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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 3, 2020

#### LIVE MUSIC RETURNS TO THE SHELDON WITH "PICNICS ON THE PLAZA"

ST. LOUIS, MO – The Sheldon is pleased to announce "**Picnics on the Plaza**," a limited series of outdoor concerts to take place on The Sheldon's Steward Family Plaza in September. These casual, outdoor concerts will feature live music by some of St. Louis' best musicians in the elegant setting of the plaza, while guests enjoy a boxed picnic dinner and drinks at assigned, socially-distanced tables of two to four people. Capacity is limited to 28 people maximum for each event.

#### "Picnics on the Plaza" Schedule:

## The Western Satellites, Saturday, September 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Performing the best in Americana, roots and swing music, The Western Satellites feature some of St. Louis' most acclaimed artists including Margaret Bianchetta on vocals and flute; Vince Corkery, bass; Jon Ferber, guitar; and Bob Breidenbach, dobro.

### Janet Evra, Saturday, September 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Vocalist, bassist, composer and songwriter Janet Evra performs on premier stages across the U.S. and Europe, blending traditional bossa nova, samba and Latin jazz with a modern twist, performing songs in English, Portuguese, Spanish and French.

### Hudson and the Hoo Doo Cats, Friday, September 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Blending the influences of Texas rockin' blues, country, rockabilly and swing, Hudson and the Hoo Doo Cats have been a mainstay on the St. Louis music scene since Hudson moved to St. Louis from Austin, Texas in 1994.

Tickets for each event are \$20 for a table of up to two guests, and \$40 for a table of up to four guests. Attendees will have the option to pre-purchase a boxed fried chicken or vegetarian picnic dinner. Bottles of wine will also be available for pre-purchase – an on-site bar will be available the night of each concert (credit card sales only). Picnic dinners must be ordered by the Wednesday prior to each performance.

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Advance registration is required. No tables will be sold on the night of the event. Guests ages 9 and above are required to wear face masks except when seated at their reserved tables.

Tickets are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111 or at <u>The Sheldon.org!</u> For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit <u>The Sheldon.org</u>.

### **Health and Safety Guidelines:**

As The Sheldon continues to monitor the regulations and recommendations set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the City of St. Louis regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, the following practices will be in place to ensure the health and wellness of The Sheldon's patrons, artists and staff during "Picnics on the Plaza:"

- The events will take place outdoors on The Sheldon's Steward Family Plaza. Capacity for the events will be capped at 11 seated tables at 6' apart, for two to four guests each, for a total of 28 people.
- All guests ages 9 and above are required to wear face masks at all times except when seated at their
  reserved tables. Masks will be provided for those who do not have one. Face shields will also be available
  for those who are unable to wear masks.
- Tables will be assigned. Groupings must be from the same household or quarantine group.
- Tables will be spaced at least 6 feet apart, and musicians will be distanced at least 12 feet from the nearest table.
- Advanced reservations are required.
- Guests will check in with Sheldon staff at an outdoor table, fitted with a plexiglass barrier. Guests who
  ordered picnic dinners will pick up their meals at the registration table upon check in. All food will be prepaid, boxed meals provided by a licensed caterer and distributed upon check in by Sheldon staff wearing
  clean gloves and masks, and in a "no-contact" transfer.

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- A bar will be situated just inside The Sheldon's Emerson Entrance. A plexiglass barrier will separate guests
  from staff, and all bar sales will be limited to credit card payments only. No cash or check payments will be
  accepted.
- For restroom access, guests will be directed to dedicated entrance and exit routes at the street level entrance of The Sheldon's Emerson Galleries building.
  - Elevator capacity is 3 persons for our large freight elevator and 2 for our regular sized elevator. Capacity signs are listed both inside and outside of each. Guests will also be encouraged to bypass the elevators and take stairs if they are able.
- Guests will affirm basic wellness on the day of their visit, including confirmation that:
  - They have not come into contact with, been exposed to, or been quarantined with anyone
    or is suspected of being exposed to COVID-19 in the past two weeks.
  - They are not experiencing symptoms of cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or loss of taste of smell.
- Visitors who express to us that they do not feel well on the day of their visit will be isolated in a dressing room and have their temperature taken. If they register 100.4 degrees or higher during the temperature check, will be asked to leave and consult with their physician on next steps.
- All interior doors will be propped open, including restrooms where able.
- Social distancing will be encouraged with signage throughout The Sheldon and plaza. Floor markings will be used at high traffic areas such as restrooms and bar.
- All food will be pre-paid, boxed meals provided by a licensed caterer and distributed upon check in by Sheldon staff wearing clean gloves and masks, and in a "no-contact" transfer, ie. placing items down on a table for guest to pick up.
- All service ware for food or beverage will be disposable/one-time use.
- Plexiglass will be mounted at each bar between guests and bar/serving staff.

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# The Sheldon / Picnics on the Plaza cont'd. September 3, 2020

- All beverage items will be served in individual portions by a Sheldon employee. All garnishes and stirring straws will be discontinued.
- No plate, vessel or glass will be reused or refilled.
- Enhanced cleaning and sanitation procedures will be in place throughout the evening in public areas, including frequent sanitation of credit card terminals, hard surfaces such as table tops and counters, light switches, elevator buttons, bathroom faucets, sinks, toilets, door handles and push/pull bars, etc.
- Hand sanitizing stations with at least 70% alcohol formulas will be located throughout The Sheldon, including at arrival sign-in, at the bar and in staff work areas.
- · Increased cleaning during all events using CDC approved cleansers
- · Water fountains will be closed and public spaces not in use will be cordoned off from public access.
- Staff will be trained in safety and sanitation procedures.