



# FREDERIK MEIJER Gardens & Sculpture Park

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Meijer Gardens Announces 2009 Outdoor Summer Concert Series**

*Three-Month Series Features Eclectic Mix of Artists in Popular Outdoor Venue*

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., — April 3, 2009** — Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, one of the nation's most significant sculpture and botanic experiences, announces the entire lineup for its 2009 Summer Concert Series at the Meijer Gardens Amphitheater including acclaimed artists such as The Doobie Brothers, Lyle Lovett and Bonnie Raitt.

"The seventh season of Meijer Gardens' Summer Concert Series is extremely popular and there are always a handful of shows that quickly sell out, often strictly to members, who receive early access and discounts," said David Hooker, President & CEO of Meijer Gardens. "We often say 'membership has its advantages,' and this is an excellent example of the benefits of being a Meijer Gardens Member. There are several concerts each season, especially Lyle Lovett, which sell out to members, even before tickets become available to the public."

Tickets will become available to Meijer Gardens' members two weeks before going on sale to the general public. The Member Pre-Sale will occur May 2 through May 15. Meijer Gardens' members will have an exclusive two week period to purchase tickets and save up to \$5 per ticket. Members can purchase tickets at Meijer Gardens during hours of operation without service fees or through Star Tickets by phone (1-800-585-3737) and [StarTickets.com](http://StarTickets.com). *Per-order service fees apply.*

Tickets will go on sale to the general public on May 16. Tickets may be purchased at Meijer Gardens during hours of operation, [MeijerGardens.org](http://MeijerGardens.org) and at any Star Tickets location including [StarTickets.com](http://StarTickets.com) and Meijer stores. *Per-ticket and per-order fees apply.*

Memberships are available online at [www.meijergardens.org/membership](http://www.meijergardens.org/membership).

***The 2009 Summer Concert Series is sponsored by WOOD TV 8.***

2009 Summer Concert Series Lineup

### **The Derek Trucks Band**

**With special guest Ruthie Foster**

**Wednesday, June 10**

**Member Pre-Sale: \$28, Member: \$30, Public: \$33**

One of the most critically acclaimed guitarists and the youngest musician to be named in *Rolling Stone's* list of Top Hundred Guitarists of All Time, Derek Trucks has completed his much anticipated sixth studio album with The Derek Trucks Band, entitled "Already Free."

**The Avett Brothers**  
**With special guest Samantha Crain & the Midnight Shivers**  
**Thursday, June 18**  
**Member Pre-Sale: \$25, Member: \$28, Public: \$30**

The all acoustic The Avett Brothers combine folk, rock, bluegrass and country to create their infectious and upbeat melodies with three-part harmonies and introspective lyrics. The Avett Brothers' music has been compared to everyone from Buddy Holly and 1960s-era Beatles, to the Ramones and Nirvana.

**Indigo Girls**  
**With special guest Brandi Carlile**  
**Wednesday, June 24**  
**Member Pre-Sale: \$40, Member: \$43, Public: \$45**

Folk rock duo the Indigo Girls bring their Grammy-winning songwriting to the stage with effortless harmonies, honest and passionate lyrics, and infectious melodies. Their albums reflect a distinct style boasting complex and spiritual music, with influences from pop, punk and modern rock cataloging over two decades worth of revolutionary music.

**The Wallflowers**  
**Monday, June 29**  
**Member Pre-Sale: \$32, Member: \$35, Public: \$37**

The Wallflowers' influence ranges from Tom Petty, The Clash and T-Bone Burnett, to Bob Dylan—father of front man Jakob Dylan. Their 1997 album *Bringing Down the Horse* produced hits like "6th Avenue Heartache" and the Grammy Winner "One Headlight." *Rebel, Sweetheart*—their fifth album—is the welcome re-introduction to a rock & roll band with a renewed sense of purpose.

**Neko Case**  
**Thursday, July 16**  
**Member Pre-Sale: \$28, Member: \$30, Public: \$33**

Singer/songwriter Neko Case's trademark vocals, stark imagery and non-standard song structures won her the honor of 2006 Female Artist of the Year at the Plug Independent Music Awards. With roots in punk, her music has since been described as indie-rock, alt-country and "country noir," and her sixth studio album, *Middle Cyclone* debuted at #3 on the *Billboard* charts.

**Lyle Lovett & His Large Band**  
**Sunday, July 19**  
**Member Pre-Sale: \$59, Member: \$62, Public: \$64**

Always a highlight of the Summer Concerts at Meijer Gardens, Lyle Lovett is one of the all-time great American singer/songwriters and one of the most distinctive and original artists to emerge since the 80s. Lovett's Grammy award-winning music is beyond country with a wide range of instrumentation. His diverse collection of songs mixes gospel, blues, confessional rock, swing and Americana to weave stories with a rare literary talent.

**Keb' Mo'**  
**Thursday, July 23**  
**Member Pre-Sale: \$37, Member: \$40, Public: \$42**

Singer-songwriter Keb' Mo's musical roots embrace pop, rock, folk, and jazz while wrapped up in Mississippi blues. His slide guitar and acoustic mastery tell a story full of soul, human experience and emotion. The three-time Grammy award winner has collaborated with B.B. King, Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Brown and Elvis Costello, among others.

**Doobie Brothers****Wednesday, July 29****Member Pre-Sale: \$61, Member: \$64, Public: \$66**

As one of America's most-loved rock bands, the Doobie Brothers blend country, blues, jazz and rock in signature high-energy shows. Over 30 years and 22 million album sales, they have won multiple Grammy awards, earned numerous gold, platinum and multi-platinum albums, and were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame in 2004.

**Jeff Daniels****With Donna the Buffalo & Kelly Joe Phelps****Monday, August 3****Member Pre-Sale: \$35, Member: \$38, Public: \$40**

Movie actor and Michigan native Jeff Daniels shows off his wit and self-deprecating humor with a collection of contemporary blues songs like When You're 50. Sharing the stage is Donna the Buffalo, with their blend of reggae, rock, country, zydeco, Cajun, folk and old-time fiddle music; and Kelly Joe Phelps, whose country-blues and folk music delight with sounds of the banjo, steel guitar, fiddle and keyboard.

**Earl Scruggs****With Family and Friends****Thursday, August 13****Member Pre-Sale: \$35, Member: \$38, Public: \$40**

Bluegrass legend Earl Scruggs's career spans seven decades and he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Grammy Awards in 2008. A member of the Country Music Hall of Fame, Scruggs recorded such hits as "Foggy Mountain Breakdown" and "The Ballad of Jed Clampett," the popular theme of the TV show "The Beverly Hillbillies."

**George Thorogood & The Destroyers****Jonny Lang****Wednesday, August 19****Member Pre-Sale: \$59, Member: \$62, Public: \$64**

George Thorogood's rock-and-roll hits "Bad to the Bone" and "Who Do You Love" have earned him a spot at the top of Billboard's blues chart. Renowned for live performances in small blues clubs, he earned Billboard's "Best Blues Album of the Year" in 2004, and has had four gold albums to his credit.

Singer-songwriter Jonny Lang's mix of gospel, rustic country, Motown funk and jazzy folk earned him a Grammy and two platinum records early in his career. A professional musician since age 12, Lang has shared the stage with guitar legends like B.B. King, Buddy Guy, Aerosmith, Sting and the Rolling Stones among others.

**Bon Taj Roulet:****Bonnie Raitt & Taj Mahal Alone & Together****Sunday, August 23****Member Pre-Sale: \$66, Member: \$68, Public: \$70**

Nine-time Grammy winner, Bonnie Raitt is an accomplished songwriter, expressive singer and respected guitarist. A mix of blues, folk and soul led Raitt into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. She has collaborated with many great musicians including Ray Charles, B.B. King, Tony Bennett and Eric Clapton. Raitt has become one of the best-selling artists and a legend in American music.

Blues legend Taj Mahal's vibrant music spans four decades and represents a global perspective. A composer, multi-instrumentalist and vocalist, Taj Mahal is a two-time Grammy winner and will be inducted into the 2009 Blues Hall of Fame.

**Images are available upon request.**

**About Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park**

One of the nation's most significant botanic and sculpture experiences, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park serves more than a half-million visitors annually. The 132-acre grounds feature Michigan's largest tropical conservatory; one of the largest children's gardens in the country; arid and Victorian gardens; a carnivorous plant house; outdoor gardens; and a 1750-seat outdoor amphitheater, featuring an eclectic mix of world-renowned musicians every summer. The internationally acclaimed Sculpture Park features a permanent collection including works by Rodin, Oldenburg, Calder, Moore, Bourgeois and Plensa among others. Indoor galleries host changing sculpture exhibitions with recent exhibitions by Picasso, Degas, di Suvero and Chihuly. For additional information, please visit [www.meijergardens.org](http://www.meijergardens.org).

**Contact**

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