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Do It! ‘Hashtag: No Filter,’ Slack Key Fest and more

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(Courtesy photo)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16 Improvisation rules the night at ‘Hashtag’

There's no predicting what's going to happen at a show called "Hashtag: No Filter." The Twitter-inspired title says everything and nothing at the same time.

The ads for the evening say it will be a "completely improvised show. No rehearsals. ... Music and dance created on the spot."

Spontaneity is what it's all about.

Honolulu Museum of Art music director Brandon Apeles, who organized tonight's show, said, "I just invited the best people I know.

"The only plan is that I wanted to start with cello (Chris Chorney) and then a dancer joins that, and then whatever happens happens."

Performers include Stephen Inglis on guitar, pictured, Konrad Kendrick on drums and percussion, Jon Hawes on bass, Neal Chin on electric guitar, Zack Shimizu and Melaniie doing vocals, rapper Illisit and dancers Laura Reichhardt and Gwen Arbaugh of Spatial Sculptors.

The performers are "my favorite people who play in bands around town in and ones that I know can adapt to any situation," Apeles said. "Konrad is the go-to guy for everyone for drums. He was in 'Stomp' for nine years. Stephen Inglis is an amazing guitarist, electric and slack key, so I thought that would bode well. He'll have an electric guitar and a slack-key acoustic. If someone starts a song and he thinks slack key will sound good, it's totally up to him in the moment.

"Even sound check will be improvised. I told them they can't go over it."

Where: Honolulu Museum of Art, 900 S. Beretania St.
When: 7:30 p.m.

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Info: honolulumuseum.org or 532-6097

THE PULSE PHOTO



(Courtesy photo)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Festival will bring the isles' best performers together

An all-star cast of Hawaii's finest slack-key guitarists takes the stage Sunday in Waikiki for the Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Festival, spreading aloha through the sweet, nahenahe sound of slack-key guitar. The annual event was established in 1982 to recognize Gabby "Pops" Pahinui, who died in 1980 and is considered the father of modern slack key.

Since then, similar festivals have been established in all counties in Hawaii, and a number have been held on the mainland. The Ki-Ho'alu Foundation, which organizes the event, hopes to establish several more over the next few years.

Sunday's lineup includes Danny Carvalho, at right, a child prodigy who's become a mature, refined artist; the versatile Stephen Inglis; double-neck guitar master George Kuo; the pioneering Brother Noland, at far right; and 12-string specialist Bobby Moderow of Mau-nalua.

Other featured performers include David Kahiapo, Paul Togioka, Glen Smith, LT Smooth, Walter Keale, Dennis Kamakahi, Dwight Kanae, Patrick Landeza, Hi'ikua and Pali Ka'aihue.

Where: Kapiolani Park
When: Noon-6 p.m. Sunday
Cost: Free
Info: slackkeyfestival.com



Featured Video



(Courtesy photo)

SUNDAY / AUG. 18 AND AUG. 25

Veteran organist tackles daunting Bach chorales

It's a rare treat to hear the best from the best, and performances of Bach's "The Great Eighteen Chorales" garner that ranking. Bach was considered the greatest organist of his time, once scaring off a competitor who had heard him warming up but still entertaining the crowd with a six-hour

performance.

These chorales, composed during the last 10 years of Bach's life, include such works as the trio "Allein Gott, in der Hoeh sei Her" ("All Glory Be to God on High") and his final work, "Vor deinen Thron tret ich hiermit" ("Before Your Throne I Now Appear"). Blind at the time, he dictated the notes to his son-in-law.

Katherine Crosier, pictured, recently retired organist at Lutheran Church of Honolulu, will perform these monumental works over the next two Sundays. They are her first solo performances in 28 years, though visitors to Lutheran Church services have enjoyed her work for 35 years.

"I would guess that there have only been a handful of organists who have attempted to play the complete Great Eighteen Chorales," Crosier said in an email. "It is 97 pages of sixteenth notes! And some of the music is extremely challenging even for someone who has played the organ for 50 years like I have."

Her husband, Carl, retired cantor of the Lutheran Church of Honolulu, will conduct the Bach Chamber Choir singing the chorales on which each of the organ settings is based.

Where: Lutheran Church of Honolulu, 1730 Punahou St.

When: 2 p.m. Sunday and Aug. 25 (different programs)

Cost: \$20; \$35 both concerts, \$5 for students

Info: agohawaii.org or 221-9608

– Steven Mark



(Courtesy photo)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

Doris Duke Theatre series showcases musical diversity

Multiple Na Hoku Hanohano Award winner Weldon Kekauoha, pictured, kicks off Music of Hawai'i, a new concert series at the Honolulu Museum of Art's Doris Duke Theatre.

The series highlights the diversity of the island music scene, from slack-key guitarist Dennis Kamakahi to the island contemporary sound of Mike Love and Paula Fuga to the highly praised falsetto technique of Kamakakehau Fernandez.

The concerts, on the third Wednesday of each month, are scheduled through January.

Kekauoha, an established songwriter, arranger and producer of island contemporary music, grew up in a musical family and performed frequently in Waikiki as a young man. After some time on the mainland, he returned in the mid-1990s and got a steady gig working at the Ilikai Hotel. His first album, "Hawaiian Man," won the 2000 Hoku for most promising artist.

His work on the Mana'o Company's "Spread a Little Aloha" earned the group five Hokus in 2002. Kekauoha also has worked with the group Tapa Groove and has produced a solo project.

Future concerts: Nathan Aweau, Sept. 18; Shawn Livingston Moseley, with special guests Stephen Inglis and Erika Elona, Oct. 16; Dennis Kamakahi, Nov. 20; Mike Love and Paula Fuga, Dec. 18; Kamakakehau Fernandez, Jan. 15.

Where: Honolulu Museum of Art, 900 S. Beretania St.

When: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday


Cost: \$20-\$45


Info: honolulumuseum.org or 532-8701

TICKER


It's the world premiere of "Will the Real Charlie Chan Please Stand Up?" at Kumu Kahua Theatre, opening 8 p.m. Thursday. \$5-\$20. kumukahua.org or 536-4441


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