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Grammy Nominated Motéma Artists to Unveil New Music at Exit Zero Jazz Festival, Cape May on April 22 & 23rd

**Grammy nominated vocalists René Marie, Pedrito Martinez & Twice Grammy-nominated piano phenom Joey Alexander (seen on 60 Minutes & The Grammy's)
Will Share Music from Upcoming Releases**



**FESTIVAL SWINGS INTO THE SPRING SEASON IN THE NATIONAL HISTORIC
LANDMARK CITY OF CAPE MAY, NJ, APRIL 22 TO 24, 2016**

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**Great Talent throughout the Weekend –Headliners Pat Metheny, Ron Carter and Lisa Fischer Plus John Scofield with Joe Lovano Quartet and Legendary Soul Artist Lee Fields
& The Expressions Plus More than 30 Club Shows
Presented by Exit Zero Publishing and MotémaMusic and
Produced by Spy Boy Productions**

Cape May, NJ (April 8, 2016) – Michael Kline, producer of Exit Zero Jazz Festival, is pleased to include in his packed weekend of extraordinary talent coming to the charming seaside town of Cape May, NJ, three artists from the maverick, GRAMMY winning, Harlem based record label, Motéma Music. Each of these stellar artists have been much

in the news this year. Jazz Wunderkind, **Joey Alexander**, whose 2015 debut release, ***My Favorite Things***, shot to the top of the Billboard Jazz Charts and earned him GRAMMY nominations for Best Jazz Album and Best Improvised Jazz Solo, will perform at 7p.m. on Friday, April 22nd. Joey has advised he will play selections included on his *60 Minutes* feature, his unprecedented GRAMMY Awards broadcast appearance, and also offer some sneak previews from his upcoming September release.

Equally exciting will be the very first CD release events for two other GRAMMY nominated Motéma artists: **The Pedrito Martinez Group**, (*"Writing a new chapter in Cuban music history"* – NPR's All Things Considered) appears at 6 p.m. April 22, to present music from their new CD ***Habanas Dreams*** which was recorded in Cuba and New York; and vocal firebrand **René Marie** (*"Sexy, funny, theatrical, outrageous..."* – Wall Street Journal) will launch her jazz to singer-songwriter crossover album, ***Sound of Red*** at noon on Saturday, April 23. All three artists will perform in the beautiful Cape May Convention Hall.

Adding to the excitement of the weekend, these Motéma Music artists make the Festival even more of a special opportunity to see some of the greatest and hottest rising Jazz talent on the international scene today. Headliners at Schmidten Hall are the multi-GRAMMY-winning legends **Pat Metheny** (guitar) & **Ron Carter** (bass) who will perform in a rare duo setting on Saturday, April 23 at 5 and 8 p.m., and Grammy Award-winning vocalist **Lisa Fischer** (a star of the award-winning film ***20 Feet from Stardom***) who performs with her group Grand Baton on Friday, April 22 at 8:30 p.m. Also featured at the Cape May Convention Hall is this year's GRAMMY winner for Best Jazz Album, guitarist **John Scofield** who performs with sax legend Joe Lovano's Quartet. Legendary Soul Artist **Lee Fields & The Expressions** also graces the Convention Hall stage and there are more than 30 Club Shows in addition. Visit Exit0Jazzfest.com for various ticketing options.

- **ABOUT: The Pedrito Martinez Group's *Habana Dreams* (release date: 6.8.2016)**

***"...dizzying rhythmic webs, songs within songs, and the thrill of real Cuban rumba transformed into something as hip and irresistible as great pop."* – Wall Street Journal**

Habana Dreams, following The Pedrito Martinez Group's GRAMMY-nominated debut, pushes forward the group's cutting-edge sound with some of the biggest names in Latin music - Rubén Blades, Descemer Bueno, and Issac Delgado. Recorded in both Cuba and New York, the album marks the homecoming of Cuban-born conguero and rumbero Pedrito Martinez, a return to his Afro-Cuban roots and a further innovation in Cuban music. With magnetic personality and dynamic musicianship, ***Habana Dreams*** showcases the group's impressive range, from contemplative ballads to electrifying rumbas, while remaining irresistibly danceable throughout.

- **ABOUT: René Marie's *SOUND OF RED*: Out 5.13.2016**

“Sexy. Funny. Theatrical. Outrageous. Highly political. Worldly and yet uniquely American. Also hip and swinging.” – The Wall Street Journal.

Rene Marie's sensational ***Sound of Red*** finds the singer at the top of her already sizzling game and breaking new ground with her first album of entirely self-penned originals. After landing a Best Jazz Vocal Album GRAMMY nomination with her 2014 tribute to Earth Kitt, Marie shoots for the stars again with **SOUND OF RED** as she literally writes a new chapter in jazz for her ultra-sexy, wise, provocative and daredevil self. Her brilliance as a writer – who draws equally on jazz, folk, R&B and country – prove an easy match to her widely-acclaimed brilliance as a performer. Her richly personal songs explore the sweetest, saddest, brightest and darkest corners of human existence, they touch down in jazz, folk, blues and country territories.

- **About Joey Alexander:**

“On his way to becoming one of the greatest jazz artists of our time.” – Lester Holt on NBC's The Today Show

“Joey's a little genius.” – Wynton Marsalis

Born on the island of Bali in the city of Denpasar in 2003, at age 12 Joey Alexander has become a Jazz superstar. The youngest ever GRAMMY nominee in the Jazz category, he has two nominations this year for his album *My Favorite Things (Motéma Music)*. In addition, he was featured on this year's Grammy Awards and on “Sixty Minutes” in January, and his album has risen to the top of the charts. In the beginning of the year, he jumped to #1 on the overall Amazon Best Sellers chart (surpassing Adele) and #4 on iTunes Top Albums chart. Learning by listening at the young age of six, Joey developed an authoritative technique in Jazz piano and by age eight, he was invited to play very high profile concerts; such as his invitation from UNESCO to play solo piano in front of Jazz icon Herbie Hancock during his visit to Indonesia. At age 10, Joey won the international improvisation contest in Odessa, Ukraine – besting over 200 Jazz professionals from 17 countries. In 2014, Joey performed at star-studded galas in New York City for Jazz at Lincoln Center in Rose Hall, the Jazz Foundation of America at the Apollo and the Arthur Ashe Learning Center at Gotham Hall. Since the release of *My Favorite Things* and his surge in popularity, he's been invited to perform at major jazz festivals around the world. His highly anticipated sophomore album is coming in September on Motéma.

• **ABOUT: Motéma Music:**

Based in Harlem, in New York City, Motéma Music was founded in 2003 by the visionary artist and entrepreneur, Jana Herzen, with intention to promote “Artists of Power and Distinction”. A proud sponsor and partner of The Exit 0 Jazz Fest, Motéma Music was voted the #1 Jazz Label of 2015 in the Jazz Journalists Association Awards, the label notably launched jazz vocal superstar Gregory Porter’s first two albums and has 14 GRAMMY Nominations in Jazz, Reggae and R&B. The label has had more Grammy nominations than any other jazz label for two consecutive years now, and they brought home GRAMMY wins by Arturo O’farrill’ in the Latin Jazz and Best Instrumental Composition categories at the 2015 & 2016 GRAMMY ceremonies, respectively. For more information and to purchase CD’s, visit, <http://www.motema.com> or their <http://facebook.com/motemamusic>

• **ABOUT: Exit Zero Jazz Festival:**

Exit Zero Jazz Festival is produced by Spy Boy Productions, led by Michael Kline, who celebrated many summers in Cape May and returned in 2005 from New Orleans. He shares his thoughts about presenting the festival in Cape May. He said, “We wanted to offer a world-class cultural experience in Cape May that would launch the Spring shoulder season and let people know there is a vibrant, thriving community in Cape May beyond the incredible beaches and Victorian architecture. Through music, we celebrate the spirit and creative energy in Cape May, bringing a little of that New Orleans street party flavor to the beach. It’s always a great party and we’re thrilled that people keep coming back for more.”

Named for the exit to Cape May off the Garden State Parkway, the festival attracts a loyal, diverse audience of thousands from the major metropolitan regions surrounding Cape May including New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, D.C., all within a four or five hour drive of Cape May. The Festival features Grammy Award-winners, living legends, NEA Jazz Masters, emerging jazz stars, international musicians and home-grown talent too.

Ticket Information. Tickets can be purchased on-line at www.exit0jazzfest.com or by calling the Exit Zero International Jazz Festival at (609)849.9202. Hotel packages are available from Congress Hall, the Official Hotel Partner of Exit Zero Jazz, and from Hotel Partners on the Festival site. Individual tickets are available to all Main Stage performances in Schmidtchen Theater. Festival Passes provide the best value for fest-goers: **Duke’s Pass: \$150 plus tax and ticket facility fee** Includes Orchestra reserved seats to headline performances, priority seating in Cape May Convention Hall and entry to all club venues all weekend. **Friday Pass: \$75 plus tax and ticket facility fee** Includes reserved seat to Lisa Fischer Grand Baton, general admission seating to Pedrito Martinez

Group and Joey Alexander Trio & first come first serve entry into all Festival club shows Friday, April 22. **Saturday Pass: \$100 plus tax and ticket facility fee** Includes reserved seat to 5:00pm or 8:00pm Pat Metheny & Ron Carter performance, general admission seating to René Marie, John Scofield & Joe Lovano 4tet, Lee Fields and the Expressions & first come –first serve entry into all Festival Club Shows on Saturday, April 23. **Sunday All Access Pass: \$30 plus tax and ticket fee** includes all club venues on Sunday, April 24. **Pop's Pass: \$45 plus tax & ticket facility fee** Includes all Club Shows all weekend.

FOR INTERVIEWS / PHOTOS / COVERAGE / PLANNING www.Exit0JazzFest.com.