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By Julie Reeder - August 9, 2026



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Jazz Under the Stars at Danza Del Sol Winery

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Danza Del Sol crowd enjoys wine and jazz under the stars. Valley News photo



A premiere concert event, 'Jazz Night Under the Stars,' featured acclaimed Grammy-nominated musicians, pianist David Benoit and saxophonist Eric Marienthal. They performed beneath a colorful sunset and clear evening sky on Saturday, Aug. 8, at Danza del Sol Winery, bringing an evening of contemporary jazz to an enthusiastic audience of about 140 people.

Benoit entertained the crowd with stories from his decades-long career and performed music from some of his best-selling recordings. The celebrated pianist, composer and conductor has released 42 albums during a career spanning more than four decades.

Marienthal delighted concertgoers with energetic saxophone performances, joining Benoit and the other musicians to fill the winery grounds with music as daylight faded and the stars emerged.

Audience members responded enthusiastically throughout the concert, which paired world class jazz with excellent wines, charcuterie, and the relaxed atmosphere and vineyard setting of Danza del Sol Winery.

"It was so exciting working with such great talent. The atmosphere and the entire evening were wonderful, and I want to thank Jon Dellaria and his team for orchestrating this highly entertaining concert. We are looking forward to future events at Danza del Sol Winery. We believe teamwork makes the dream work. Here's to the beginning of a great musical future at Danza del Sol Winery," said Kentina Hospitality and Danza Del Sol Winery owner, Ken Smith.

Kentina Hospitality also owns Galway Downs, Galway Spirits and Native Falls Campground. Ken Smith is also the majority owner of CrossCreek Golf Club.



"Our premiere concert event, 'Jazz Night Under the Stars,' presented by Dellaria Events and Entertainment and hosted by Danza del Sol Winery's Ken and Tina Smith, featured world-class jazz, estate wine and country hospitality. The SRO audience thoroughly enjoyed David Benoit and Eric Marienthal's entertaining show. Upcoming concerts, featuring a rare array of musical performances, will take place in October and November with details to follow, said Cheryl J. Kagen, who provided public relations for Dellaria.

When asked if there would be more of these intimate high-quality concerts in the future, Danza Del Sol Winery and Galway Downs, Dellaria said, "Yes, Ken Smith has agreed to do more this year, including some very exciting names with which we are currently in negotiations."

Danza del Sol Winery is located on De Portola Road in Temecula Valley Wine Country and their website is Danzadelsolwinery.com.