FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Duke Performances Presents Music in the Gardens 2016:
A Summerlong Season of American Roots Music
PLUS An Evening (or two) with Savion Glover & Jack DeJohnette

April 12, 2016, Durham, NC — Duke Performances presents Music in the Gardens 2016, featuring the best of American roots music broadly defined, Wednesday, June 1 through Wednesday, July 27, in the beautifully bucolic setting of Duke Gardens. This year’s series is not only family- and picnic-friendly, but it remains very affordable: $10 general admission, $5 for Duke employees and students, and free for kids ages twelve and under.

This summer, in addition to concerts in Duke Gardens, Duke Performances and the American Dance Festival offer a special co-presentation at Duke’s Page Auditorium of An Evening with Savion Glover and Jack DeJohnette. Glover, the world’s reigning king of tap, collaborates with legendary drummer and NEA Jazz Master DeJohnette, backed by a trio featuring George Colligan on piano and Jerome Harris on bass. Glover will be joined onstage by fellow hoofer and longtime collaborator Marshall Davis, Jr. This two-night stand at Duke’s Page Auditorium promises to be an exceptional showcase of rhythmic genius, with DeJohnette’s drumming providing expert interplay with Glover’s cadenced dance. This concert is priced separately at $55/$45/$35.

Shows in June: Richmond, Virginia’s No BS! Brass Band opens the season at the Gardens with music made for dancing, a sound that incorporates New Orleans, James Brown, Michael Jackson, and Led Zeppelin, and members who have played with Fight the Big Bull and Bon Iver. Cellist and singer Leyla McCalla started out with the Carolina Chocolate Drops before launching a solo career featuring the music of her Haitian Creole heritage, the jazz and Cajun sounds of her home in New Orleans, and American folk traditions. Her latest album is A Day For The Hunter, A Day For The Prey. Durham-based singer-songwriter Skylar Gudasz toured the world with the tribute project Big Star’s Third, produced by local legend Chris Stamey; premiered Ari Picker’s Duke Performances-commissioned song cycle Lion and the Lamb last year; and recently released an acclaimed debut solo album, Oleander, produced by Stamey, which showcases Gudasz’ wry lyrics and smoky croon. Local favorites and Merge artists Mount Moriah — Heather McEntire, Jenks Miller, and Casey Toll — recently released How to Dance, which finds them leaning further toward a country sound than they ever have before, while continuing to draw on elements of folk, rock, and gospel.

Shows in July: Mandolin player and singer Sierra Hull, whose latest album Weighted Mind topped Billboard’s bluegrass charts at the start of this year, builds on the bedrock of tradition to create an innovative style all her own. Durham audiences will remember Merge Records recording artist and guitarist William Tyler from his 2014 Civil War-themed show Corduroy Roads, commissioned by Duke Performances, and from his years in the Nashville band Lambchop. Tyler is joined at the Gardens by Durham singer Jake Xerxes Fussell; the two are bound together in sound and song by deep family roots in Mississippi. The songs of North Carolina’s Jonathan Byrd & the Pickup Cowboys call on country, folk, and ballad traditions, drawing comparisons to musical luminaries Guy Clark, Lyle Lovett, and John Prine. Music in the
Gardens 2016 draws to a close with The Black Twig Pickers, an avant-folk Appalachian stringband from Southern Virginia on the Thrill Jockey label and musical collaborators of Jack Rose, Charlie Parr, and Steve Gunn.

Picnics, blankets, and lawn chairs are encouraged at Music in the Gardens. Meals and beverages, including beer and wine, will be available for purchase from The Palace International. Frozen treats will be available from Locopops. Alcohol is permitted; dogs, unfortunately, are not. There are restrooms onsite, and the venue is wheelchair accessible. Parking at Duke Gardens lots is free after 5 PM, and the lawn opens 30 minutes prior to each show. All shows start at 7 PM. **Tickets go on sale Tuesday, May 3**, online at dukeperformances.org, by phone at 919.684.4444, and in person at the Duke University Box Office on the top level of the Bryan Center on Duke’s West Campus, open Monday-Friday, 11AM-6PM.

Duke Performances’ Music in the Gardens 2016 is made possible, in part, with support from Duke Continuing Studies, Duke Summer Session, and The Sarah P. Duke Gardens. **For tickets and more information, please visit dukeperformances.org**

**NO BS! BRASS BAND**
Wednesday, June 1 at 7 PM, Duke Gardens

**LEYLA McCALLA**
Wednesday, June 8 at 7 PM, Duke Gardens

**SKYLAR GUDASZ**
Wednesday, June 15 at 7 PM, Duke Gardens

**A SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF DUKE PERFORMANCES & THE AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL**

**AN EVENING WITH SAVION GLOVER & JACK DEJOHNETTE**
Monday, June 20 and Tuesday, June 21 at 8 PM, Page Auditorium

**MOUNT MORIAH**
Wednesday, June 29 at 7 PM, Duke Gardens

**SIERRA HULL**
Wednesday, July 6 at 7 PM, Duke Gardens

**WILLIAM TYLER & JAKE XERXES FUSSELL**
Wednesday, July 13 at 7 PM, Duke Gardens

**JONATHAN BYRD & THE PICKUP COWBOYS**
Wednesday, July 20 at 7 PM, Duke Gardens

**BLACK TWIG PICKERS**
Wednesday, July 27 at 7 PM, Duke Gardens

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**DUKE PERFORMANCES MEDIA CONTACT:** For images, interviews, and more information, please contact Ariel Fielding, Marketing Director at Duke Performances. [ariel.fielding@duke.edu]
919-660-3348