

MEDIA Release

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The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center presents its
ANNUAL SPRING GUITAR EXTRAVAGANZA

Third Installment of Five Towns College's Unique
Tribute to the late Jazz guitar virtuoso Tony Mottola
will be held April 29th at 7:30 p.m.

Evening to feature historically accurate performances
by Mottola historian John Kelly



April 7, Dix Hills, NY – The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center will present its annual Spring Guitar Extravaganza, paying homage to late Jazz guitar virtuoso Tony Mottola with a re-creation of many of his studio hits, April 29th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets to this evening of exceptional entertainment are just \$10.

A guitarist's guitarist whose work often defied categorization, Mottola (1918-2004) was, for decades, the most sought-after studio musician at CBS records, performing extensively with Frank Sinatra and Perry Como on radio and television, and orchestrated albums for Burl Ives.

Ironically, his most popular work was a theme he wrote for the 1950s television series Danger starring Yul Brenner, which not only earned him fan mail, but led fellow musicians to coin the term "the Danger chord." His only hit under his own name to chart was 1968's "This Boy's in Love With You," which reached number 22 in *Billboard's* Top 40 Easy Listening hits.



He appeared on the Dumont Television Network's Melody Street, and was hired by Skitch Henderson as an original member of the NBC Orchestra for The Tonight Show, had his own variety show Face the Music and accompanied Sing Along with Mitch starring Mitch Miller and Your Show of Shows starring Sid Caesar. But despite such mainstream visibility, it was his dozens of solo studio

albums that produced his most enduring work, particularly his early ensemble work.

The concert, the third in a series under the direction of FTC Professor Peter Rogine, will faithfully recreate this body of work on stage with the help of noted Mottola expert John Kelly. Kelly worked to recreate the original musical arrangements which were recorded, and never played live for an audience. Of course they have been heard by successive generations of Jazz fans and aficionados who have come to recognize the genius of Tony Mottola. He was a frequent collaborator with musicians like Bucky Pizzarelli who recently appeared at the Dix Hills Center to a large and appreciative audience. Bucky fans will enjoy the Guitar Extravaganza immensely.

The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center

The Dix Hills Performing Arts Center is located at Five Towns College, 305 North Service Road, Dix Hills, New York, 11746-5857. For more information and ticket sales, please contact the Dix Hills Performing Arts Center box office at (631) 656-2148 or visit online at www.DHPAC.org. Become a fan on Facebook! (Dix Hills Performing Arts Center).