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**SOUTH FALLSBURG'S GRAMMY-NOMINATED JAZZ PIANIST
AND
LEGENDARY SINGER/SONGWRITER
TO CLOSE 2009 SEASON AT BETHEL WOODS**

(November 2, 2009) BETHEL, N.Y. – The non-profit Bethel Woods Center for the Arts will conclude its 2009 concert season with back-to-back, Event Gallery performances on November 13 and 14, by legendary artists Tom Rush and Kenny Werner.

Reserved seats for Tom Rush are \$40 in advance and \$25 for Kenny Werner. Ticket prices increase \$5.00 day of show. Tickets are available at www.BethelWoodsCenter.org, by phone at 800-745-3000, or during regular Bethel Woods Box Office hours Thursday – Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Doors open one hour prior to show time. For more information please visit www.BethelWoodsCenter.org.

On Friday, November 13th at 8:00 p.m. folk-legend **Tom Rush**, credited by *Rolling Stone*, with ushering in the singer/songwriter era with his 1968 album, *The Circle Game*, will treat his audience to his passionate, tender renditions which knit together the musical traditions and talents of our time.

Rush's impact on the American music scene has been profound, helping to shape the folk revival in the '60s and the renaissance of the '80s and '90s, leaving his stamp on generations of artists. James Taylor, Emmylou Harris, Tom Petty and Garth Brooks have cited Tom as major influences. His early recordings introduced the world to the work of Joni Mitchell, Jackson Browne and James Taylor. Subsequently, his live performances brought attention to emerging artists such as Nanci Griffith and Shawn Colvin. Earlier this year, his first full-length studio album in over thirty years, *What I Know* was released. This new chapter in his legendary career features original material and Rush's interpretations of songs such as "Drift Away."

Bethel Woods presents an Evening of Jazz with South Fallsburg's own Grammy-nominee, **Kenny Werner** on Saturday, November 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Werner got an early start as a pianist, recording with a 15-piece orchestra and appearing on television by age 11. He attended the Manhattan School of Music while still in high school, and later the Berklee College of Music when he felt the pull of jazz.

His first jazz recording, in 1977, featured the music of Bix Beiderbecke, Duke Ellington, James P. Johnson, and George Gershwin, and later that year he recorded with Charles Mingus on "Something Like a Bird". In 1981, he released his first album of original work, *Beyond the Forest of Mirkwood*, followed by *298 Bridge Street* a year later.

He toured extensively in the early '80s, later forming his first and lasting trio with bassist Ratzon Harris and drummer Tom Rainey, resulting in four albums. In the mid 90s he joined the Mel Lewis Orchestra, performing with and writing for the group later known as the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra. He's also written for the Cologne Radio Jazz Orchestra, the Danish Radio Jazz Orchestra, The Metropole Orchestra and the Umo Jazz Orchestra.

From 2000 – 2007 he's appeared with a trio featuring Ari Hoenig and Johannes Weidenmuller, recording three cds to date. He's also performed and collaborated with the likes of Joe Lovano, Betty Buckley, Toots Thielmans, and Oscar Castro-Neves. In 2002 he was nominated for a Grammy for best instrumental composition for a duo with Thielmans.

In 2007 he wrote an extended composition for the MIT wind ensemble and an entire evening with Betty Buckley and the Seattle Symphony. He has also published a groundbreaking book on aspects of mastering and performing, *Effortless Mastery*, which is considered an essential read for artists of any kind, and required reading at many universities. Additionally, he has received four grants from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Responding to guest requests, Bethel Woods will present these two special performances as a precursor to Event Gallery series planned for 2010. Matt McNeil, Bethel Woods Marketing Director explains, "Jazz and singer/songwriters are consistently among the most requested genres. These performances offer a rare opportunity to hear true legends in an exceptional music hall. Watch for an amazing line up of intimate performances in The Event Gallery next year."

For more information on Bethel Woods Center for the Arts and The Museum at Bethel Woods, please visit www.BethelWoodsCenter.org. Follow the Center and The Museum on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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