EMF’s Eclectic 2016 Fringe Schedule Begins on May 15

Jon Stickley Trio (Bluegrass/Americana/Fusion) Takes the Stage at Revolution Mill

GREENSBORO – The Eastern Music Festival’s 55th season kicks-off on Sunday, May 15 with the first performance in its wildly innovative and eclectic Fringe schedule.

Jon Stickley Trio, recognized for their energetic and innovative fusions of bluegrass, Americana, gypsy jazz and other musics begins the season at 7 p.m., Sunday, May 15, at the vibrant and historic Revolution Mill, 1160 Revolution Mill Drive, Greensboro.

Jon Stickley Trio has been making waves with the independent and fan-funded release of their 2nd album, *Lost at Last*, this past October. The originality and sheer energy of this genre-bending ensemble serves as a welcome wake up call for everyone who experiences it. With roots in gypsy jazz, bluegrass, and hip-hop in an “exhilarating all-acoustic swirl” (*Acoustic Guitar Magazine*), Jon Stickley Trio combines Jon Stickley’s rapid-fire flatpicking guitar with the sultry and wild, yet refined, melodies of Lyndsay Pruett on violin set over the deep groove of Patrick Armitage on drums. The three have fused their collective styles into a repertoire of exciting and innovative original music along with some captivating covers.

The New York Times’ Nate Chinen writes “… there’s hardy cohesion among the players — no less on the Gypsy standard ‘Valse de Wasso’ than on ‘Darth Radar’ a turbocharged original with a ska upbeat and a shredding melody. And when Mr. Stickley and friends turn to bluegrass, as on ‘The High Road,’ by Tim O’Brien, they sound both respectful and free.” *Premier Guitar Magazine* also took note of “Darth Radar,” with Jason Shadrick calling it, “a rapid-fire take that moves from a serious ska beat to burning surf-style runs that would make Dick Dale proud.”

Tickets are $15 in advance and $17 at the door. To purchase tickets, contact Triad Stage Box Office from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday through Friday at (336) 272-0160 or [http://purchase.tickets.com/buy/TicketPurchase?pid=8222601](http://purchase.tickets.com/buy/TicketPurchase?pid=8222601)
**About Fringe:**
Fringe, EMF’s concert series that spotlights a wide variety of musical genres, begins May 15 and features seven concerts. For the 2016 season, Fringe offerings range from gypsy jazz to mountain music, Creole to country, blues to pops and its second annual Chamber Crawl to appease even the most diverse music aficionados.

Sponsored by Cemala Foundation and the Lincoln Financial Foundation, Fringe performances historically have been held during and after EMF’s regular season offerings. For the 2016 season, EMF board member John Davis and Fringe committee members decided to move several of the often playful, sometimes edgy and always delightful music to May and June as a prelude to its June and July lineup.

Eastern Music Festival’s Fringe series is in its second decade and adds a capricious dimension to EMF’s five-week season of unmatched musical education and performances. Past Fringe Series artists include: Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Doc Watson, Aimee Mann, Bob Margolin, Mark O’Connor and Los Straitjackets, Nellie McKay and Harpeth Rising.

**About Eastern Music Festival:**
Eastern Music Festival stands among the country's premier summer music educational programs and most imaginative performance festivals. With a 55 year history of both artistic and educational excellence, EMF attracts artists, students and audiences from around the globe to Greensboro each summer during its five week festival. EMF’s 2016 performances begin on Monday, June 27 and continue through Saturday, July 30. Concerts are presented at Guilford College, UNCG, High Point University, Appalachian State University and in venues throughout the community such as Temple Emanuel, Greensboro’s First Presbyterian Church and in public libraries. Over 65 performances, workshops, seminars and master classes will be presented.

Beyond the Festival, EMF produces and presents Fringe series and other programming throughout the year.

For more information about Fringe and the 2016 EMF season, visit [www.easternmusicfestival.org/festival/calendar](http://www.easternmusicfestival.org/festival/calendar)

To purchase tickets or for ticket information visit our [website](http://www.easternmusicfestival.org) or call Triad Stage at 336-272-0160.

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