



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 16, 2010

MATRIX:MIDLAND presents:

What: An Acoustic Evening with Lyle Lovett & John Hiatt

When: February 9, 2011 • 8 pm

Where: Auditorium, Midland Center for the Arts, 1801 W. St. Andrews Rd., Midland, MI 48640

Cost: \$50 | \$46 | \$38

Information: Call Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649 or www.mcfta.org

Find this on our website: <http://www.mcfta.org/OnstageGroups.html#guest>

MIDLAND - Two songwriting giants on stage together! Lyle Lovett and John Hiatt are teaming up this winter for a series of intimate acoustic shows that will feature both artists performing side-by-side, alternating songs from their respective careers. Utilizing their dynamic chemistry to mix witty banter with finely crafted country, swing, folk, and blues, Lovett and Hiatt have been touring together in one fashion or another since 1989. MATRIX:MIDLAND presents **An Acoustic Evening with Lyle Lovett & John Hiatt** at Midland Center for the Arts for one night only: Wednesday, February 9, 2011, at 8 pm. Tickets cost \$38, \$46 and \$50, and go on sale starting December 13 at noon. Call the Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649, or buy online at mcfta.org.

Four-time Grammy Award winner Lyle Lovett has created his own style of Americana music in a career that spans 14 albums and more than four million records sold. Since his self-titled debut in 1986, Texas-based Lovett defies convention by fusing elements of the blues, country, folk, gospel and jazz with a unique gift for storytelling, as evidenced by such well-known songs as "If I Had a Boat," "She's No Lady," and "My Baby Don't Tolerate." Recorded with his legendary Large Band, Lovett's latest album, *Natural Forces* (Curb/Lost Highway), combines new songs with those by fellow Texas songwriters he admires such as Townes Van Zandt and Eric Taylor. The *Boston Globe* said, "The songs represent some of his best, most poignant work." www.lylelovett.com

John Hiatt is currently on the road in support of his 19th studio release *The Open Road* (New West Records). The press response for the new album has been overwhelmingly positive including recent praise from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*: "'The Open Road,' in fact, finds the songster operating near his peak." Known for his extraordinary songwriting talent, Hiatt was inducted into the Nashville Songwriter's Hall of Fame in 2008 and also was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award in Songwriting from The Americana Music Association. Hiatt has written songs covered by artists in a wide variety of genres such as Bob Dylan, Rosanne Cash, Willie Nelson, Jewel and Bonnie Raitt, who most famously recorded "Thing Called Love." www.johnhiatt.com

The interplay and immense talent of Lovett and Hiatt up close and personal is an experience not to be missed. You'll hear their storytelling mastery not only in the songs they sing, but in the insightful tales they offer up between songs. Regarding a Lovett/Hiatt performance, the *Toronto Star* wrote "the concert was filled with camaraderie, with heart-warming displays of mutual respect, formidable musicianship and the highest level of song craft." The *Tampa Tribune* added, "the two hour plus performance was rocking and soulful, touching and hilarious." "A show that's

part musical journey, part storytellers' session, and large part stand-up routine," writes Bob Mehr of *Go Memphis*. "It's hard not to be moved both by the music and the personal chemistry between these two friends, writers and raconteurs."

MATRIX:MIDLAND presents professional, world-class entertainment to the mid-Michigan region. For over 30 years, Matrix has hosted an extraordinary schedule of cutting-edge entertainment including cinema, music, comedy, family programs, world-renowned authors and more.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, Center Stage Theatre, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, and Music Society – Choral. Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at www.mcfta.org.

Contact:
Julie Dukes
Communications Manager
(989) 631-5930 x 1602
dukes@mcfta.org

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Midland Center for the Arts • 1801 W. St. Andrews Rd. • Midland, MI 48640 • (989) 631-5930 • (989) 631-7890 fax • www.mcfta.org