Preservation Hall Band to open Festival of Arts BOCA

Preservation Hall Band

The band generally plays to their environment. A good amount of the time, they create their set lists on the day of the show,” Rona wrote. “Sometimes they’ll make musical selections when we’re on stage. A lot of it has to do with what the audience brings to hand.”

“What I can tell is you the band will play some classics, along with some brand new material. But even the new stuff will sound classic,” he added.

The band wasn’t surprised to be asked to back the new kids on the block who won three Grammys. They’ve been playing with other performers for years. “We feel that the resurgence of interest in roots music has been running strong for a good few years now,” Rona wrote. “It brings the band great joy to see a younger generation out in the crowds dancing to our music. And at the end of the day, it all comes back full circle. People will always be drawn to good music. You just have to make sure there’s a place for them to hear it.”

In fact, The Preservation Hall Jazz Band has endured because their music creates a sense of place, said Michael Fagien, the area’s resident jazz expert and a festival sponsor. Fagien is planning a March 20 soft opening of Jazziz, the club, champagne and caviar bar and restaurant at the south end of Mizner Park and he plans to bring names as big as the band’s to Boca Raton.

Ben Jaffe, the owners’ son, is carrying on his parents’ “rich history and heritage,” Fagien said. “People are able to identify with a place, a region and a feeling and Jaffe is doing a great job keeping it relevant.”

If you ask the band how they came to The Black Keys, who won three Grammys, Rona will explain it wasn’t a new collaboration. “We’re both fans of each other’s work for quite some time and Preservation Hall’s relationship with them goes full circle from the 1960s, when Ben’s parents founded Preservation Hall,” Rona wrote. “It’s not only an achievement for the musicians playing now, it’s an achievement for all that played before them.”

TAKE 2

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