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## **Memphis in May International Festival Announces 2017 Beale Street Music Festival Line-up**

*List of 65 artists includes 2017 Grammy Winners*

**MEMPHIS, Tenn. – February 22, 2017** – The Memphis in May Beale Street Music Festival maintains its status as one of the nation’s top music festivals with today’s release of the 2017 artist lineup. Now in its 41st year, the Beale Street Music Festival is widely recognized for not only the quality of artists performing, but also the wide variety of music genres offered.

The mainstage headliners for the 2017 Beale Street Music Festival include Kings of Leon, Soundgarden, Widespread Panic, Snoop Dogg, Sturgill Simpson, Death Cab for Cutie, Wiz Khalifa, MGMT and Jill Scott. (Complete list attached.)

“We take great pride in the eclectic mix of artists we present to our patrons and music fans each year,” said James L. Holt, President and CEO of Memphis in May. “From the rock and blues our city is known for to the many diverse and popular musical genres today, we have something for almost every musical taste at the Beale Street Music Festival. We are especially pleased to present recent Grammy winners Sturgill Simpson and Ziggy Marley as part of the 2017 festival.”

The 2017 artist line-up features many festival favorites making a return trip to the Beale Street Music Festival stage including Ben Harper and The Innocent Criminals, BUSH, Ludacris, Grouplove, Sum 41, Taking Back Sunday, Mutemath, Drive-By Truckers, Dawes, Deer Tick and Charles Bradley & His Extraordinaires.

Each year the festival strives to introduce music lovers to artists that are new to the line-up, some of which will make their Memphis debut in 2017. First-time Beale Street Music Festival performers include Tori Kelly, X Ambassadors, Jimmy Eat World, Griz, The Revivalists, Silversun Pickups, legendary Australian rockers - Midnight Oil, The Strumbellas, Alter Bridge, Machine Gun Kelly, Greensky Bluegrass, Ani DiFranco, Highly Suspect, Mayer Hawthorne, Kongos, Declan McKenna, John Paul White, Peter Wolf, Big Head Blues Club, and Bahari.

As always, Memphis music and artistic talents are well represented with scheduled performances by Booker T. Jones, Amy LaVere, Lil Wyte, Preston Shannon, Dead Soldiers, Ghost Town Blues Band, Marcella & Her Lovers, Daddy Mack Blues Band, FreeWorld and Blind Mississippi Morris.

As part of the salute to the 2017 Memphis in May International Festival honored country, Colombian bluesman Carlos Elliot Jr. will perform in the blues tent on Saturday, May 6.

Tickets can be purchased through TicketFly.com and are sold in advance as three-day passes for \$115, or single-day tickets for \$50. A limited number of VIP passes are available for \$595 and provide access to exclusive viewing platforms near the main stages, a private area in the Blues Tent, private restrooms, and light snacks and drinks (including limited alcoholic beverages) for all three days, and may be purchased through TicketFly.com.

The festival opens to the public at 5:00 pm on Friday, May 5 and runs through Sunday, May 7. The 2017 Beale Street Music Festival is sponsored by FedEx, Bud Light and Orion Federal Credit Union.

### **2017 Memphis in May International Festival Dates**

**Beale Street Music Festival:** May 5-7, 2017

**International Week:** May 8-14, 2017

**World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest:** May 17-20, 2017

**901Fest:** May 27, 2017

**Great American River Run:** May 28, 2017

### **About the Beale Street Music Festival**

The Beale Street Music Festival has been recognized by *Travel + Leisure* magazine as one of “2016’s Music Festivals Worth Traveling For,” and named to the list of “25 Music Festivals You Need to Attend in 2017” by Fuse TV. *Rolling Stone Magazine* wrote Beale Street Music Festival “always has a full and eccentric line-up” while the *Wall Street Journal* once referred to the festival as “one of the largest parties in the United States, drawing people from all over the world to come experience a celebration of the birth of an expressive art form that materialized as the music of Memphis.” Having been featured on CNN and the BBC among others, and in everything from *National Geographic* to *Playboy Magazine* the Memphis in May Beale Street Music Festival attracts more than 80,000 music fans to Memphis, TN each May from all 50 states and more than a dozen foreign countries.

### **About Memphis in May International Festival**

Memphis in May International Festival is a not for profit, community-based organization, whose programs contribute more than \$88 million annually in economic impact to the community, foster civic pride, promote awareness of Memphis heritage, and build international relationships and understanding through education. Memphis in May International is the official Festival of the City of Memphis, and the recipient of 195 prestigious Pinnacle Awards from the International Festival and Events Association.

For additional information about the Memphis in May International Festival, please visit the official Memphis in May web site at [www.memphisinmay.org/events/beale-street-music-festival/](http://www.memphisinmay.org/events/beale-street-music-festival/)

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