

**blackbox: Mando Dorame
with Carl Sonny Leyland
and the Boogie Woogie
Boys**

**Saturday
Sep 30
8:00 p.m.
The Plaza**

Curated by
The Reverend Shawn Amos

This program will be 75 minutes
with no intermission

Program announced from the stage

Jazz & Blues Sponsor:
Richard and Lisa Kendall

blackbox Sponsor:
Ann Petersen and Leslie Pam



**blackbox:
Mando Dorame with
Carl Sonny Leyland and
the Boogie Woogie Boys**

About the Artists

Mando Dorame

Los Angeles born tenor saxophonist, **Mando Dorame** is best known as the co-founder of Royal Crown Revue. His big tenor sound evokes early Americana, with his roots in Rhythm & Blues and Jazz. Some of Mando's biggest influences are from the tenor titans of the 20th century including Sam Butera, Illinois Jacquet, Big Jay McNeely, Sonny Rollins and Dexter Gordon. Mando has also studied with Capitol recording legend Plas Johnson of "Pink Panther" fame.

Mando Dorame has had an illustrious career in the past 20 years as the premiere roots tenor saxophonist and co-founder of the famed Royal Crown Revue and creator of the Vegas headlining band, The Jennifer Keith Quintet. He has also collaborated and toured with the great Bette Midler, Jon Batiste, recorded with Mike Ness and was featured on Gene Simmons TV show! His music has been featured in many films and TV shows including:

- The Mask (with Jim Carrey)
- Dancing with the Stars
- Gene Simmons Family Jewels
- Swingers
- Something's Gotta Give (with Jack Nicholson)
- Charmed
- PLUS MANY MORE!

To learn more about Royal Crown Revue, visit www.royalcrownrevue.net

Aside from his own writing and arranging, Mando plays regularly with The Jennifer Keith Quintet and Royal Crown Revue. Always in high demand, he has lately been featured in many great roots bands such as JD McPherson, Robert Gordon, Nick Waterhouse, Reverend Horton Heat, Si Cranstoun, and Grammy nominated The Blasters!

Mando is currently in the process of putting together his first studio album as a solo artist! Don't miss a beat- sign up for his mailing list to stay up to date on what's coming next!

Carl Sonny Leyland

Carl Sonny Leyland was born & raised on the South Coast of England, growing up close to the city of Southampton.

As a child he was drawn to the American music which he heard on LP records his father would play. It was here that he developed an appreciation for Dixieland jazz, the rock & roll of the 1950s & the country music of Jimmie Rodgers & Hank Williams.

At age 15 Leyland discovered boogie woogie when he heard a school friend working through a written arrangement of a tune called JD's Boogie Woogie (Marvin Wright). Captivated by the sound of the repeating 8 to the bar left hand pattern, Leyland was inspired to go to the piano & begin on a path that would become his life's purpose. Within 3 months he would be performing in public & shortly after would become a member of a respected local group "The Bob Pearce Blues Band."

Initially influenced by boogie woogie greats Albert Ammons, Pete Johnson & Meade 'Lux' Lewis, Leyland went on to fully explore the piano blues genre, becoming an authority on early & obscure styles such as those played by Cow Cow Davenport, Little Brother Montgomery, Montana Taylor & Speckled Red to name a few.

In 1988 Leyland had the opportunity to come to the USA. This initial visit to New Orleans inspired him to relocate to that city where he would spend the next nine years. During that time he was active on the club scene, quickly gaining a reputation for his authentic blues & early rock & roll stylings. Also, he toured with the Dallas based band Anson Funderburgh & the Rockets whose line up included blues great Sam Myers.

In 1997, feeling the need for a change, Leyland relocated to Southern California. He joined Big Sandy & His Flyrite Boys, the well known rockabilly & western swing group & toured with them for over three years.

By this time his repertoire had expanded to include ragtime & early jazz styles which enabled him to become part of the traditional jazz scene around Los Angeles & San Diego. In June of 2003 the Carl Sonny Leyland Trio was formed with drummer Hal Smith & bassist Marty Eggers. There was such a natural synergy between the three musicians that a recording of their first performance was good enough to issue on a cd (Broadway Boogie - now out of print) Their versatile combination has proven successful over the years. They

About the Artists

have recorded seven cds to date (including a collaboration with Nathan James & Ben Hernandez) & continue to work steadily on the festival scene. (The current lineup includes Jeff Hamilton on drums).

Still active in the blues world, Carl Sonny Leyland appears on occasion with such notables as Jontavious Willis, Kim Wilson & Rod Piazza. This year he is a featured artist on the Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise.

Leyland has also continued his involvement with the rockabilly scene & plays each year in the backing band at Viva Las Vegas & more recently at the Summer Jamboree in Senegalia, Italy. In this capacity he has worked with such notables as Janis Martin, Ruth Brown, Billy Lee Riley & Carl Mann.

Whether playing solo or with his trio, or with his quintet The Boogie Woogie Boys, Leyland's playing displays an infectious spontaneity, providing plenty of surprises for the listener. While he possesses the necessary vocabulary to pay tribute to the greats of old, he refuses to be limit himself to this & prefers to let each performance be an opportunity to say something new. His repertoire spans the Ragtime era to the 1950s & includes a number of self written material.

Up Next: blackbox

Queen Esther

DATE:

Saturday, May 11, 2024 | 8:00 pm

LOCATION:

The Plaza

Making her BroadStage debut, the “brutal, original, explosive singer” (*Vanity Fair*) Queen Esther performs selections from her substantial body of alt-country, jazz, and Black Americana to fearlessly subvert all-too-common historical narratives, revealing the powerfully triumphant resolve of Black folk in the 19th century and now.

The Reverend Shawn Amos

DATE:

Saturday, June 8, 2024 | 8:00 pm

LOCATION:

The Plaza

American songwriter, blues singer, author, and record producer The Reverend Shawn Amos returns to perform this season with his one-of-a-kind harmonica driven, blues roots revival. The Rev's performances are always energetic, and no two shows are the same. Experience exactly why *Glide Magazine* refers to him as “...by turns furious, vulnerable, crazy, forlorn and tender; all buoyed by a family approach...infectious in a good way.”