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**THE MICHAEL CAIN TRIO BRINGS JAZZ HEAT TO  
MACPHAIL'S AUSTIN PIANO FESTIVAL**

**MINNEAPOLIS, MN – March 28, 2023** –Known for his captivating and versatile musical palate, Grammy nominated pianist [Michael Cain](#) teams up with Pete James Johnson on drums, and Ted Olsen on bass to bring eclectic, soulful sounds to the Austin community. The trio will kick off the two-day, second iteration of musical activities for the inaugural 2023 [Austin Piano Festival](#) with a performance on Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup> in Austin High School's Knowlton Auditorium and two masterclasses on April 17.

The performance will feature the sounds of Herbie Hancock, Kenny Kirkland, Maurizio Rodriguez, and Michael Cain's own compositions. Tickets can be purchased at [macphail.org](http://macphail.org).

The festivities continue as the trio lend their expertise in a duo of masterclasses, "The Improvisors Tool Kit", and "Improvisation for the Solo Pianist", on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at MacPhail Austin's [state of the art music education center](#). Both masterclasses are free and open to the public.

Director of MacPhail's Electronic Music and Recording Arts (EMRA) program, world renowned pianist Michael Cain had this to say about the excitement of connecting with the Austin community - "We are extremely happy to be playing this festival! Aside from the privilege of performing on a Fazioli piano, this trio has really found a unique and compelling "voice," and are very excited to bring our music to the Austin community. And it's especially nice to know we are coupling the performance with the masterclasses, which increases the opportunity to connect and engage with the community."

**About the Musicians**

[Michael Cain](#), pianist and Director of MacPhail's EMRA (Electronic Music Recording Arts) program, is an internationally renowned performer, Grammy nominated recording artist, musical director, composer,

and music educator. Michaels' latest release is entitled *Hoo Doo* and is available on iTunes and other platforms.

[Ted Olsen](#) is a Twin Cities based guitarist, bassist, and composer who has led and performed locally at Twin Cities Jazz Festival, The Artists' Quarter, Icehouse and around the globe. An American Composer's Award Forum winner, Ted's debut album *Joyfire* can be purchased [here](#).

Regularly performing with jazz groups throughout the Twin Cities, drummer **Pete James Johnson** has toured and performed with the likes of Grammy-winning Bob Mintzer Big Band, Ambrose Akinmusire, Alan Pasqua, and more. Having worked as a session drummer for Capitol Records and other various studios, he appears on over 50 jazz and pop artist's albums.

### **About MacPhail Center for Music**

MacPhail Center for Music is the nation's largest center for music learning and performance and one of Minnesota's top ten arts organizations. Since 1907, MacPhail Center for Music has been providing meaningful opportunities for people and is committed to transforming lives and strengthening communities through music learning experiences that inspire. Each year, MacPhail offers programming to 15,000 students of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, at locations in Minneapolis, White Bear Lake, Chanhassen, Apple Valley, Austin, and Madeline Island, WI., as well as 103 community partnerships across the Twin Cities. An industry leader in online music education, MacPhail's Live Online and Online School Partnerships programs have reached students for the past ten years. MacPhail has a 115-year history of excellence, promoting life-long learning and building long-term relationships between students and teachers. For more information, visit [macphail.org](http://macphail.org).

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