

Sundays in the Garden Concert Series at Hamilton House



(Photo Courtesy Historic New England)

SOUTH BERWICK, MAINE – JUNE 2018-- Enjoy some of the Seacoast region's most popular musical performers in one of its loveliest settings, Hamilton House gardens, at Historic New England's Sundays in the Garden Concert Series, 5 - 6:30 p.m., Sundays in July. The graceful gardens of Hamilton House, overlooking the Salmon Falls River, provide the perfect backdrop for these performances. Bring a blanket, chairs, and picnic basket for your comfort and enjoyment.

In its 27th year, Sundays in the Garden will offer audiences both returning favorites and new voices.

Nationally recognized as one of the true treasures of American acoustic music, Harvey Reid will open the series with a performance July 1. Reid has opened the series for each of its 27 years. Harvey Reid is considered to be one of the modern masters and innovators of the acoustic guitar, autoharp, and six-string banjo. With his colorful, personal, and distinctive style incorporating a vast repertoire of American contemporary and roots music, Reid brings out the best of acoustic music, from hip folk to slashing slide guitar blues to bluegrass, old-time, Celtic, ragtime, and even classical.

Soggy Po Boys will perform Sunday, July 8. A brass-fueled swinging jazz band—"New Orleans Jazz Served Messy"-- with a repertoire of New Orleans standards, spirituals, contemporary music, and swing tunes, the Po' Boys the Soggy Po' Boys are doing their part to spread the tasteful soundtrack of the greatest music on the planet from their roost in the Northeast and while out on the road touring the country. This brass-fueled swinging jazz band will stand the test of time and transcend the bounds of geography, getting rave reviews from audiences and critics alike.

On July 15, Austin Burns, a Boston-based performer, composer, arranger, and curator of original concert presentations will perform a program of songs from the Gilded Age. Burns is the founder of Sole Durato, an ensemble consisting of 2-3 musicians who sing and play a variety of instruments. In addition to exploring its classical roots, the ensemble seeks to expand the boundaries of traditional concerts through popular music, comedy programs, and Austin's arrangements of traditional folk tunes and jazz standards.

July 22 brings cellist Kristen Miller to the series. A one-woman ensemble, Kristen Miller connects her antique cello to a live digital recorder to stack layers of lush cello, spoken word and ardent singing. With a voice like Beth Gibbons (Portishead) and a layered cello sound like Zoe Keating, Kristen has created a style that Billboard writer Bobby Borg calls "romantically, hauntingly, charmingly, brilliant." Kristen is the recipient of several awards, including Jam Magazine's Female Artist of the Year, and the Zara Nelsova Cellist Award for excellence in performance.

Area favorite La Madeleine will perform July 29. A unique blend of French folk songs and ballads, and Celtic fiddle tunes, La Madeleine performs the songs of Edith Piaf, Jacques Brel, Georges Moustaki, Gilles Vigneault, and a variety of other French and French Canadian artists, along with a mix of accordion and fiddle-driven Celtic instrumentals. Featuring Madeleine St. Amant, Chip Harding, Carl Perhsson, and Emily Barbour.

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, and \$4 for children over 6. Free admission to Historic New England members. Tickets can be purchased at the gate or online at

www.historicnewengland.org Historic New England memberships can be purchased at admissions.

20 minutes from Portsmouth, Hamilton House is located at 40 Vaughan's Lane, adjacent to Vaughan Woods State Park, one mile off Route 236 in South Berwick. For more information, please contact HamiltonHouse@historicnewengland.org or (207) 384-2454.

The 2018 Sundays in the Garden Concert Series is made possible in part by a donation from The Fabulous Find Boutique, Kittery, Maine, and by a grant from Kennebunk Savings Bank.

Hamilton House is one of more than three dozen historic sites owned and operated by Historic New England, the oldest, largest, and most comprehensive regional heritage organization in the nation. Historic New England shares the region's history through vast collections, publications, programs, museum properties, and family stories that document more than 400 years of life in New England.