

NOEL & MARIA

CATCHING SOME RAYS!

A JAZZ CELEBRATION OF RAY CHARLES



ABOUT THE SHOW

Through hip music and clever narrative, Noel & Maria and their all-star band celebrate the father of soul music, Ray Charles. Like Charles himself, *CATCHING SOME RAYS!* appeals to audiences of every age, race, ideology and musical genre preference. *CATCHING SOME RAYS!* features many of Charles' biggest hits including "Unchain My Heart," "Hit the Road Jack" and "Georgia On My Mind" as well as overlooked gems.

ABOUT NOEL & MARIA

Noel Freidline and Maria Howell define chemistry. Musically, these North Carolina-based artists breathe as one, communicating almost telepathically as they explore and re-interpret some of the best music of the last 80 years. Always approaching the music from "the left," Noel and Maria have made a name for themselves as they offer listeners something they have heard, but in a way that they have never heard before. Combine this fresh musical approach with a rapport and witty banter that harkens back to the days of the Rat Pack, and you have Noel and Maria in their element: on stage, thrilling an audience at every turn.

ABOUT THE BAND

Noel Freidline - piano & vocals
Maria Howell - vocals
Juan Carlos Rollan - saxophone
Zack Page - electric & acoustic bass
Justin Varnes - drums

PRAISE FOR NOEL & MARIA

"Noel and Maria are exceptional artists and human beings. We love partnering with them. Audiences can't get enough of their artistry and special chemistry, returning any time we are lucky enough to have them on one of our stages."

-Tom Gabbard, President and CEO
Blumenthal Arts, Charlotte, NC



Signed, Sealed, Delivered:
A Jazz Celebration of Stevie Wonder



HOME HOLIDAYS
A Jazz Celebration of the Holidays



Chicago
Saturday in the Park
A Jazz Celebration of Chicago



Motown
Re-Imagined
A Jazz Celebration of Motown

MORE FROM NOEL & MARIA

- Jazz programming for a non-jazz audience
- Peace-of-mind booking!
- More themed "Jazz Celebration" shows!



www.noelandmarialive.com

For additional information, please contact
Noel Freidline (704) 737-8828

CATCHING SOME RAYS!

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Show Description

The audience at a Ray Charles concert was an almost perfect cross-section of American culture, his fans representing every age, race, ideology, and preference in music genre. The unifying factor was Charles himself, and his timeless, universal appeal.

CATCHING SOME RAYS! A Jazz Celebration of Ray Charles explore that diversity, through song and narrative anecdotes. The program weaves its way through Charles' life, music, and how he became the father of soul music when he combined gospel music with secular lyrics.

Catching Some Rays features many of Charles' original compositions ("Unchain My Heart," "Hit the Road Jack"), blues standards ("I Don't Need No Doctor"), Charles' masterful interpretation of the Great American Songbook ("Come Rain or Come Shine" "Hard Hearted Hannah" "Georgia On My Mind"), his take on pop tunes ("A Song for You"), Charles' affinity for Country & Western ("I Can't Stop Loving You") and even his 1972 arrangement of "America the Beautiful", at the time a daring foray for an African-American artist on the heels of the turbulent 60's and the struggling civil rights movement.



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Promotional Video

CLICK THE IMAGE BELOW TO VIEW
CATCHING SOME RAYS!
ON YOUTUBE



CATCHING SOME RAYS

A JAZZ CELEBRATION OF RAY CHARLES



BIOGRAPHIES

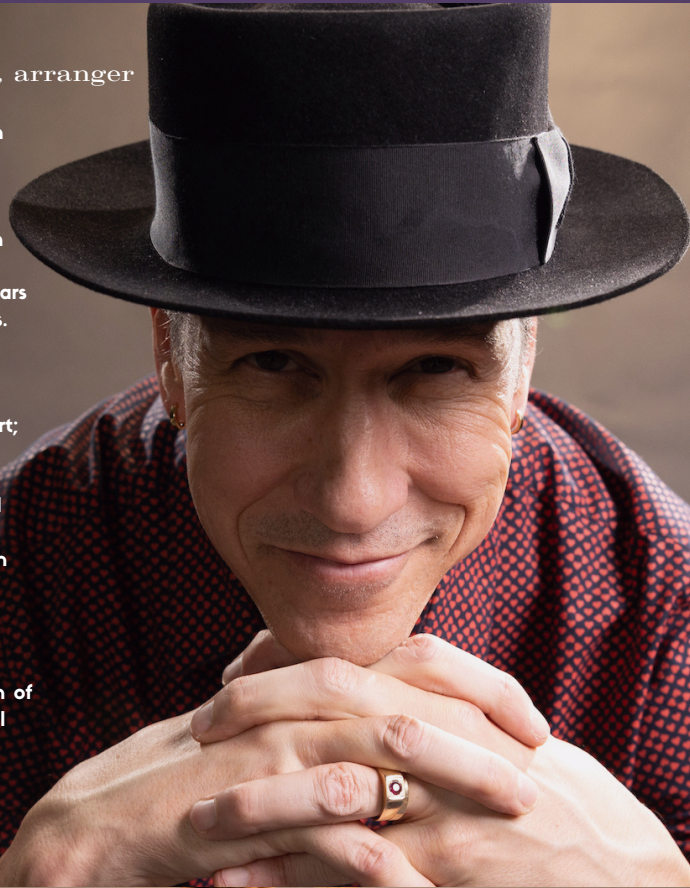
NOEL FREIDLINE

- pianist, vocalist, composer, arranger

Noel Freidline has been the leader of his own group since 1991, recording 9 albums, and performing at numerous jazz festivals, including the Jacksonville Jazz Festival, the Bethlehem Musikfest, and the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland. He and his band spent three years as a house band at the Bellagio in Las Vegas.

Noel is also the Artistic Director of several concert series, including Baker and Baker Presents at the Columbia (SC) Museum of Art; Noel Freidline and Friends Jazz Series in Jacksonville, FL; and the NorthStone Music Series, Cornelius, NC. Freidline and his band are considered the signature band at the internationally recognized Jazz Corner, Hilton Head, SC.

Noel was named Best Jazz Musician by Charlotte Magazine, named Best Musical Director by the Metrolina Theatre Association of the Carolinas, and chosen for the Blumenthal Performing Arts Association Center Stage Award. In May, 2015 Freidline was inducted into the Jacksonville Jazz Hall of Fame.



Noel has performed with Nnenna Freelon, Frederic Yonnet (Stevie Wonder, Dave Chappelle), Dee Daniels, Terry Thornton and lyricist Tim Rice ("Evita" "The Lion King"). Freidline has opened for such diverse artists as Tony Bennett, saxophonist David Sanborn, Kenny G, Rosemary Clooney, pianist Dave Brubeck, vocalist Layla Hathaway, jazz legend Roy Ayers, and vocalist Jennifer Holliday. Noel has played keys for a diverse number of touring Broadway shows, including "Jersey Boys," "The Band's Visit," "Bring It On," "Dream Girls," "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," "White Christmas," "Les Miserable," "Wicked," and "Beautiful".

As a composer and arranger, Noel has written and recorded music for ESPN, ABC and the Walt Disney Company, with his most recent work being featured on Monday Night Football, the NBA All-Star Game, and SportCenter.

Noel's teaching experience includes 15 years at UNC Charlotte as well as 12 years at Davidson Day School.

MARIA HOWELL

- vocalist, actor, educator

AS AN ACTOR, Maria Howell began her career as the choir soloist in the Oscar Nominated "The Color Purple", and has since appeared in hit TV shows such as Lifetime's, "Army Wives", Marc Cherry's, "Devious Maids", Eric Kripke and J.J. Abrams' apocalyptic, "Revolution", and "Aquarius", starring X-Files' David Duchovny, both on NBC. She also guest starred on CBS's "Criminal Minds" and "The Resident". She recurred in Bounce TV's, "Saints & Sinners" for 3 seasons as Lt. Hawkins. Some theatrical credits include, "The Blind Side", "Hunger Games: Catching Fire" (Seeder), "Christmas Wedding Baby", (Miranda) by Award-Winning Writer/Director Kiara C. Jones, Ms. Sumner in the Oscar nominated, "Hidden Figures", Hallmark's Hall of Fame "A Christmas Love Story", starring Kristin Chenoweth, Hallmark's Mahogany Movie "To Her, With Love", and "Summer Camp", starring Alfre Woodard, Kathy Bates, and Diane Keaton.



A SONG STYLIST in her own right, Maria has shared the musical stage with such legendary artists as Nancy Wilson, George Benson, Ray Charles and Earl Klugh. After a very successful 6 year stint in Asia, Maria relocated back to the U.S. and performed at Sambuca Jazz Café for 9 consecutive years—2002 to its closing in December 2010. She and pianist Bill Wilson (son of legendary jazz pianist Teddy Wilson), held the distinction of being the longest running act at the Atlanta location. Since then, she resides bi-coastal, performing at well known jazz/supper clubs and festivals across the U.S.

AS A VOICEOVER ARTIST, Maria lends her voice to numerous TV and radio commercials, animation, video games, and audiobook narrations.

Maria is not only an actor and singer, but a very devoted supporter and Advisory Board Member of several charities, (Students Without Mothers, The James M. Dixon Foundation, Tosco Music, and Ava's Heart)



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Words of Acclaim



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Tom Gabbard
President and CEO, Blumenthal Performing Arts

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to David Sanborn.

"I am a big fan of the Noel Freidline Quintet. There is something indescribably special about them."

David Sanborn
International Recording Artist

JACKSONVILLE
JAZZ FESTIVAL

"You won't find another band that swings as hard as the Noel Freidline Quintet. Their exuberant set flows through fresh interpretations of mainstream jazz standards, blues and pop tunes so effortlessly that audiences not only are left tapping their toes, but standing and cheering for more. That's one reason why this immensely talented ensemble has built up a following that returns night after night."

Vic DiGenti
Executive Producer, Jacksonville Jazz Festival



"Noel & Maria and their band have become a huge draw with Lancaster audiences. They masterfully combine art and entertainment, giving the audience a show that is musically thrilling and entertaining at the same time. Add in that they are consummate professionals and just plain good people. Booking them is a no-brainer!"

John Craig
Founder & Executive Director, Lancaster Cultural Arts Center



"They grab the audience with a style unlike anybody else. One of the tightest, most professional groups we've had the opportunity to work with."

Bud Beauchamp
Former Executive Director of Entertainment, Bellagio Hotel and Mirage Resorts



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Promotional Images

CLICK ON ANY IMAGE BELOW
TO DOWNLOAD FROM
NOEL & MARIA'S WEBSITE



PEARL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP
1793 LAKEFIELD DRIVE
CLEMMONS, NC 27012
WWW.PEARLENTERTAINMENTGROUP.COM

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CATCHING SOME RAYS

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STAGE PLOT & INPUT LIST

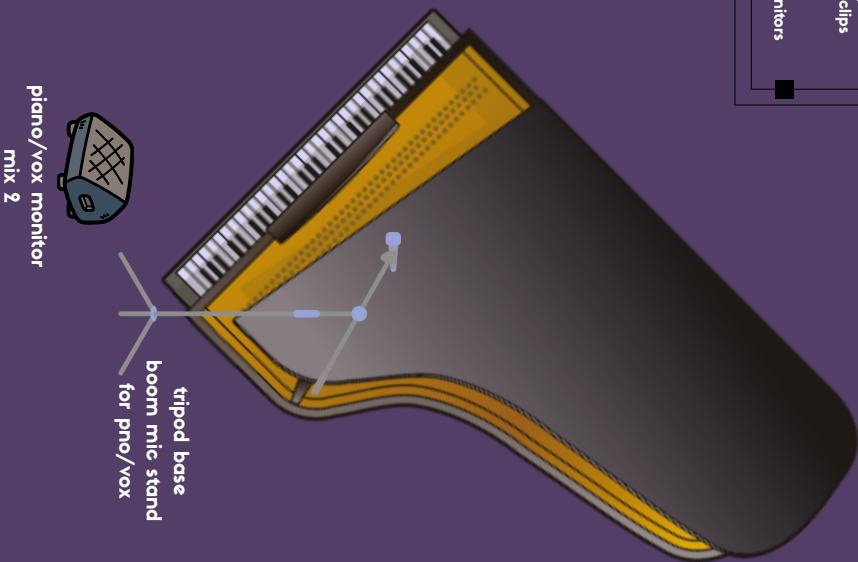
INPUT LIST

- 3 vocal mics
- 2 piano mics
- 1 tenor sax mic
- 7 drum mics
- 1 straight mic stand
- 1 short boom stand
- 6 medium boom stands
- 2 tall boom stands
- 1 sax mic clip
- 2 drum mic clips
- 1 bass amp
- 1 bass DI
- 5 wedge monitors

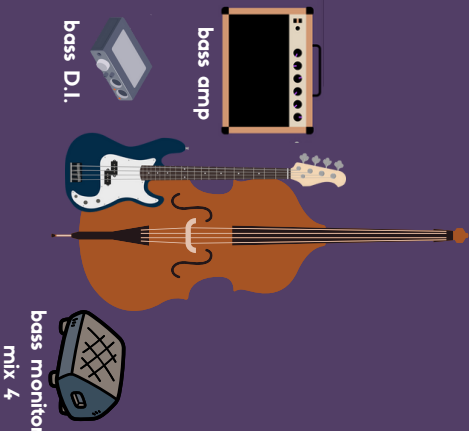
INSTRUMENTATION

- piano/vocals
- lead vocals
- saxophone/vocals
- bass (electric & upright)
- drum set

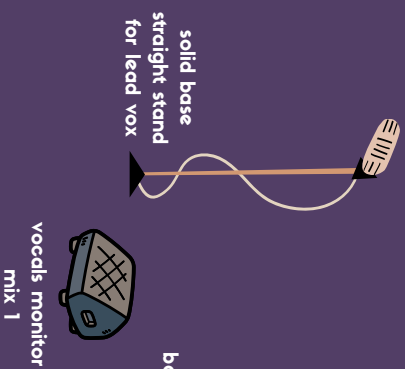
PIANO



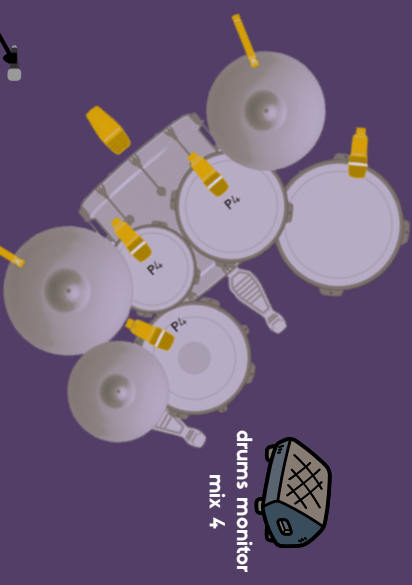
UPRIGHT & ELECTRIC BASS



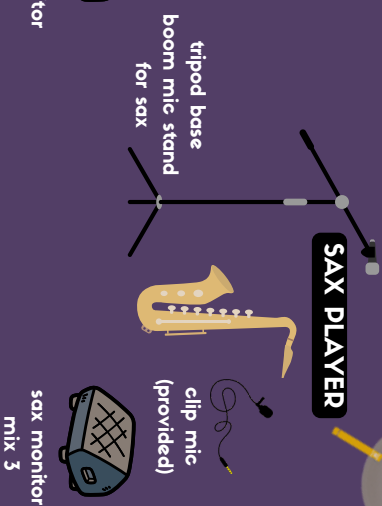
VOCALS



DRUM SET



SAX PLAYER



PLEASE NOTE:

Musicians to be say at a very close distance to each other

Please set musicians as far downstage as possible

STAGE FRONT

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STAGE PLOT & INPUT LIST

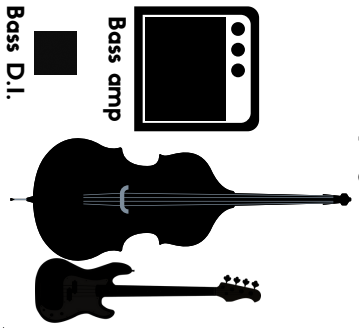
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INSTRUMENTATION

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- lead vocals
- saxophone/vocals
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- drum set

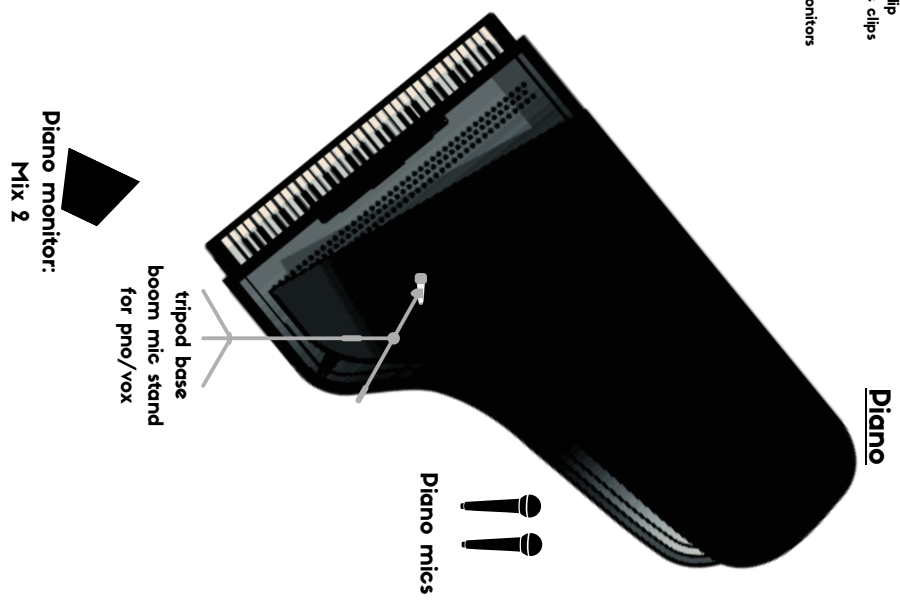
Bass (Upright & Electric)



Bass monitor:
Mix 4

PLEASE NOTE:

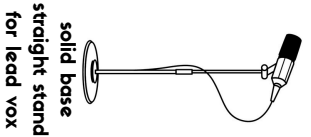
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Piano monitor:
Mix 2

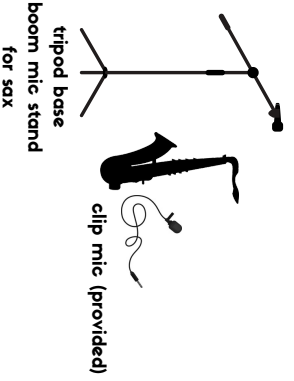
Piano mics

Vocals

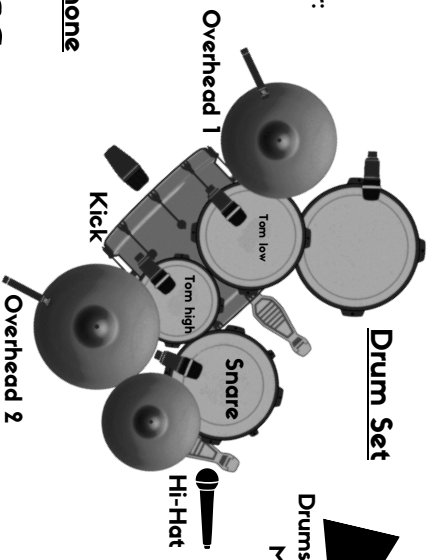


Vocals monitor:
Mix 1

Saxophone



Sax monitor:
Mix 3



Drums monitor:
Mix 4

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STAGE FRONT

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AUDIO REQUIREMENTS

Sound Reinforcement

PLEASE NOTE: This list is a "perfect world" list. We are very happy to work with whatever the venue may have available. We also have access to most of this equipment and may be able to bring whatever may be necessary to supplement what may be unavailable.

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Input List

NUMBER	SOURCE	MICROPHONE	STAND
1	female lead vocals	Shure Beta 58	straight, solid base
2	male lead vocals	Shure Beta 58	boom, tripod base
3	saxophone vocals	Shure Beta 58	boom, tripod base
4	piano low	AKG 414 or sim.	boom in piano
5	piano high	AKG 414 or sim.	boom in piano
6	upright & electric bass	[amp / D.I.]	n/a
7	tenor sax	RF / DPA 4099	clip
8	kick drum	B52 or sim	short boom
9	snare	SM57 or sim	medium boom
10	hi-hat	SM81 or sim	medium boom
11	tom (high)	Beta 98 or sim	clip
12	tom (low)	Beta 98 or sim	clip
13	overhead left	AKG 414 or SM81	tall boom
14	overhead right	AKG 414 or SM81	tall boom





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