



NEWSLETTER
October 2023

Dear MAX Members and Friends,

We are excited to present a Fall calendar filled with numerous interesting events! A festive event is the Halloween Party - the theme is Drag but any costume is fine. We hope to see you at one of these events soon!

MAX appreciates the folks who have renewed their membership. We hope lapsed members see the value in the camaraderie and fun events offered by MAX. We hope they will renew soon to continue receiving the newsletters and other benefits of membership.

Jim Tom, Chairman

Upcoming Events

[October 6 - First Friday at Beaux](#)

[October 7 - Guided Tour of the Nike Missile Site](#)

[October 15 - SF Music Day and Brunch](#)

[October 19 - Third Thursday at Beaux](#)

[October 28 - Halloween Costume and Drag Party!](#)

[October 29 - Artists' Studios Tour](#)

[November 11 - New Conservatory Theater: "we are continuous"](#)

Other Planned Events

Other events already scheduled or in the planning stages include the following plus our usual bi-monthly gatherings at Beaux.

November 18 - Malcom X opera simulcast

November/December - Conservatory of Music

December 7 - Dine About at restaurant

December 15 - Holiday Cheers - Champagne social

December 19 - Smuin Ballet (LGBTQ night) and optional dinner

***Note:** All upcoming events also can be seen on the MAX website/calendar at www.maxsf.org. Clicking on a newsletter link herein and then seeing "Page not found (error 404)" indicates link was corrupted. Please go directly to the website to register if the hyperlinks herein do not work.*

[Recap of Recent Events](#)

First Friday at Beaux

Come socialize with old friends and make some new friends at First Friday on **October 6th** at Beaux Bar, 2344 Market Street. The event goes from 5:30pm to 7:30 pm. There is no entry or cover charge for this event. Happy hour prices apply as mixed drinks are buy one, get one free until 7pm. We hope to see you there!

Guided Tour of Nike Missile Site

Saturday, October 7, 12pm-3pm - Join event champions, Elie Abijaoude and Jim Tom for a fascinating guided tour of the Nike Missile Site SF 88 with an approximate 2 to 2.5 hour duration. Site is in the Marin Headlands in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. A Nike Veteran will provide a special tour for MAX that will take us back in history to learn about the nuclear arm race and America's defense during the Cold War. As the Cold War heated up in the early 1950s, a sense of imminent danger and fear of Soviet nuclear attack entered Americans' daily lives. In response, the US Army constructed a nationwide system of almost 300 Nike missile sites with radar directed Nike missiles carrying nuclear warheads to meet incoming Soviet aircraft. The Site SF 88 is the only site to be restored and opened to the public.

Tour is accompanied with full narrative and stories of personal experiences of a Nike Cold War veteran. Tour includes seeing: a Nike Hercules Missile under assembly and near completion in the assembly room; the fueling station and assembly area for the Ajax Missile, the first Surface to Air guided missile; integrated fire control - missile and target tracking; security procedures; nuclear protocols; launch area and missile magazine with complete Nike Hercules Missiles, and; demonstration of launch positioning. For more information on the Nike Missile site, go to: go.nps.gov/nike



Meet at the Nike Missile Site. Google map location is: [RFGF+R2 Mill Valley, California](#)

Event is limited to 20 people. The tour is free, but you must register and pay a \$20 fee to reserve your spot. The reservation fee will be refunded at the tour. A waitlist will be made available for cancellations. NO REFUNDS for cancellations after September 30. Dues-paying MAX members shall have early priority for registration due to expected demand. Register by clicking on: <https://maxsf.org/event-5397622>

Pack a lunch! No food is available for sale there. We will eat lunch on-site during a break or after tour. For additional information, contact Jim Tom at: jim.tom@maxsf.org

SF Music Day and Brunch

Sunday, October 15, Performances 12pm-7pm. Optional Brunch at 12pm

Join MAX to attend the SF Music Day, a free, daylong music festival hosted in the center of San Francisco's arts and culture district. Founded 15 years ago, this event celebrates the diverse Bay Area music community where audiences can enjoy live music performances at the historic San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center. Admission is free, but the website is requesting people to register. For more information, go to: <https://intermusicssf.org/sf-music-day>



SF Music Day offers a staggering array of repertoire and styles. From chamber music to jazz, contemporary works to global sounds, the event showcases extraordinary musicians from across the Bay with music that spans continents and centuries. SF Music Day will feature 25 local ensembles performing short sets over seven hours on four stages in the ornate War Memorial Veterans Building.

The event is free and runs from 12-7pm. Attendees can go at anytime. For those interested in an optional lunch beforehand, we will meet for lunch/brunch at 12pm at Max's Opera Cafe at 601 Van Ness, and then walk over there together. For information on the cafe, go to: <https://www.maxsoperasf.com> For the optional lunch, you must register and pay a \$20 fee to reserve your spot. The reservation fee will be refunded at lunch. You are responsible for what you order - please bring cash to help settle the bill. A waitlist will be made available for cancellations should lunch spots fill up. NO REFUNDS for cancellations after October 10. Register by clicking on: <https://maxsf.org/event-5399905>

If you do not join us for brunch, we hope to see you inside at one of the performances. You can pick whatever performance you wish to see and just go to that stage. Seating is on a first come basis.

For additional information, contact Jim Tom at: jim.tom@maxsf.org

Third Thursday at Beaux

Come socialize with old friends and make some new friends at Third Thursday on October 19th at Beaux Bar, 2344 Market Street. The event goes from 5:30pm to 7:30 pm. There is no entry or cover charge for this event. Happy hour prices apply as mixed drinks are buy one, get one free until 7pm. We hope to see you there!

Halloween Costume and Drag Party

Saturday, October 28, 5pm - 8pm - Join MAX for a festive Costume Party this Halloween! The theme is Drag but any costume is fine. You must come in some in some semblance of drag or a costume to be admitted. Please honor this request, so get your outfit and accessories ready! You will want to look fabulous!



Wine, liquor, non-alcoholic beverages and heavy appetizers will be served. The cost is \$30 person for members and \$36 for non-members. Space is limited to 40 people, but a waitlist will be available for cancellations. No cancellation refunds after October 20. To register, go to: <https://maxsf.org/event-5298966>

Location is around Gough and Clay Streets in Pacific Heights. Address will be provided a week prior to the event to those who register. For more information, contact Ken at ken.cleveland@maxsf.org or Jim Tom at jim.tom@maxsf.org

Artists' Studios Tour

Sunday, October 29, 1pm - Join MAX for a FREE tour of local artists' studios. This event is led by your event champions, Joel Barish and Bruce Cecil. The studios are opened from 11am - 5pm, but we will meet at 1:00 pm at 1890 Bryant Street in San Francisco. Every autumn, hundreds of San Francisco artists open their studios to the general public. They do it with a hope that people will want to purchase the art, but they are always happy to talk about their work. Most of the artists also put out beverages and snacks, to make it more enticing to come into their studios. This year, MAX will start by visiting the 1890 Bryant Street Studios, a unique industrial art complex with 100+ artists, for about an hour, then walk over to other nearby buildings that house art studios. If you discover it's not your cup of tea, you could always drop out at any time.

Please register at: <https://maxsf.org/event-5436820>

There is a 12-person maximum for this event, but a wait list for cancellations will be created if necessary. For additional information, contact Bruce at bruce.cecil@maxsf.org

New Conservatory Theater: "we are continuous"

Saturday, November 11. 7:30-10:00pm (show) / 5:45pm (optional dinner)

Join event champion Bruce Cecil as we go see the West Coast premier of "we are continuous" at the New Conservatory Theater at 25 Van Ness Ave., just off Market Street in San Francisco. MAX has secured 10 tickets, all together in a group, in premier seating. Tickets are \$42 for MAX members and \$48 for non-MAX members (this price includes all service fees, and is 25% off the regular price if you are a MAX member). A wait list will be available for possible additional discounted tickets.

To register for the **show**, go to: <https://maxsf.org/event-5417611>

The play, by Harrison David Rivers, is semi-autobiographical. It explores how people can change and how love can evolve. In the play, Simon's mother was his best friend and biggest supporter, before he came out. But now there's an

ocean between them of what can't be said, especially around his father, and a life-changing secret comes to light, which threatens the family. Here is the link to read more: <https://nctcsf.org/event/we-are-continuous/>

Optional Pre-show Dinner: We will meet at about 5:45 to 6 pm for dinner at Cadillac Bar and Grill, 44 Ninth St. located about 3 blocks away from the theater. Come a little bit earlier (about 5:15 to 5:45 pm) for cocktails at the bar before dinner. Reserve your spot with a refundable \$10 deposit, which helps us arrange the correct number of seats. At the restaurant, we will return the \$10 to you in cash, and everyone will pay individually for what they choose to eat or drink. **IMPORTANT** - Bring cash to pay for dinner, instead of paying using a credit card. To register for **dinner**, go to: <https://maxsf.org/event-5417602>

Deadline to register and pay for **both** the show and the optional pre-show dinner is Nov. 1. No refunds will be allowed after that date. For additional information, contact Bruce at bruce.cecil@maxsf.org.

[Recap of Recent Events](#)

Tour of SF Civic Center - The MAX tour on September 14 about San Francisco's historic civic center was well-received. Led by Jim Haas, Esq., an authority on the City Beautiful movement and author of a book that details how San Francisco's civic center historic buildings were built, the talk ended with an informative tour of City Hall and special moment on the Mayor's balcony.



Retrospective Art Show presented by Tom of Finland Foundation -

On September 19, MAX and other social groups enjoyed socializing and viewing erotic and queer art at the home of Gary Keener. Gary hosted the Tom of Finland Foundation Artist-in-Residence, Felix D'eon, whose paintings were among the highlights in Gary's art collection.



Angel Island Excursion - MAX members explored Angel Island on September 23, which was a gorgeous day for our outdoor adventure. After a ferry ride from the SF Ferry Building, some MAXers hiked while others took a tram from the ferry arrival to the Angel Island Immigration Station. This station operated from 1910 – 1940 and was established to be the Ellis Island of the West. A primary goal was to enforce the Chinese Exclusion Act and thereby discourage and restrict immigration from China. The group enjoyed a fascinating tour of the detention barracks museum by an excellent volunteer docent, Joe, whom many considered to be "a cut above".

After touring the immigration center, MAX had a picnic lunch and enjoyed performances by a group of classical musicians and a German oompah band. After lunch, MAX took a guided tram tour around the perimeter of the entire island. Highlights included the military garrison established in 1863 during the Civil War, the ruins of Fort McDowell, and the remains of a NIKE Missile Site, where non-nuclear missiles were based during the Cold War to defend against Soviet Union bombers. Finally, the group hopped on the last ferry back to San Francisco.



