

Mechanics Hall

Where Community and Culture Meet

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Mechanics Hall and WICN Public Radio announce May Club 321 event

Duke Robillard Quartet to perform on Thursday, May 18

May 3, 2023 (Worcester, MA) — Guitarist [Duke Robillard](#) and his quartet will perform jazz and signature blues from their legendary musical repertoire at Club 321 on Thursday, May 18 at 7pm. In addition, works by contemporary artist [Karen Reid](#) will be exhibited during the event. Tickets are \$18 purchased in advance; \$20 at the door. Ticketholders must be at least 21 years old. Seating is cabaret-style tables in Mechanics Hall's elegant Washburn Hall, with cash bar and light refreshments available for purchase. Mechanics Hall is located at 321 Main Street in Worcester. To learn more and purchase tickets, visit mechanicshall.org/club321. For more information about the featured artist, visit www.klreidart.com

A cross between a jazz club and coffeehouse, Club 321 is a live music experience in downtown Worcester co-produced by Mechanics Hall and 90.5 WICN Public Radio. Featuring an eclectic blend of musicians performing Americana, jazz, world music, blues, and more, Club 321 takes place at Mechanics Hall on select Thursday evenings throughout the year. Performances **begin at 7pm; doors open at 6:15pm.**

The accessible entrance to Mechanics Hall is located on Waldo Street. Elevators are located in the ground-floor lobby and provide access to the second and third floors. Those who need assistance can contact the Mechanics Hall Ticket Office, Monday through Friday from 9:30am to 4:30pm, by calling 508-752-5608.

About Duke Robillard

Rhode Island-based Duke Robillard has carved out one of blues' most illustrious legacies, while also covering some lofty related musical territories as a guitarist, vocalist, songwriter, bandleader, studio sideman, producer, label operator and educator. In 1967, he founded the band, "Roomful of Blues," with pianist Al Copley in Westerly, R.I. Considered the prototypical jump blues band, "Roomful" became a legend in New England and beyond, as did Robillard himself. Known for his mastery of the guitar style of T-Bone Walker, Robillard's



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musical breadth in the band was also impressive--from swing, standards and ballads to rockers, gutbucket Chicago blues and rockabilly. By the time Robillard left "Roomful" after a dozen years to pursue a solo career, he was firmly established in the upper echelon of contemporary blues guitarists.

Robillard's resume is decorated with Grammy nominations, Handy Awards, and Blues Music Awards, and other honors for his artistry, recordings and productions within the United States and internationally. [Learn more about Duke Robillard.](#)

About Mechanics Hall

Built in 1857 by WCMA, Mechanics Hall is internationally regarded as one of the world's great concert halls for its superb acoustics and 19th-century elegance. Regionally, it is widely considered to be Worcester's finest meeting place. The world's most renowned orchestras and performers—from the London Philharmonic to Yo-Yo Ma and Ella Fitzgerald to Linda Rondstat—have taken the Hall's stage. Among the many luminaries who have spoken at Mechanics Hall are Charles Dickens, Susan B. Anthony, Frederick Douglass, and Mark Twain. In addition to serving as a premiere venue and recording site, Mechanics Hall offers inspiring cultural experiences for diverse audiences through a variety of creative initiatives—including free concerts, community events, a youth chorus, and collaborative programs with local colleges and non-profit organizations.

A non-profit organization, Mechanics Hall is owned and operated by the Worcester County Mechanics Association (est. 1842). It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Learn more at mechanicshall.org.

About 90.5FM WICN

WICN Public Radio, Inc. has been a dynamic presence in the cultural life of central Massachusetts for over fifty years. WICN originated in 1969 as Worcester's Inter-Collegiate Network, joining The College of the Holy Cross and Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) with other local colleges. WICN was accredited by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting in 1987.

As one of the few remaining jazz-focused radio stations in the United States, WICN is committed to the keeping the Worcester community vibrant and economically sustainable through the presentation of authentic, independent music on the radio and in the concert halls, preserving America's living art forms of jazz and other music for generations to enjoy. Learn more at wicn.org.

