

Blue Bear School of Music presents
9th Annual
Blue Bear Benefit
Featuring
Jackie Greene
Blue Bear Youth Bands
Wednesday, May 14, 2014
The Chapel

777 Valencia Street
San Francisco, CA 94110
415-551-5157
thechapelsf.com

Doors: 7pm / Show: 7:30pm

Tickets: \$60 GA / \$150 VIP / \$50 GA for Blue Bear Members

Buy Tickets & More Info: 415-673-3600, bluebearmusic.org/benefit

Proceeds support Blue Bear's nonprofit mission and youth outreach programs

San Francisco, CA — Blue Bear School of Music is pleased to present the 9th annual **Blue Bear Benefit** featuring **Jackie Greene** on **Wednesday, May 14, 2014** at **The Chapel** in San Francisco. Talented **Blue Bear Youth Bands** will jump start this special evening with rocking performances. Tickets are \$60 general admission, \$150 VIP (includes pre-show meet & greet with Jackie Greene, complimentary catered cuisine from The Chapel's restaurant The Vestry, and more) and \$50 general admission for Blue Bear Members. Tickets can be purchased at the front desk or via phone at Blue Bear School of Music (Fort Mason Center, 2 Marina Blvd. Bldg. D in San Francisco, 415-673-3600, bluebearmusic.org/benefit), online at thechapelsf.com and at The Chapel Box Office (Saturday & Sunday 12-4pm; 777 Valencia at 19th St. in San Francisco).

The annual Blue Bear Benefit provides crucial funding for the school's nonprofit mission and music education programs that enrich the lives of more than 800 Bay Area youth, including hundreds of kids from low-income families and at-risk communities in the Tenderloin and Bayview Hunters Point. Proceeds support all of Blue Bear's music programs including Rock Band Ensemble, Group Guitar and Vocal Performance Ensemble programs at seven public school partner sites, their Digital Studio Program at Bayview Hunters Point YMCA, and youth scholarships and sliding scale tuition support for low-income students of all ages receiving high-quality music instruction at Blue Bear's Fort Mason Center campus.

Headlining this year's Blue Bear Benefit is prolific singer/songwriter and guitarist/multi-instrumentalist **Jackie Greene** and his band. Greene has been involved in many high-profile projects including his endeavors with Phil Lesh, Bob Weir, The Black Crowes, Levon Helm, Gov't Mule, Los Lobos, Mark Knopfler, B.B. King and more. Constantly touring, Jackie has a reputation for putting on an energetic live show and has earned the respect of critics, musicians and fans across the country. While his music is difficult to pigeonhole, there is a consistent influence of Americana Roots that runs through his large musical catalog. At times, his songs are playful, other times they are sorrowful. But always, they are soulful.

A nonprofit organization founded in San Francisco in 1971, **Blue Bear School of Music** is the original "school of rock and roll" and one of California's largest community music schools. Blue Bear is the Bay Area's leading destination for aspiring musicians of all ages and skill levels who want to learn and play rock, pop, blues, jazz and folk music. The school's commitment to providing superior quality and affordable popular music education has helped more than 30,000 students achieve their musical goals, regardless of their financial means.

Located in the heart of San Francisco's Mission District, **The Chapel** occupies a historic 1914 building stunningly renovated by veteran Bay Area restaurateur Jack Knowles. The beautiful chapel with its 40-foot high arched ceiling serves as the live music room, while the rest of the building houses a neighborhood bar, an outdoor dining patio and The Vestry restaurant. Featuring a menu developed by Executive Chef Matt Colgan, The Vestry offers cuisine with a French/Mediterranean fare and a focus on local and seasonal ingredients.

For more information on the Blue Bear benefit, please visit bluebearmusic.org/benefit.

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Artist Bio:

Jackie Greene began his career in his mid-teens working the bar and open mic circuit in and around Sacramento. Since then, he has recorded seven albums and two EPs, released a DVD, and published a book of lyrics. Upon witnessing Jackie's performance at Bonnaroo, Jon Pareles of the *New York Times* had this to say about the singer, songwriter, bandleader and multi-instrumentalist: "Jackie Greene could be the Prince of Americana. That's capital P, and not because Mr. Greene favors the color purple but for some musical parallels."

Jackie released his acoustic-laced breakthrough, *Gone Wonderin'*, in 2002, and followed it with two more albums, *Rusty Nails* and *Sweet Somewhere Bound*, on indie label Dig Records. In 2005, he contributed to the Oscar-winning *Brokeback Mountain* soundtrack, and a year later he issued his critically acclaimed Verve debut, *American Myth*, which he co-produced with Los Lobos' Steve Berlin. Greene's career took an unexpected turn that year when Phil Lesh name-dropped him in an interview tied to Bonnaroo. They started talking and, a year later, Greene joined Phil Lesh & Friends, thrusting him in front of a new audience of open-minded music listeners and fastidious Deadheads.

In 2008, Greene made the move from Verve to Savoy and released *Giving Up The Ghost*, of which *American Songwriter* wrote, "Greene adroitly maneuvers the crannies of blues, folk, rock and soul with an impressive songwriting toolbox that uses a wide palette to express his simple, but not simplistic, tales." *Small Tempest*, an EP of originals, quickly followed. In 2010, he dropped another EP of Grateful Dead covers, and in the same year his solo and Deadhead worlds converged on the epic *Till the Light Comes*. *Relix* Magazine said the album "finds the maturing singer/songwriter offering a sojourn into his own psyche where the waters of human suffering prove difficult to navigate... weighty insights are balanced alongside fist-pumping rock-revelries... so jubilant they create an album whose sum remains uplifting and accessible. Half pop, half poetic — and all good."

In 2013, Jackie was asked to join The Black Crowes for their epic worldwide tour. It was through his work with Lesh that Greene entered the Crowes' orbit, as the bassist regularly brought singer Chris Robinson and keyboardist Adam MacDougall into the PL&F fold. Greene drifted deeper into the Dead world when his friendship with Robinson and Bob Weir resulted in a new trio. And, by chance, he also joined Trigger Hippy, a supergroup that featured Joan Osborne and Crowes drummer Steve Gorman. When Luther Dickinson was unavailable to tour with the reformed Crowes, Greene was a natural choice.

In 2014, with the Crowes tour behind him, Greene has his eye set on a new solo album, his first in four years, and hitting the road again — as the Jackie Greene Band. For more information on Jackie Greene, please visit jackiegreene.com.

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