



# InFocusVisions Music & Arts Magazine

The Latest on your Favorite Musicians and Artists!

## MENU

Home

Women in Music & the Arts

Product Reviews

INTERVIEWS/CD REVIEWS

Upcoming Shows

About/Contact

## The Village Trip Launch Party-NYC -5/22/2024



MAY 22



INFOCUSVISIONS-





The 2024 Village Trip (TVT), an annual festival of arts & activism, takes place this year on September 14-28 in various historic music and arts venues throughout Greenwich Village, East Village and the Lower East Side. Each year, the Festival showcases a two-week program of outstanding performers who have contributed to the culture and fabric of American music and the New York City music scene.

On May 22, 2024 at the launch party of The 2024 Village Trip, at the Bitter End, the community previewed The 2024 Village Trip Festival. The room was brimming with enthusiasm for a Village favorite, headliner, Willie Nile. He is often referred to as “the unofficial poet laureate of New York City” and for good reason. Acclaimed throughout his career for his numerous albums of original rock songs and performances with Bruce Springsteen, Peter Dinklage, Peter Townshend, Bono, Lou Reed, Lucinda Williams and Steve Earle (See <https://willienile.com>), his animated stage presence and talent, lit up the room. Catch Willie at his “Spirit of 76 Birthday Bash”, on June 8, 2024 at The Wonder Bar, Asbury Park, N.J.; his “Solo Show” on June 15, 2024 at The Town Crier Cafe at Beacon, N.Y. and “Positively Bob Dylan, Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Blood on the Tracks” on June 16, 2024 at The City Winery, New York City.

Also, on the program was Diane Garisto, mid-90’s member of the Laura Nyro ensemble who celebrates the art and soul of Laura Nyro in The 2024 Village Trip Festival with “Stoned Soul Picnic: The Laura Nyro Project”. Everyone remembers the most popular version of this song recorded by the 5<sup>th</sup> Dimension. See <http://stonedsoulpicnic.com>. Diane sang “And When I Die”, an all-time Laura Nyro favorite accompanied on keys by her musical director, Elise Morris. She toured internationally with Steely Dan and has sung on many albums from Paul Simon to Billy Joel.

Janie Barnett, award-winning producer, arranger, free-lance musician, voice of national commercials and professor at Berklee Music College performed “If You Were Here” and a singalong, “We Ain’t Dead Yet”. Her current project, “Reimagining Cole Porter” was released in September, 2023 and met with great reviews. She has performed with Linda Ronstadt, Bonnie Raitt, Patti Austin, Celine Dion, Bacon Brothers and Ronnie Spector. See <http://janiebarnett.com>.

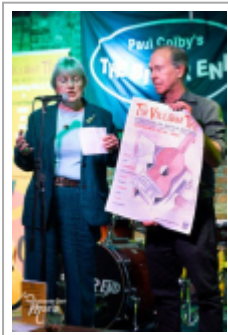
Completing the program was pianist/arranger, Yaron Gershovsky. He is featured in The 2024 Village Trip with “Janis Siegel and Friends” at the Blue Note celebrating three-time, Tony award winner, Cy Coleman on one program and Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn on a second program. See <http://www.yaronmusic.com>.

Finally, Manhattan Borough President, Mark Levine, who has always supported The Village Trip, arrived at the event and greeted everyone and spoke to the crowd.

Go to [www.thevillagetrip.com](http://www.thevillagetrip.com). Sign up for updates and the 2024 Festival highlights. Visit The Village Trip Art Show at Moshava Gallery. Don’t miss, the free, jammed-packed, outdoor concert in

Washington Square Park, "Bringing It All Back Home".

[Show slideshow]





Photos by Jamie Kalikow & Maria Passannante-Derr

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## CONTRIBUTORS

**We have a wonderful group of people working hard to make this a special magazine!**

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