



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jazz at the Lobero presents

Poncho Sanchez and his Latin Jazz Band

Saturday, January 31, 2026 at 7:30 PM

Santa Barbara, CA, December 23, 2025 – Jazz at the Lobero presents **Poncho Sanchez and his Latin Jazz Band on Saturday, January 31, 2026 at 7:30 PM**. A GRAMMY®-winning bandleader, conguero, and percussionist, Poncho Sanchez is among the most influential figures in Latin Jazz. For more than four decades, he has ignited stages worldwide with a powerful blend of straightahead jazz, gritty soul, and infectious rhythms drawn from Latin American and South American traditions. Carrying forward the torch lit by legends such as Mongo Santamaria, Tito Puente, and Cal Tjader, Sanchez has been embraced by these icons and entrusted to continue the vibrant legacy of Latin Jazz.

Born in Laredo, Texas, and raised in the Los Angeles area, Sanchez grew up immersed in an eclectic mix of jazz, Latin jazz, and American soul. Influenced early on by artists including John Coltrane, Miles Davis, Wilson Pickett, and James Brown, he developed a deep musical voice that ultimately found its home in the congas. After joining Cal Tjader's band in 1975 and performing with him until 1982, Sanchez focused on his own ensemble, which he had formed in 1980. His long-standing partnership with Concord Records began with *Sonando* and has since produced more than two dozen recordings.

Sanchez's career reached a milestone when his album *Latin Soul* won the GRAMMY® Award for Best Latin Album in 1999, followed by a prolific period of acclaimed releases and collaborations, including tributes to Dizzy Gillespie and Chano Pozo and spirited live recordings. His more recent work, *Trane's Delight* (2019), and his newly released *Poncho Sanchez & His Latin Jazz Band Live at the Belly Up Tavern* (March 2025), reflect an artist who both honors jazz's great innovators and continues to expand the music's horizons. Audiences at the Lobero can expect an evening of passionate, high-energy performance from a true master who stands at the forefront of Latin Jazz today. A Brubeck Circle show.

Tickets for **Poncho Sanchez and his Latin Jazz Band** are on sale now at Lobero.org and at the Lobero Box Office 805.963.0761. \$107 - Premium Seating (*Premium ticket includes preferred seating location and an exclusive pre-show reception in the Lobero Courtyard with complimentary drinks and light bites, beginning an hour prior to showtime*), \$57 - Section A, \$47 - Section B. (*Ticket prices include a per ticket Lobero Facility Fee; other fees may also apply.*)

Tickets purchased online or by phone are subject to a web/phone order fee of \$3.00 per ticket. To avoid this fee, tickets can be purchased in person at the box office.

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UP NEXT FROM LOBERO LIVE:

JANUARY 2026

EARL MINNIS PRESENTS and Lobero Theatre Foundation presents **Billy F Gibbons and the BFG Band on Saturday, January 24, 2026 at 7:30 PM.** Billy F Gibbons is widely regarded as one of the world's finest guitarists working in the blues-rock idiom. His band features BFG, best known as the centerpiece of ZZ Top, the band's cornerstone backbeat Chris "Whipper" Layton on drums, and the shining light of the Texas Blues scene Mike "The Drifter" Flanigin on the Hammond B3 organ.

<https://www.lobero.org/events/billy-gibbons/>

Lobero LIVE presents **Matteo Mancuso on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 7:30 PM.** Mancuso's unique guitar technique has caused astonishment with its clarity and precision, as has his capacity to traverse different musical genres with total ease. While he may not use a guitar pick, Matteo's music has certainly picked up the attention of music enthusiasts worldwide, garnering millions of views on YouTube.

<https://www.lobero.org/events/matteo-mancuso/>

FEBRUARY 2026

EARL MINNIS PRESENTS and Lobero Theatre Foundation present **Don McLean on Friday, February 6, 2026 at 7:30 PM.** Known as the "American Troubadour," singer-songwriter Don McLean achieved international fame with hits like "American Pie," "Vincent," and "Castles in the Air." He received the BBC Lifetime Achievement Award, was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame, and has released more than 20 studio albums since his debut in 1970. <https://www.lobero.org/events/don-mclean/>

Lobero LIVE presents **Nick Offerman: Big Woodchuck An Evening of Comedy with Woodworking and Bookish Mirth on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 7:30 PM.** Offerman, even more hirsute than last time, is back to remind the fans of sawdust what a living, breathing mammal, unsullied by AI, looks like. With songs and notions inspired by his newest book, *Little Woodchucks*, Nick – with support from woodworker and co-author Lee Buchanan – might just inspire you to get busy making things with your own hands, which is guaranteed to get you kissed. Especially if what you make is sausage rolls. "Canoes are sexy AF, especially when you make 'em out of wood." – Nina Simone, probably.

<https://www.lobero.org/events/nick-offerman/>

Lobero LIVE presents **The Wailin' Jennys on Thurs, February 12, 2026 at 7:30 PM.** Nicky Mehta, Ruth Moody and Heather Masse — three distinct voices that together make an achingly perfect vocal sound. The group has grown over the years into one of today's most beloved international folk acts. Together, they continue to create some of the most exciting music on the folk-roots scene, stepping up their musical game with each critically lauded recording, and thrilling audiences with their renowned live performances. <https://www.lobero.org/events/the-wailin-jennys-2/>

EARL MINNIS PRESENTS presents **Suzanne Vega - Flying with Angels on Saturday, February 14, 2026 at 7:30 PM.** Vega will perform a career-spanning show including favorites like "Tom's Diner," "Luka," "Marlene on the Wall," and many more, plus songs from her latest album, *Flying with Angels*, which was released in May 2025 to critical acclaim. She will be joined on stage by her longtime guitarist, Gerry Leonard (of David Bowie fame), and cellist Stephanie Winters. A Brubeck Circle show.

<https://www.lobero.org/events/suzanne-vega-2/>

Lobero LIVE presents **An Evening with Leo Kottke on Sunday, February 15, 2026 at 7 PM.** The famed solo acoustic guitarist is known for a fingerpicking style that draws on blues, jazz, and folk music, and for

syncopated, polyphonic melodies. Now 80-years-young, Kottke has recorded over 30 albums that showcase his barnstorming fretwork and quirky songwriting. <https://www.lobero.org/events/leo-kottke-3/>

Jazz at the Lobero presents **Preservation Hall Jazz Band on Thursday, February 19, 2025**. The Crescent City has been the point at which sounds and cultures from around the world converge, mingle, and resurface. PHJB, which has held the torch of New Orleans music aloft for more than 60 years, continues to preserve its vibrant living history while carrying it enthusiastically forward. A Brubeck Circle show. <https://www.lobero.org/events/preservation-hall-jazz-band-3/>

MARCH 2026

Jazz at the Lobero presents **Madeleine Peyroux, with special guest Jon Muq, on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 7:30 PM**. Madeleine is the proud curator of nine beguiling albums and countless accolades. With her delicately sultry compositions and renditions, the accomplished songstress has earned her spot amongst jazz/blues divas such as Billie Holiday and Ella Fitzgerald. A Brubeck Circle show. <https://www.lobero.org/events/madeleine-peyroux-2/>

Lobero LIVE presents **An Evening with Steep Canyon Rangers on Friday, March 6, 2026 at 7:30 PM**. The three-time GRAMMY® nominees have released 14 studio albums, three collaborative albums with actor and banjoist Steve Martin, been inducted into the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame, and appeared on some of music's biggest stages. With the band's last few albums, they have gained recognition from well beyond the world of bluegrass, earning a reputation as some of the most influential songwriters in Americana today. A Brubeck Circle show. <https://www.lobero.org/events/steep-canyon-rangers/>

EARL MINNIS PRESENTS and Lobero Theatre Foundation present **Booker T. Jones on Saturday, March 28, 2026 at 7:30 PM**. Best known as the frontman of the band Booker T. & the M.G.'s, Jones is a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, Musicians Hall of Fame inductee, GRAMMY® Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, and arguably the most famous Hammond B3 player in history. <https://www.lobero.org/events/booker-t-jones/>

Lobero LIVE presents **Keb' Mo', on Monday, March 30, 2026 at 7:30 PM**. With five GRAMMYS®, 14 Blues Foundation Awards, and a groundbreaking career spanning nearly 50 years under his belt, Keb' Mo' stands as one of the most accomplished and respected artists working in contemporary roots music today. The artist has topped the *Billboard* Blues Chart seven times, performed everywhere from Carnegie Hall to The White House, collaborated with music luminaries, earned the Americana Music Association's 2021 Award for Lifetime Achievement in Performance, and so much more. A Brubeck Circle show. <https://www.lobero.org/events/keb-mo-2026/>

**Calendar Editors, please note:
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Puente, and Cal Tjader, Sanchez has been embraced by these icons and entrusted to continue the vibrant legacy of Latin Jazz. <https://www.lobero.org/events/poncho-sanchez-2026/>

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