



**Don't Miss! 2011 *Rhythm at the Mill* Final Concert
Rockin' Blues, R&B, Funk and Boogie Woogie
Sunday, September 11**

For Immediate Release

WHAT: The 2011 *Rhythm at the Mill* Concert Series

WHEN: Sunday, September 11 - also a Marion Polk Food Share Day. Bring non-perishable food items to show your support.

TIMES: 2:00 pm: Sonny "Smokin" Hess - R&B/Funk
4:30 pm: The DK Stewart Band - Blues

WHERE: The Willamette Heritage Center *at the Mill*, 1313 Mill Street SE, Salem, OR, 503-585-7012, www.missionmill.org

COST: \$5 members, \$10 non- members. Children 12 years and younger free with paying adult. Advance tickets on sale at Willamette Heritage Center store or at gate day of.

GENERAL INFO: Gates open at 1:00 pm. Advance tickets available at WHC store or at the gate day of. No food, beverages or coolers allowed. Food and beverage will be available for purchase. Bring your chairs and blankets. Low "sand" or "beach" style chairs allowed.

ENTERTAINERS INFO:

2:00 pm: Sonny Smokin' Hess - R&B/Funk.

Veteran guitarist and vocalist, Sonny Hess first picked up a guitar as a kid at age 8; and by the time she was a teenager she was picking up gigs playing in Portland's top bands, The Koffee Band and Margo Tufo's Blues Sisters. From there she met the show-stopping, late great Paulette Davis. This band won Portland's Music Association Crystal Award for outstanding R&B act of the year. Davis gave Sonny the nickname Sonny "Smokin" Hess. After Paulette passed, Sonny continued their legacy as the Power Band always known for upbeat danceable R&B, a very energetic show. Sonny went on to be the first woman nominated in a male-dominated field for Best Lead Guitar by the Cascade Blues Association and the Muddy Award nomination for Lifetime Achievement Award. Sonny can be compared to Eric Clapton, Carlos Santana, and Melissa Etheridge. She has played with, sung with and composed with many of the region's top artists, as well as opening for Etta James, Jr. Walker and the Allstars, Average White Band and Bobby Womack. For more info, visit <http://www.sonyhess.com>.

4:30 pm: The DK Stewart Band - Blues.

DK Stewart performs tributes to his favorite style of music: New Orleans, Chicago blues, East coast swing and rockin' boogie woogie. Starting out in the 70's as a sideman and music director for The Nighthawk Band (out of Eugene, OR), Stewart was instrumental in forming and producing the very first national touring show of the Robert Cray Band. In the early 80's he went on to help produce and manage the Paul deLay Band while continuing to write and direct the music. This included road trips with national acts such as BB King and Albert Collins. Stewart returned to school (Gonzaga U, Spokane, WA) in 1988 from which he graduated with degrees in business computing and performing voice (opera/classical) in 1992 (cum laude). Returning to Portland in 1993 he began the arduous task of starting from scratch with his band MFB, a four-piece hard-core blues band. After several years of hard work, his task of hosting the Monday Night Jam at Portland's premier Blues club "The Candlelight" rewarded him with an extra tight band with a

horn section. This larger band "Zydeblazz" toured the region for four years until Stewart was asked to join up with Curtis Salgado for three years of national roadwork and original composition. This all culminated in a return to his own four-piece band in 2003. Visit <http://www.cdbaby.com/Artist/DKStewart> for more info.

This event is generously sponsored by Salem Electric, Salem Health, Comcast, Mission Mill Cafe, ABC Printers, Kettle Brand, Crowell-Ing, The Grand Hotel, Pale Horse Brewery, KDH Productions, Devitto P., Danner & Soli, Roth's Fresh Markets, Salem Weekly, All-Star Party Rental and KBZY.

Call 503-585-7012 for more information or high resolution photos, or visit www.missionmill.org.

The Willamette Heritage Center at The Mill, a unification between Mission Mill Museum and Marion County Historical Society, is a stroll through the history of the Willamette Valley. Its 5-acre campus is home to the 1841 Jason Lee house (arguably the oldest wooden framed house in Oregon), 1841 Willamette Mission Parsonage, 1847 John Boon home, 1858 Pleasant Grove Church and the 1896 Thomas Kay Woolen Mill, named an *American Treasure* by the National Park Service. Since its founding in 1964 as a private non-profit association, Mission Mill Museum has established a reputation as a leader in the preservation and interpretation of Oregon's history. The museum's histories are shared with visitors through daily and group tours, speakers, living history, children's programs, hands-on activities, special events, the museum store and rental facilities. For more information call 503-585-7012 or visit <http://www.missionmill.org>.

The Willamette Heritage Center is a private not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. It is not managed by city, county, state or federal agencies.

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