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MAUREEN CHOI BRINGS HER WORLD TRAVELED SPANISH QUARTET TO AVALON THEATRE IN EASTON

"Truly Original! No Violinist is doing what she's doing"

- Pat Metheny

"Maureen Choi is one of those rare talents that can navigate in a number of musical styles from classical to jazz and everything in between"

- All About Jazz

On Thursday, March 19, music lovers will have a chance to hear a phenomenal international band at Mr. Henry's on Capitol Hill when the Maureen Choi Quartet performs world music and jazz rooted in classical and Spanish folk traditions.

Based in Spain, the group is led by award-winning American violinist Maureen Choi. Choi is a graduate of Michigan State University and Berklee College of Music. She is a former faculty member at Berklee College of Music and currently teaches at Centro Superior Música Creativa in Madrid.

Maureen Choi has crossed many continents in her musical career, performing as a soloist and quartet leader. She has worked with such names as Kanye West, Josh Groban, Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Rodney Whitacre and Javier Colina. She appears on numerous recording and movie soundtracks and is a Jazz Beyond Borders touring artist.

In her first album as a leader, Maureen Choi featured jazz greats from the Detroit scene. After moving to Spain, she recorded *Ida y Vuelta*, featuring her original compositions and arrangements and a newly formed quartet. In 2013 they won first prize in the International Jazz Competition in Talavera. They have since played more than 300 concerts in clubs and festivals in many countries. They recently composed and performed music for a unique show, premiered in Gran Vía (Madrid's Broadway), blending Spanish classical dance, theater, fashion, and music in collaboration with soloists from the Spanish National Ballet.

The Maureen Choi Quartet has sold out concerts in major cities in Spain (such as Madrid and Barcelona) as well as in the USA (New York, Boston, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C.). They have played the Madrid Jazz Festival, Jazz Festival in Guggenheim, Jazz Festival Yecla, Jazz Festival Teruel, Atlantic Sons Festival, South by Southwest, Festival de Jazz San Javier, CLAZZ, Summer Solstice Jazz Festival in Michigan, and the Shanghai Jazz Festival and Taichung Jazz Festival in Asia. Annual U.S. tours have supported their highly praised albums *Ida y Vuelta* (2016) and *Theia* (2019).

The Band

Double bassist Mario Carrillo Double is highly versatile. He has collaborated with artists like Pepe Rivero, Cyrille Aimée, Juan Parrilla, Suhail Yusuf Khan, Julio Awad, and the Brookline Symphony Orchestra. He earned two undergraduate degrees from Berklee College of Music in Boston, and a master's degree in flamenco from The School of Music of Catalonia (ESMUC), He is currently the director of the college-level modern music institution Centro Superior Música Creativa.

Drummer Andrés Litwin was born in Argentina and graduated from Conservatorium van Amsterdam. With an extensive career as a sideman, he recorded on more than 50 albums, numerous soundtracks and has produced some of the most prominent pop singers in Spain. He has performed with artists and producers like Quincy Jones, Alfredo Rodríguez, Javier Colina, Antonio Serrano, Ara Malikian, Andrés Suárez, Erwin Schrott, Claudio Constantini, Deborah Carter and Román Filiú.

Pianist Alex Conde is originally from Valencia, Spain but now resides in New York. Conde has emerged as one of the most versatile contemporary performers of jazz-flamenco fusion, dazzling audiences and earning rave reviews across the world.

Mr. Henry's is an historic jazz spot on Capitol Hill. The location is 601 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20003. Admission is \$15. Purchase from: https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4523706. On their March East Coast tour, the Maureen Choi Quartet will also appear at Montpelier Arts Center on March 20, Avalon Theatre March 21 and The Carlyle Club on Sunday, March 22.

VIDEOS

- 1. Maureen Choi Quartet in concert https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LNufNR3ctO8
- 2. An intro video of the Maureen Choir Quartet: https://youtu.be/Zbw3alalLiQ
- 3. Their video with the Spanish National Ballet: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBp9qcbpvCg