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Jewel Box Series: Feb. 21, 2014

Jewel Box Staff

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2013-2014

*jewel box
series*



**DELLA
MAE**

Northeastern

ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Office of Cultural Events

presents

The Jewel Box Series

Friday, February 21, 2014 • 7:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Della Mae

Celia Woodsmith – vocals, rhythm guitar

Kimber Ludiker – fiddle

Jenni Lyn Gardner—mandolin

Courtney Hartman—guitar

Shelby Means—bass

Program to be announced from the stage

Della Mae

In a relatively short period of time, Della Mae has become a sensation in the music world. Commanding a powerful collective chemistry with vocal, instrumental, and songwriting talent to spare, the Boston-based combo mines time-honored elements to create music that's unmistakably fresh and contemporary. The group quickly won an enthusiastic following through their high-energy live performances at festivals around the country.

This World Off Can Be, Della Mae's second album and Rounder debut, shows that like the Avett Brothers, Lumineers, and Punch Brothers, these five multitalented young women are respectful of American musical tradition, but not restricted by it, combining centuries' worth of musical influences with an emotionally tough, undeniably modern songwriting sensibility. *This World Off Can Be's* 12 songs—including such engaging originals as “Empire,” “Paper Prince,” “Maybeline” and the feisty title track—showcase the fivesome's world-class instrumental abilities, lilting harmonies and subtly commanding lead vocals.

“The identity that we've developed as a band is a melting pot of our different personalities and backgrounds,” asserts founder, Kimber Ludiker. After having the idea at a summer festival, Kimber hand picked musicians from all over the country: singer Celia Woodsmith comes from a blues/rock background, guitarist Courtney Hartman studied at Berklee College of Music, bassist Shelby Means played with various bands in Nashville, and mandolin player Jenni Lyn Gardner was schooled in traditional bluegrass. Della Mae's members hail from all over the United States, and the five women each bring impressive musical resumes amassed in their previous ventures.

In addition to playing festivals and clubs throughout the United States, Della Mae expanded the scale of its touring efforts after participating in the U.S. State Department's American Music Abroad program. Selected as cultural ambassadors, the band spent 43 days traveling in Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, where they collaborated with local musicians, taught educational programs for children, and played concerts for local audiences. “It's been a life-changing experience for us, individually and as a band,” Ludiker says of the tour. “A cool thing about playing music in Central Asian countries is in the lack of distinction their audience places between

musical genres. We found that if music is played with feeling, all people connected to it. They find themselves smiling and relating without even understanding the language.” Indeed, Della Mae demonstrates how effectively music builds bridges and transcends artificially constructed borders, whether they're national or genre-based. Ludiker concludes: “All five ladies are individually driven, and we are working towards the same goal. This band definitely feels like a calling, a labor of love.”

Next in the Jewel Box Series

Close. Casual. Cool.

Rebirth Brass Band

March 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Jeremy Kittel Band

April 18 at 7:30 p.m.

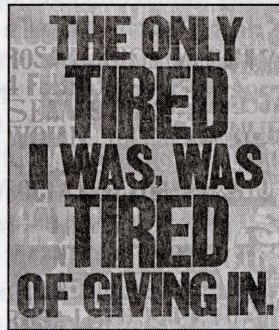
Felix Peikli - jazz clarinet

May 16 at 7:30 p.m.



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FINE ARTS GALLERY



Amos Paul Kennedy Jr. *Puttin' Ink On Paper*

February 10-March 14

Amos Kennedy is a letterpress printer whose witty text and bold graphics address issues of race, politics, and equality. Kennedy recently moved his printing shop to Detroit where a new generation of printers will learn to speak out through art.

Reception: Friday, February 21, 6-9 p.m.

Artist's Talk: Friday, February 21, 7:30 p.m.

Heather Weber • Coordinator
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