Dave Kline Band return to the MPAartfest stage** for the second consecutive year. Lead by violinist Dave Kline, this high-energy, international band's virtuoso music defies categorization. Recognized for its vibrant world sound, the group blends contemporary rock, world and jazz with the ancient cultures of Africa, the Caribbean, the Middle

East, and Latin America. The Dave Kline Band's album "Shifting Borders" recently spent 4 weeks at #1 on the Top 50 Jazz Albums.

**The JoGo Project takes the stage at 1:00 pm.** Lead by Washington City Paper 'Artist of the Year' Elijah Jamal Balbed, this exciting ensemble of DC's finest young jazz musicians performs throughout the DC area with the mission of keeping Go-Go music alive. The JoGo Project has been bringing audiences to their feet at the Kennedy Center, Blues Alley, Strathmore and the DC Jazz Festival.

At 2:00, singer and poet Rose Moraes brings the sounds of Brazilian music to the MPAartfest stage. Born in the south of Brazil near Sao Paulo, vocalist Rose Moraes has performed in Switzerland, Poland, Brazil and the US. Her music explores the vibrant traditions of Brazil.

Blues, zydeco, funk, gospel and more are blended and distilled into the unique sounds of **Little Red & The Renegades, performing on MPAartfest Music Stage at 3:00 pm.** This is party music, best served with good friends, food, drink, and lots of dancing in McLean Central Park to the accordion and steel-pan driven sounds of Little Red & The Renegades!

**Blues Alley Youth Jazz Orchestra will close out the MPAartfest Music Stage at 4:00 pm.** This award-winning, 15-piece youth swing big band is directed by Michael Bowie, musical accompanist to Sarah Vaughan, Abbey Lincoln, Patti Labelle, Isaac Hayes and others. Now in its 30th year, the Orchestra has performed at DC's leading venues.

**MPAartfest 2018 will take place on October 7, 2018 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm in McLean Central Park.** A one-day juried fine art show and sale, MPAartfest features the work of visual artists showcasing a wide variety of media and styles. During MPAartfest, McLean Central Park is transformed into a lively landscape of mini art galleries showcasing and offering for sale the work of acclaimed artists from the Mid-Atlantic region and beyond. This annual celebration of the visual arts attracts 5,000 – 6,000 visitors. Along with the artists' tents and live music, MPAartfest offers food from local restaurants and a variety of arts and STEAM (STEM+Art) activities to engage creative minds and captivate art-lovers of all ages. MPAartfest music is sponsored by TTR Sotheby's International Realty. MPAartfest 2018 is presented by Lead Community Sponsor McLean Community Center. Fairfax County Park Authority and TD Bank co-sponsor the event.

MPAartfest admission is FREE, and all are welcome and encouraged to join. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Parking will be located at signed lots throughout McLean, with shuttle bus service to the park. More parking and Metro transit information is available on the MPA website. For more information visit <u>www.mpaart.org/</u> or call 703-790-1953.

# # #

## About MPA MPA Exhibits, Educates and Inspires

McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) is one of the mid-Atlantic region's most respected contemporary visual arts organizations. MPA provides high-quality art exhibitions showcasing the work of established and emerging artists, educational programs, art classes, MPAartfest, summer STEAM camp, and ArtReach, an award-winning program serving students in grades K – 12, seniors, and individuals with special needs. For more information, visit <u>www.mpaart.org</u>.