

23<sup>rd</sup> Annual

# Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## PRESS KIT

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EVENT PRODUCED BY THUNDERBIRD ARTISTS, INC.

Immediate Release: July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Kill Date: November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Contact: Denise Colter, [info@ThunderbirdArtists.com](mailto:info@ThunderbirdArtists.com)  
[www.ThunderbirdArtists.com](http://www.ThunderbirdArtists.com)



## Surround Yourself with Art at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival

Kick off the art season at Thunderbird Artists' 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and surround yourself with fine art, wine tasting, micro-brew tasting, festival food and live music, featuring steel drum extraordinaire, Paul McDermand. The featured artist for the event is landscape oil painter, Darrell Thomas.

Darrell Thomas, born and raised in Utah, discovered his passion at 7 years old, when his teacher complimented an art project. His path into the world of art continued to blossom and he has never looked back. Darrell studied Illustration in college and graduated from Utah State University. After graduation he worked as an illustrator, for 20 years, after which he decided to pursue his true dream and paint for himself. He found it not only exciting, but rewarding to give up his position in commercial art to pursue a fine art career.

Darrell has won numerous awards for his work and his proudest accomplishment is gaining the support of wonderful clients from all over the world. *"The best compliment an artist can receive is when a customer takes home a piece of his art to make it a part of their lives."*

In addition to the magnificent works of Darrel Thomas, more than 150 other juried fine artisans from throughout the United States and abroad will participate displaying paintings in oil, watercolor, pastel, acrylic, and ink; impressive small, medium and life-sized sculptures, sparkling hand blown glass, baskets, clay, metal, stone, spectacular handcrafted jewelry, exceptional photography and much more!

The festival also combines fine art with an extensive collection of domestic and imported wines and micro-brews for tasting. For \$10, patrons will receive an engraved souvenir glass with six tasting tickets; allowing them to walk the streets of downtown Carefree sipping samples, enjoying superb art and listening to live musical entertainment.

Come visit Darrell and other renowned artists, for our award-winning Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 5pm each day. A truly can't miss event!



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## *Paul McDermand Mesmerizes Audiences*

Thunderbird Artists, the leading producer of award-winning fine art and wine events in the Southwest, is excited to feature Paul McDermand on the stage for the Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Paul plays an assortment of percussion and a variety of musical genres. Enhanced by tasteful orchestration, his exuberant steel drums and soft, sensual marimba lead the listener through a vast array of standard, romantic and popular works.

Paul McDermand began his musical career as a free-lance percussionist in the Chicago area. At the age of nineteen, he assumed the percussion duties on a popular theatrical production playing in one of Chicago's downtown theaters. The show was called "The Magic Man," and its star was another teenager, David Copperfield.

In 1981, Paul moved to the Phoenix area, lending his artistry to film scores, commercial jingles, symphonic productions and stage shows of every description. After performing in New York City, he returned to Arizona and began to develop an assortment of instrumental arrangements built around the steel drums and marimba, resulting in numerous CD releases. With his rising demand as a concert artist, Paul McDermand appears both as leader of his own group and as a guest soloist with the finest ensembles. For the weekend of the Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival, Paul will be performing with some of the finest musicians throughout the valley.

In addition to the exotic sounds of steel drums, the festival will also feature Whiskey Kiss. Whiskey Kiss has been stirring things up since 2012, and have nicely settled into a groove with a strong following. Niki White, lead vocals, has come into her own as a performer and songwriter. Her husband, Nick White, adds bluesy melodies along with Tommy Collins, the acrobatic upright bass player, Bruce Legge, a multi-instrumentalist, adding saxophone and flugelhorn to his trumpet and trombone skills, and Michael Robinson, will debut his talents on the drums.

Be sure to attend the Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am-5pm, and visit the Sanderson Lincoln Pavilion to hear the mesmerizing tunes of Paul McDermand and guest musicians. Patrons will enjoy a feast of the senses; from visual art and tasty food to sounds for the soul!





# CALENDAR FACT SHEET

RELEASE: July 10, 2016

CONTACT: Denise Colter, 480-837-5637, [info@thunderbirdartists.com](mailto:info@thunderbirdartists.com)

## 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual CAREFREE FINE ART & WINE FESTIVAL

**WHEN:** November 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**HOURS:** 10am to 5pm each day

**WHERE:** Downtown Carefree, Arizona - 101 Easy Street, Carefree, AZ 85377

**ADMISSION:** \$3 for adults, free for children under 18

**PARKING:** Free

**WHO:** More than 150 award-winning fine artists from throughout the United States and abroad, displaying paintings in all mediums and subjects. In addition to a wide variety of paintings, drawings, charcoals and pastels, patrons will find impressive small, medium and life-sized sculptures, bronzes, sparkling hand blown glass, wood, clay, metal, stone, gourds, one of a kind handcrafted jewelry, exceptional photography and much more!

**FEATURED ARTIST:** Oil painter, Darrell Thomas. Darrell's passion for art began in early childhood and has since grown into a full time career. He has received many awards over the years and has been blessed with an ardent following.

**MUSIC:** The Sanderson Lincoln Pavilion will come alive with sounds of the steel drums, courtesy of the featured musician, Paul McDermand. Paul will have guest musicians perform alongside him throughout the three days. Whiskey Kiss will also be performing a combination of smooth jazz favorites and classic rock.

**WINE TASTING:** A vast array of domestic and imported wines will be available for tasting from wineries including: Aged 2 Perfection, King Frosch, Oak Creek Vineyards, PRP Wine, Schlossadler International, Sogno Toscano, Su Vino and more! Desert Diamond Distillery will also be serving flavored rums and Peoria Artisan Brewing provides ice cold micro-brews. There is a fee of \$10, which includes an engraved souvenir glass and six tasting tickets. Additional tickets may be purchased for \$1.

**PRODUCED BY:** THUNDERBIRD ARTISTS, INC.

**INFORMATION:** 480-837-5637 or [www.ThunderbirdArtists.com](http://www.ThunderbirdArtists.com)