

Matt Wilson and Arts & Crafts to Headline SWOSU Jazz Festival

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Drummer Matt Wilson and his band Arts & Crafts will headline the 46th annual SWOSU Jazz Festival that is set for February 11-12 on the Weatherford campus.

As in the past, the festival consists of an evening concert on Thursday, an all-day jazz band competition and two concerts with SWOSU Jazz 'A' and the guest artists on Friday.

New York based drummer and Grammy nominee Wilson is one of today's most celebrated jazz artists. Dr. Richard Tirk, director of the SWOSU Jazz Festival, said Wilson is universally recognized for his musical and melodic drumming style as well as being a gifted composer, bandleader, producer, and teaching artist.

Wilson's band consists of trumpet phenom Terrell Stafford, the multifaceted keyboardist Gary Versace, and internationally acclaimed bassist Martin Wind.

Wilson and Arts & Crafts will kick off the festival with a free concert on Thursday evening at 7 p.m. in the Berrong Recital Hall. On Friday, the guest artists will collaborate with the SWOSU Jazz Ensemble 'A' for 1 and 8 p.m. concerts. Many of the tunes the band will play will be composed and arranged by Wilson with a few other special charts included.

The Friday concerts are ticketed events, and tickets may be purchased from the SWOSU Music Department office at (580) 774.3708. Student tickets are \$3, senior citizens \$5 and general admission \$10. More information about the concerts and the festival can be found at www.swosujazz.com or from Tirk at richard.tirk@swosu.edu or (580) 774.3772.