

MENDOCINO MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION

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Effective dates: Now through July 21, 2007

2007 Mendocino Music Festival Presents **Blues and Bluegrass with Chris Cain and Blue Highway**

The Mendocino Music Festival takes its mission to "enrich, educate and entertain all ages of residents and visitors by presenting world-class musicians and music on the Mendocino coast" very earnestly. This includes offering the wide variety of folk and ethnic music and the many forms that these genres have spawned.

On Wednesday, July 11 at 8:00 pm, the festival will present blues guitarist Chris Cain and his quartet. In the past the Mendocino Music Festival has given its audiences a chance to see Eric Bibb and Keb' Mo' before they reached national prominence and Cain is right in league with these bluesmen. *Blues Review* magazine has said: "Cain is a phenomenally gifted musician who has refined the pure match of strapping guitar and husky vocals. If his string attack doesn't devastate, his voice will." Compared to such guitarists as B. B. King, Albert King, and Wes Montgomery, he can deliver lyrics in a smooth and soulful voice that cuts like a knife. He represents the new face of blues, and the festival is pleased to have him on its program.

The following week on Monday, July 16 at 8:00 pm, a different kind of blue will be featured: bluegrass. One of the most esteemed and influential groups in contemporary bluegrass, Blue Highway excels at every facet of the music, from instrumental dexterity to impeccable vocal

interplay to literate, powerful songwriting. Members Jason Burleson (banjo, guitar, mandolin), Rob Ickes (Dobro), Shawn Lane (mandolin, fiddle, vocals), Tim Stafford (guitar, vocals), and Wayne Taylor (bass, vocals) excel individually, as solo artists and session players, and in the synthesis that is Blue Highway. The group and its members were nominated for 10 International Bluegrass Music Association awards in 2006.

Tickets for both of these outstanding acts are on sale now, both online at mendocinomusic.com, and at the festival office at 707-937-4041. Hear these top performers of blues and bluegrass at the Mendocino Music Festival.