



**Overture**  
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

## NEWS RELEASE

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### The Hot Sardines to Play Capitol Theater

*Jazz Collective Channels New York Speakeasies, Parisian Cabarets, and New Orleans Jazz Halls*

MADISON, Wis. – New York-based ensemble performs music first made famous decades ago come alive through brassy horn arrangements, rollicking piano melodies, and vocals from a chanteuse who transports listeners to a different era. Overture Center welcomes The Hot Sardines to Capitol Theater on Tuesday, May 17 at 7:30 p.m.

The Hot Sardines' self-titled debut album, named by iTunes as one of the best jazz albums of 2014, spent more than a year on the Billboard Jazz Chart, debuting in the top 10 alongside Michael Bublé, and Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga. The accolades began pouring in for the band: *Downbeat* called The Hot Sardines "one of the most delightfully energetic bands on New York's 'hot' music scene," while *The London Times* praised their "crisp musicianship" and "immaculate and witty showmanship," declaring them "simply phenomenal."

"We found ourselves in the perfect place at the perfect time," says Evan. "As we explored this 100 year-old jazz, we began to look at it as a journey forward, not so much as a look back. This is music for today, not a museum piece."

Palazzo and lead singer Elizabeth Bougerol met in 2007 after they both answered a Craigslist ad about a jazz jam session above a Manhattan noodle shop. The unlikely pair — she was a London School of Economics-educated travel writer who grew up in France, Canada and the Ivory Coast, he was a New York City born and raised actor who studied theater at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia—bonded over their love for Fats Waller. Influenced also by such greats as Dinah Washington, Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday, they began playing open mic nights and small gigs and by 2011, they headlined *Midsummer Night Swing* at New York's Lincoln Center.

The Hot Sardines played more than 100 shows last year, taking their act from their familiar confines of New York across the country. "In a weird way, it never occurred to me that anyone was listening to us outside of New York City. To show up in a town and have people say, 'I love this song. I love this video' is mind-blowing to me," says Bougerol, who adds she remembers the towns by the food. "I'm always trying to find some sort of mom-and-pop place where I can eat something that they make in that area."

Tickets start at \$30 and can be purchased at [overturecenter.org](http://overturecenter.org), in person at the ticket office or by phone at 608.258.4141. Discounted tickets for groups of ten are available by calling 608.258.4159.

The Hot Sardines, part of the Overture Center Jazz Series, is sponsored by UW Madison University Research Park and Axley.

Click here for [photos](#) and [videos](#).

#### **About Overture Center for the Arts**

*Overture Center for the Arts in Madison, Wisconsin features seven state-of-the-art performance spaces and five galleries where national and international touring artists, ten resident companies, and hundreds of local artists engage nearly half a million people in educational and artistic experiences each year. [OvertureCenter.org](http://OvertureCenter.org)*

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Editor's note: The Hot Sardines are available for advance phoners. Please contact [sknab@overturecenter.org](mailto:sknab@overturecenter.org) to request.