

VICTORIA MAGAZINE

22nd Annual Sooke Fine Arts Show to Showcase Musical as Well as Artistic Talent This Weekend!



Music will play a crucial role at the Sooke Fine Arts Show July 26-August 4. Musical artists from across Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands will entertain patrons daily throughout the ten-day show, with performances every noon hour from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., afternoons from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. and each evening from 7:00 p.m. until closing.

The annual Sooke Fine Arts Show provides the opportunity for both well-known and emerging artists to showcase their work. Along with the 7,500 annual visitors who attend the art show, the show draws hundreds of art patrons from British Columbia, and throughout western Canada and the United States. The seaside community of Sooke, located about 45 minutes west of Victoria, is steeped in artistic talent and natural beauty, making it the perfect host for what organizers call the premier juried art show on Vancouver Island. This year will be the twenty-second year of the show and its second year under the sponsorship of the Sooke Fine Arts Society.

On the opening day of the show, Heather Burns' performance on the piano will reflect the mix of jazz, Celtic and classical influences she is so well known for. Show patrons may also catch her playing on Wednesday evening. 'M' award winner Brad Prevedoros will perform his unique melding of Jazz, Celtic-folk, pop and classical guitar during the daytime hours on both Sundays and the second Saturday during the show.

The musical program is designed to reflect the breadth of art in the show. "Live music is an integral part of the total esthetic experience at the Sooke Fine Arts Show," says Mary Holland, chair of the music committee. "I'm very pleased with our lineup of musicians and the wide variety of music styles they will bring."

During the week, visitors to the show will also enjoy the musical stylings of Shane Beech on piano, Ellen Himmer on cello, Steve Pridgeon on piano, and Jim and Barb Sinclair on guitar and bass. Also appearing are the Pothole Pipers, Karel Roessingh on piano, MacHatties Colonval, Klazak piano, string quartet, the Hand Drum Rhythm Trio, and the Continuum Consort on viola, flute and guitar.

On August 2, the final Saturday night of the show, the ten-piece dance band Wine and Roses will play, inviting art patrons to test out their dancing shoes during the evening. On the final Sunday night, Lea and Emma Mae will fiddle while visitors check out the show.

A complete schedule of special events is available at www.sookefinearts.com.



On Thursday, July 24, before the show opens to the public, music will again play a large role in the special Purchasers' Preview Night. The renowned Mark Atkinson Trio will play during the evening, while patrons get an early look at the art, and first chance to purchase the pieces in the show. Hors d'oeuvres and wine will complete the evening. Tickets for this event are available for just \$25, by calling 250-642-7256.

Friday, July 25, is Artist's Celebration Night. Lust Life will perform jazz, vocals, Dixieland and swing music for the entertainment of the show's artists, sponsors, and their personal guests. Artistic awards will be given out before the show is unveiled for the artists. The show opens to the public at 10am, Saturday July 26 and runs for ten days.

The celebrations will be held at the SEAPARC Leisure Complex, 2168 Phillips Road in Sooke. Tickets cost \$7 for a one-day pass, \$5 for a senior pass and \$10 for a week-long pass. There will also be a Purchasers' Preview Night from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 24. Tickets cost \$25.00 and must be purchased in advance by calling 250-642-7256.