



STANFORDLIVE

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**LAVAY SMITH AND HER RED HOT SKILLET LICKERS LEAD SWING
DANCE PARTY IN BING CONCERT HALL LOBBY ON JULY 26**

A free swing lesson will kick off the evening at 6:30 p.m. with instructors—and Stanford grads—Paul Csonka and Rachel Liaw

Stanford, CA, July 2, 2014—As part of its inaugural summer series, Stanford Live will put the Bing Concert Hall lobby to new use by hosting a swing dance party accompanied by live music from the queen of classic jazz and blues, Bay Area singer **Lavay Smith**, and her **Red Hot Skillet Lickers** on **Saturday, July 26 at 7:30 p.m.** A free **45-minute dance lesson at 6:30 p.m.** kicks off the evening with instructors (and Stanford alums) Paul Csonka and Rachel Liaw of Mountain View's weekly dance party Wednesday Night Hop.

The sultry chanteuse Smith evokes a sensuous era of glamorous retro divas and celebrates the popular Swing Era of the 1940s. She and her brassy nine-piece band will play not in the auditorium but in the expansive circular Gunn Atrium with its panoramic views of the campus. In addition to food trucks parked outside of Bing, the hall's sliding wall sections will open up to the outdoor veranda inviting revelers to come and hear the music for free even if they choose not to join in on the dance floor.

Tickets are \$25 for full dance floor access during Smith's performance. The lesson, however, is free and Csonka and Liaw will talk about the background of swing, introduce some common terms and teach basic footwork before the actual dance party begins.

The past 25 years have seen an explosion of interest in the golden age of American popular music, including a revival of the Lindy Hop and other swing dances from the 1930s and '40s. Lavay Smith and her band helped to ignite this global renaissance and have been at the forefront ever since.

Her theme song, written with Siebert and Berger, is titled “Everybody’s Talkin’ ‘Bout Miss Thing” and the *JazzTimes* described one of her New York shows as “an unforgettable display of bop, boogie-woogie, and barrelhouse blues.”

Stanford Live’s summer series will continue with performances by singer **Shawn Colvin** (Aug. 2) and guitarist **Miloš Karadaglić** (Aug. 6). For more information visit live.stanford.edu.

*The event is generously funded by The Koret Foundation’s **Koret Jazz Project**, a multi-year initiative to support, expand and celebrate the role of jazz in the artistic and education programming of Stanford Live.*

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Lavay Smith and Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers**, presented by Stanford Live on Saturday, **July 26 at 7:30 p.m.**, are \$25 for access to the dance floor. The dance lesson at 6:30 p.m. is free and the public is also invited to listen the music outside.

Tickets are available in person at the Bing Concert Hall Ticket Office, by phone at **650-724-2464 (BING)** or online at <http://live.stanford.edu>. The box office is located at 327 Lasuen Street. Regular operating hours are Tuesday-Friday from 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

VENUE INFORMATION

Bing Concert Hall is located on the Stanford University campus at 327 Lasuen Street on the corner of Lasuen and Campus Dr. Parking on campus is free of charge after 4:00 PM and on weekends at all times, and may be found in the Galvez Lot across Campus Dr. from Bing Concert Hall. Maps and directions are available at <http://live.stanford.edu/Venues/parkingmapsdirections.php>.

ABOUT STANFORD LIVE

Stanford Live is Stanford University’s performing arts presenter and producer, committed to sharing, celebrating and advancing the art of live music, dance, theater, and opera. Stanford Live unites celebrated and emerging artists with the Stanford campus and greater Bay Area communities in a broad range of experiences that engage the senses and emotions, stimulate minds, and enrich lives. The organization values artistic vitality, learning and an inclusive community. In addition to its home in Bing Concert Hall, Stanford Live also presents performances at other campus venues including Memorial Auditorium, Memorial Church and Frost Amphitheater.

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CALENDAR EDITORS NOTE:

What: **LAVAY SMITH AND HER RED HOT SKILLET LICKERS**

When: Saturday, July 26, 7:30 p.m. (Free dance lesson at 6:30 p.m.)

Where: Bing Concert Hall, Gunn Atrium, 327 Lasuen Street, Stanford University

Tickets: \$25 (for dance floor access)

Description: A brief dance lesson kicks off an evening of swing dancing, accompanied by live music from the queen of classic jazz and blues, singer Lavay Smith, and her seven-piece band.