



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
July XX, 2016

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## **Red House Live at Landmark Center**

*The 2016 season brings new faces and old favorites*

**ST. PAUL, Minn. (July XX, 2016)**—Fans of folk, Americana, blues, jazz, and country music should mark their calendars for the sixth season of *Red House Live from Landmark Center*. Landmark Center and Red House Records are excited to announce the 2016 season with concerts featuring Red House artists Dean Magraw with Butch Thompson and Prudence Johnson, Heather Masse, Chastity Brown, and Peter Ostroushko. The season runs September-December, with one concert the third Friday of each month, held in Landmark Center's F.K. Weyerhaeuser Auditorium. Performances, hosted by personalities from KFAI Radio, begin at 8 p.m. and are preceded by a cocktail hour including complimentary refreshments from Ginkgo's Coffee Café or Great Waters Brewing Company and a cash bar. Tickets are now on sale for \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, or \$75 for full season tickets.

2016 Lineup:

### **September 16 – Dean Magraw with Butch Thompson and Prudence Johnson**

Dean Magraw, Butch Thompson, and Prudence Johnson, each veterans of *A Prairie Home Companion*, first played together on Peter Ostroushko's 1990 album, *Buddies of Swing*, and they've been looking for every chance to collaborate ever since.

[Dean Magraw](#) is a performer like no other, he is part-comedian, part-philosopher and all-around musical genius. Transcending genre, he has performed with a cornucopia of collaborators from jazz organist, Jack McDuff, to folk icon, Greg Brown; trad Irish supergroup, Altan, to classical violinist, Nigel Kennedy. In addition to his role as an in-demand sideman on over a hundred recording projects, Magraw has created more than a dozen albums, including four for Red House Records: *Wise-Magraw* (1985), *Broken Silence* (1994), *Seventh One* (1998), and *Duo* (1991), an album he recorded with Emmy Award-winning multi-instrumentalist Peter Ostroushko. Proving the healing power of music, Magraw went into the studio with his longtime friend and collaborator, Marcus Wise, during the early stages of medical treatment for cancer in 2009. Magraw and Wise released *How the Light Gets In*, an engaging collection of highly original compositions nurtured in a refreshingly distinctive soundscape. As is evident on the album, Magraw regained his health and continues to radiate positive energy through his music. In 2014, Magraw collaborated with the iconic jazz drummer Eric Kamau Gravatt (Weather Report, McCoy Tyner) for their improvisational masterwork, *Fire on the Nile*. The spare-yet-full sound of Magraw's guitar and Gravatt's drumming created an aural journey that only musicians of their caliber could create.

In a career spanning over 45 years, pianist and clarinetist [Butch Thompson](#) has earned a world-wide reputation as a traditional jazz and ragtime master. He tours widely as a soloist or at the helm of one of his several ensembles, including his well-known Butch Thompson Trio, his eight-piece Jazz Originals band, the Butch Thompson Big Three, or his unique blues duo with fingerstyle guitarist Pat Donohue. Thompson has performed with many symphony orchestras and is widely known for his 12-year stint as house pianist on public radio's *A Prairie Home Companion*, where the Butch Thompson Trio was the house band from 1980-1986, and he continues on the show as a frequent guest. Among Thompson's many recordings are his acclaimed 10-volume solo series on Daring/Rounder, the 1997 Grammy-winning Verve release, *Doc Cheatham and Nicholas Payton*, and his latest album, the critically acclaimed duo CD *Vicksburg Blues* with guitarist Pat Donohue.

[Prudence Johnson's](#) long and happy career as a singer, writer, and teacher has landed her on the musical theatre stage, in two feature films, on national radio, and on concert stages across North America and Europe. She has released more than a dozen recordings, including albums dedicated to the music of the Gershwins, Hoagy Carmichael, Greg Brown, and a collection of international lullabies. In recent years, her focus has been on creating multi-media works for concert and theater stages that blend performance with her interests in history and literature. Johnson has received several awards and grants for her music, including a McKnight Fellowship, an Artists Initiative grant from the MN State Arts Board, and several Arts Board tour-support grants.

#### **October 21 – Heather Masse**

Singer-songmaker [Heather Masse](#) is steeped in the jazz tradition, which informs her distinct approach to singing folk, pop and bluegrass. Masse is a member of the Billboard-charting folk group, The Wailin' Jennys, and she has been a frequent guest on Garrison Keillor's *A Prairie Home Companion* radio show. In 2008, Masse released *Many Moons*, an EP of jazz-inspired folk duets with pianist Jed Wilson. She followed that up with her first full-length solo album, *Bird Song*, her solo debut on Grammy-winning indie label Red House Records. The title track brought her 1st prize at the International Acoustic Music Awards. In 2012, she won a prestigious Juno Award for *Bright Morning Stars*, her latest recording with The Wailin' Jennys. Masse returned to her jazz roots in 2013 with *Lock My Heart*, an album of standards she recorded with piano legend Dick Hyman. In 2016, Masse teamed up with jazz trombone maverick Roswell Rudd for *August Love Song*, an unlikely collaboration between vocals and trombone. The album features masterfully reworked standards of mutual favorites by Gigi Gryce, the Gershwins, Duke Ellington and Dizzy Gillespie as well as originals from Rudd, his partner, composer Verna Gillis, and Masse, including "Love Song for August" (August is Heather's son).

#### **November 18 – Chastity Brown**

Throw together all genres and hyphenates you want to describe [Chastity Brown](#) – indie, roots & soul, rock, blues & country – they are alright, and also not enough. She channels songs that are carried deep in the American psyche – the hunger, desperation and confidence that runs through our times. Coming from Tennessee to Minnesota, touring the country, touring Europe, she has had half her own lifetime and a million lifetimes gone before her to concoct her powerful sound and has spent much of 2016 touring with Ani DiFranco (at DiFranco's invitation). She's been hailed by *NPR*, *CMT*, *American Songwriter*, *The London Times*, and *Paste Magazine* as a songwriter to watch and has guested on UK television's renowned *Later...with Jools Holland* show. Here in the Twin Cities, her music has been embraced by KCMP-The Current, and she was chosen as "Minneapolis' Best Folk Artist" in 2012. Brown has also been involved with many non-profits and charitable events, including "Think Out Loud," a Twin Cities effort to end homelessness through music.



### **December 16 – Peter Ostroushko**

Over the course of a long and outstanding career, mandolinist/composer [Peter Ostroushko](#) has come to be regarded as one of the finest players in acoustic music. He has been lauded by critics and music lovers worldwide. A dazzling mastery of stringed instruments and a flair for composing have earned this born-and-bred Minnesotan an international reputation. From Pistol River, Oregon’s Community Hall to Carnegie Hall, Peter has done thousands of concerts across North American and Europe. Since his first recording session—an uncredited mandolin set on Bob Dylan’s *Blood on the Track* —Peter has gone on to release a string of critically acclaimed albums. His extraordinary works have been performed by the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and the Kremlin Chamber Orchestra, among others, and his music is featured on broadcast specials such as the Ken Burns films *Lewis & Clark* and *The National Parks*, and Twin Cities Public Television’s *Minnesota: A History of the Land*, for which Peter won an Emmy. Known for his ability to connect with his audience and create an intimate atmosphere that gives glory to the music, Peter creates truly magical concerts.

All *Red House Live from Landmark Center* concerts are presented by Landmark Center and Red House Records. They are proudly sponsored in part by KFAI-FM Radio, *Pioneer Press*, Ginkgo’s Coffee Café, Great Waters Brewing Company, and Wells Pianos. For more information or to purchase tickets visit [landmarkcenter.org/redhouse.html](http://landmarkcenter.org/redhouse.html).

### **About Landmark Center**

Landmark Center is a dynamic, historic cultural center and central gathering place in downtown Saint Paul. It is owned and sponsored by Ramsey County and managed by Minnesota Landmarks, the nonprofit programming and management agency for the building. Landmark Center is located at 75 West 5th Street, on Rice Park and is accessible to those with impaired mobility. Parking is available on street and in nearby Lawson, Science Museum and RiverCentre Ramps. For more information call 651.292.3063 or visit [www.landmarkcenter.org](http://www.landmarkcenter.org).

### **About Red House Records**

Minnesota-based Red House Records is now in its 33rd year as an independent label. Over the last three decades, the Grammy-winning label has become internationally renowned for its roster of singer/songwriters, blues, traditional folk, Americana and instrumental music. Red House artists are players, singers and songwriters that make a difference in people's lives - important musicians with a living dream and vision from which we all can learn. Find more information about Red House Records at [www.redhourecords.com](http://www.redhourecords.com).

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