

An evening of music each Wednesday in July at 7:00 p.m.

Summer Sounds

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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at



ST. JAMES
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Summer Sounds at St. James

Eighth Annual Concert Series

A Evening of Music each Wednesday in July at 7:00 p.m.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana - May 15, 2017

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The St. James Center for Spiritual Formation is pleased to announce the return of the popular **Summer Sounds at St. James** series of musical concerts. Concerts are scheduled **each Wednesday evening in July at 7:00 p.m., at St. James Episcopal Church, at the corner of Convention at N. Fourth Street in downtown Baton Rouge.**

Admission for each concert is \$10; college students with a valid ID will be admitted free. A reception follows each concert so the audience may have an opportunity to meet the performers, obtain memorabilia and recordings, and enjoy the **St. James Artists' Guild Summer Exhibition and Sale**. Tickets may be purchased online at www.stjamesbr.org, or (cash or check, only) at the door.

The eighth annual Summer Sounds series opens on **Wednesday, July 5** •with renowned New Orleans jazz vocalist **Barbara Shorts**. Well known for her powerful voice and bluesy jazz style, Ms. Shorts has traveled the world, but her musical roots are gospel from her hometown where she has performed at the Jazz & Heritage Festival, Essence Festival, and as soloist with the New Orleans/Cincinnati Ballet and Orchestra Company.

The **Wednesday, July 12** program will feature **Quiana Lynell and The Lush Life**. Quiana Lynell is well known for her velvet voice and shares her time as a teaching artist and touring performer. For more than a decade, she has been immersed in learning Louisiana culture, working beside masters of the jazz world, soaking up pieces of knowledge and history while sharing the stage with such artists as Don Vappie, Germaine Bazille, Harry Connick Jr., Roderick Paulin, David Torkanowsky, and Herlin Riley. This summer, she brings her Lush Life band together in an intimate setting of the blues, including songs from Blu Lu Barker, Helen Humes, Allen Toussaint, Dinah Washington, and more.

With a most unique and diverse musical repertoire and a sophisticated piano style, singer-songwriter and piano man-entertainer **Armand St. Martin** returns to the Summer Sounds at St. James on **Wednesday, July 19**. This year, instead of providing his well-known all-original solo piano concert of his Louisiana songs and storytelling, he will focus on **Armand St. Martin's Maison C'est Bon Jazz Trio**, bringing in Al Bernard on acoustic bass, and Bob Rotherham, tenor and soprano sax. With variety and depth, this trio is popular for performing their jazzy new twists on New Orleans favorites, in addition to several St. Martin's originals Al Bernard on acoustic bass, and Bob Rotherham, tenor and soprano sax.

A performance by **Randy East and Raw Sugar** closes the series on **Wednesday, July 26**. Randy is a singer, songwriter, entertainer, and humorist, and the evening will feature Randy's singing and playing his original songs and music, intertwined with his reflections of growing up in New Orleans. Randy refers to his style of music as "New Orleans Americana." Finger-picking his acoustic guitar with his unique picking styles and singing with "a light vibrato," Randy shares the impressions growing up in New Orleans to become a professional musician had on his life and music.

Individual tickets are \$10. Season ticket packages are available at \$30 for all four concerts. **Friends of Summer Sounds** sponsorship is \$75 and includes two (2) season ticket packages. **Patrons of Summer Sounds** will receive four (4) season ticket packages for \$150. Sponsorship helps support the program continuation and will be individually acknowledged in the concert programs. Tickets and packages can be purchased online at www.stjamesbr.org, or at the door.

The programs of the St. James Center for Spiritual Formation, a ministry of St. James Episcopal Church, are open to all — providing "food for the journey."

Contact:

Links to performers' bios, web sites, and press-quality photographs provided to us are available at:

www.stjamesbr.org/music/2017SummerSounds

or by contacting [Jo Craddock](mailto:Jo.Craddock@stjamesbr.org), Director of Communications, St. James Episcopal Church

jocraddock@stjamesbr.org or 225-387-5141

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