



LOBERO THEATRE FOUNDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Earl Minnis and John Kay present

Born To Be Wild: The Story of Steppenwolf

Special benefit screening for the Maue Kay Foundation

Saturday, August 23, 2025 at 7 PM

Lobero Theatre

- Q & A to follow with John Kay and Nick St. Nicholas
- Post show meet & greet reception, hosted by John Kay

Santa Barbara, CA, July 16, 2025 – Earl Minnis and John Kay present the West Coast premiere of ***Born To Be Wild: The Story of Steppenwolf*** on **Saturday, August 23, 2025 at 7 PM** – a **special benefit screening for the Maue Kay Foundation**. This new documentary takes us from war-torn Germany to the working-class streets of Toronto and LA, where the legendary band Steppenwolf rises to international fame. Straddling the border between mainstream and psychedelic underground, their song "Born to Be Wild" opened the cult film *Easy Rider* and became an anthem for an entire generation. Steppenwolf's new, hard sound stabbed the heart of the "Summer of Love" and ended the hippie era. It's no coincidence that they were the very first band to use the word "heavy metal" in their lyrics.

But what few people know is that the band's center of gravity was two German immigrant children, who first met in Toronto before moving on to California together. Singer John Kay (born Joachim-Fritz Krauledat) was a war refugee from East Prussia. Bassist Nick St. Nicholas (born Karl Klaus Kassbaum) came from a respected Hanseatic family. Featuring Steppenwolf members John Kay, Nick St. Nicholas, Michael Monarch, and artists Mars Bonfire, Alice Cooper, Taj Mahal, Cameron Crowe (Almost Famous), Klaus Meine (Scorpions), Jello Biafra (Dead Kennedys), Dale Crover (Melvins), and Bob Ezrin (producer of Kiss, Pink Floyd, and Taylor Swift, among others), the film also has a lot to offer musically, featuring over a dozen original Steppenwolf songs.

Supported by an intensely loyal following, John Kay and Steppenwolf continued to record and tour internationally until 2018, which marked the band's 50th anniversary and their last year of touring. In 2004, John and his wife Jutta created the **Maue Kay Foundation**. The nonprofit charitable foundation supports individuals and organizations engaged in the protection of wildlife, the environment, and human rights. After becoming increasingly occupied with their foundation, they sold their music business-related assets in 2010 and have devoted their time and energy to the foundation's mission and projects ever since.

Tickets for ***Born To Be Wild: The Story of Steppenwolf*** are on sale now at [Lobero.org](https://lobero.org) and at the Lobero Box Office 805.963.0761. \$75 - Premium Seating (*Premium ticket includes preferred seating location and an exclusive **post-show** meet & greet reception in the Lobero Courtyard with complimentary drinks and light bites, immediately after the show.*), \$30 - Section A. (*Ticket prices include a per ticket Lobero Facility Fee; other fees may also apply.*)

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Calendar Editors, please note:
Saturday, August 23, 2025 at 7 PM

Born To Be Wild: The Story of Steppenwolf

Special benefit screening for the Maue Kay Foundation

Lobero Theatre

- Q & A to follow with John Kay and Nick St. Nicholas
- Post show meet & greet reception, hosted by John Kay

This West Coast premiere is a special benefit screening for the Maue Kay Foundation, a nonprofit charitable foundation formed in 2004 by John Kay and Jutta Maue Kay, which supports individuals and organizations engaged in the protection of wildlife, the environment and human rights. The documentary takes us from war-torn Germany to the working-class streets of Toronto and LA, where the legendary band Steppenwolf rises to international fame. Q & A to follow with John Kay and Nick St. Nicholas. There will also be a post screening meet & greet reception, hosted by John Kay. <https://www.lobero.org/events/born-to-be-wild/>

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UPCOMING LOBERO LIVE EVENTS:

AUGUST

Jazz at the Lobero presents **Robert Glasper on Saturday, August 16, 2025 at 7:30 PM**. Robert Glasper is the leader of a new sonic paradigm with a career that bridges musical and artistic genres. To date, he boasts 5 GRAMMY® wins and 15 nominations across 11 categories, an Emmy Award for his song for Ava Duvernay's critically hailed documentary "13th" with Common and Karriem Riggins, and a Peabody Award for his Composition of "Mr. Soul!" Glasper's GRAMMY®-winning crossover album, Black Radio, transformed the genre and established new standards for popular music. His work and accolades bridge all aspects of the music business, from live touring to film scoring, composing and producing. Produced By Jill Newman Productions. Featured Sponsor: Santa Barbara Travel Bureau. <https://www.lobero.org/events/robert-glasper/>

Lobero LIVE presents **Tab Benoit – I Hear Thunder Tour, with special guest GA-20, on Friday, August 29, 2025 at 7:30 PM**. *I Hear Thunder* marks the long-awaited return of four-time GRAMMY® nominated artist Tab Benoit. Renowned for his distinctive guitar tone and Otis-Redding-esque voice, Benoit has been a captivating figure in the roots music world for over thirty years. Tab does more than play the blues; he defines its future while paying homage to its rich past. Fans will be delighted to hear the new songs and selected tracks from his vast catalog. <https://www.lobero.org/events/tab-benoit-2025/>

SEPTEMBER 2025

Lobero Theatre Foundation presents **Fred Armisen: Comedy for Musicians but Everyone is Welcome on Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at 7 PM**. The comedian, writer, producer, musician is an 11-season veteran of *Saturday Night Live*, was band leader of the 8G Band on *Late Night With Seth Meyers* from 2014-2024, is in the hit Netflix series *Wednesday* as Uncle Fester, and is currently starring in the Broadway play *All In*. <https://www.lobero.org/events/fred-armisen>

Lobero LIVE presents **Dawes (Duo) Tour, with special guest Sam Weber, on Thursday, September 25 at 7:30 PM.** Brothers Taylor and Griffin Goldsmith move seamlessly between folk rock, piano ballads, and sprawling jams while maintaining both an immediately recognizable sound and a freedom from expectations. Their latest album marks a distinctive new chapter for the California rock band — one that is both introspective and accessible, all while maintaining their beloved sense of sincerity. Featured Sponsor: Weiser & Grant. On sale Fri, May 30 at <https://www.lobero.org/events/dawes-duo/>

OCTOBER 2025

Lobero LIVE presents **Colin Hay on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 7:30 PM.** Singer-songwriter Colin Hay is beloved for his intimate, confessional live shows. The artist has had a prolific career, both as the lead singer and principal songwriter for the GRAMMY® Award-winning, multi-platinum selling band Men at Work, and a solo career that spans more than 25 years and 15 albums. His extraordinary new solo album, *Now And The Evermore*, is a defiantly joyful celebration of life and love, one that insists on finding silver linings and reasons to smile. **Featured Sponsor: Boone Graphics.** <https://www.lobero.org/events/colin-hay-2025/>

Lobero LIVE and Panda Man present **Go To Hale Quips & Clips – Music: All The Years Combined on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at 6:52 PM.** Join us on a melodic journey of musical acts across the decades. From timeless legends to groundbreaking newcomers, this series explores how styles, sounds, and stories have shaped the ever-changing landscape of music. Hosted by quipster Hale Milgrim (former President/CEO of Capitol Records) and passionate music aficionado Richard Salzberg (aka Music Maniac), the program draws from their extensive personal archives. Viewers will be treated to rare and electrifying live concert clips spanning a wide range of iconic musicians—from the 60s to today. <https://www.lobero.org/events/go-to-hale-2025/>

Lobero Theatre | 33 East Canon Perdido Street | Santa Barbara, CA 93101 | [Lobero.org](https://www.lobero.org)