

For Immediate Release  
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### **David Benoit Celebrates Montalvo Arts Center at Gala Benefit**

Benoit's "Heroes" are celebrated in this concert to support  
Montalvo arts and education programs

SARATOGA, Calif. – David Benoit, the composer and pianist who has been called a “passionate musical innovator”, performs “David Benoit Celebrates Montalvo,” a gala benefit concert at Montalvo in support of its arts and education programs on Friday, Oct. 3 in the Carriage House Theatre. His latest record, “Heroes,” pays tribute to those who have inspired him, and Montalvo announces this performance as a way to pay tribute to *its* heroes – the long-time supporters of the organization. The program features fresh, exuberant spins on classic songs by legendary pop, rock and jazz artists and original compositions. Benoit is a friend of the arts center – he has performed here numerous times and is a fellow of the organization’s artist residency, including its education program.

This special evening also features dinner on the historic Villa veranda at 6:30 p.m., catered by [Le Papillon](#), followed by a live auction including business-class travel to Europe courtesy of American Airlines and so much more. The performance begins at 8:30 p.m., with an opening act by comedian [Dan St. Paul](#).

A five-time Grammy nominee for his extraordinary and seminal contributions to contemporary jazz, Benoit has also embarked on a multi-faceted journey into the classical music world. He has been a guest pianist and conductor with numerous top symphonies and philharmonics, boasts four performances at Carnegie Hall (including one with Maestro Leonard Bernstein), and a performance on the steps of the Capitol Building with the National Symphony for the annual PBS Independence Day event.

Benoit’s many performances at Montalvo as well as his long-time advocacy for music education make him the ideal performer to participate in Montalvo’s gala benefiting arts and education programs. As a resident at Montalvo in September 2007, Benoit composed “A Twisted Little Etude” for “Heroes” as a tribute to jazz legend Dave Brubeck in addition to leading a series of Master Classes at local schools. Also, as a guest educator with the Mr. Holland’s Opus Foundation, he has appeared in classrooms throughout the country, where he has devoted many hours to teaching children about music. In 2001, Benoit won the foundation’s coveted “excellence in music education” award.

Montalvo’s education programs provide quality experiences for diverse ages and interests through collaborative programs that include exposure to the arts, interaction with artists and opportunities to engage in the creative process. Its commitment to lifelong learning inspired the creation of educational programs for an all-ages audience.

TICKET INFORMATION

\$250 (\$200 tax-deductible) each includes dinner, auction and concert and will be available through Ticketmaster on July 24. Tickets are also available at Montalvo's Box Office at 408-961-5858 or [www.montalvoarts.org](http://www.montalvoarts.org).

#### About Montalvo Arts Center

Montalvo Arts Center is a member-supported, nonprofit organization dedicated to capturing the innovative and diverse spirit of Silicon Valley and engaging people in contemporary concerns through the arts. Located in Silicon Valley's Saratoga hills, Montalvo Arts Center rests on 175 stunning acres, including the Sally and Don Lucas Artist Programs, an international artist residency; a historic Mediterranean villa, two theaters, a gallery and 2.5 miles of hiking trails. The historic villa and grounds were left to the people of California in 1930 by Senator James Phelan for the encouragement of art, music, literature and architecture.

For more information about Montalvo Arts Center, call 408-961-5800 or visit [www.montalvoarts.org/](http://www.montalvoarts.org/).

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