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## MEDIA RELEASE

Media contact: Vickilyn Hussey / Public Relations / Arizona Musicfest / [trendlab@cox.net](mailto:trendlab@cox.net) / C 602.402.5713 / T 602.441.2682

### ***Rockin' In Rhythm***

**John Pizzarelli, Guitar/Vocals; Jessica Molaskey, Vocals**  
**Larry Fuller, Piano; Martin Pizzarelli, Bass; Tony Tedesco, Drums**  
**Special Guest, Bucky Pizzarelli, Guitar**

Friday, February 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Scottsdale First Assembly

28700 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale 85266

**Tickets:** \$40; Premium Seating \$55; Student (K-College) \$5

Call (480) 488-0806, toll free (866) 488-0806 or visit [www.azmusicfest.org](http://www.azmusicfest.org) for tickets.

Complimentary valet parking is available.

**John Pizzarelli** has been called “hip with a wink” by *Town & Country*, “madly creative” by the *Los Angeles Times* and “the genial genius of the guitar” by *The Toronto Star*. Before a recent show in the northwest, the local paper quipped, “John Pizzarelli is so impossibly cool, he shouldn’t be legally allowed to enter Oregon.”

When performing with his wife, singer/actress **Jessica Molaskey**, and his father, guitar legend **Bucky Pizzarelli**, they’ve been dubbed “the First Family of Cool” by the *San Francisco Chronicle* and “the von Trapps on Martinis” by *The New Yorker*. As far as *The New York Times* is concerned “the Pizzarelli-Molaskey duo are as good as it gets in any entertainment medium.”

John started playing guitar at six, following in the tradition of his father. After playing in pickup groups and garage bands through high school, he began exploring jazz with his father and performed with great jazz musicians who would be a major influence on his work, including Benny Goodman, Les Paul, Zoot Sims, Clark Terry and Slam Stewart. John went out on his own in 1990, playing clubs and concert halls, and opening for such greats as Dave Brubeck, Ramsey Lewis and Rosemary Clooney.

Using as touchstones performers like Nat “King” Cole, Frank Sinatra and Joao Gilberto, and songs ranging from Richard Rodgers, George Gershwin to James Taylor, Antonio Carlos Jobim and Lennon/McCartney, John has established himself as one of the prime interpreters of the Great American Songbook and beyond, bringing to his work the cool jazz flavor of his brilliant guitar playing and effortless singing.

With his latest release, his album count now stands at 23. *Rockin' In Rhythm* is a salute to Duke Ellington and proves that Pizzarelli – like Ellington – knows how to show off the strengths of the musicians in his band. In addition to a cut for solo guitar, four songs highlight the Quartet: pianist **Larry Fuller**, bassist **Martin Pizzarelli** and drummer **Tony Tedesco**. Another notable release is his 2008 GRAMMY® Award nominated *With A Song In My Heart*, celebrating the music of the legendary Richard Rodgers. This is the Quartet’s second appearance at *Arizona Musicfest*.

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**Bucky Pizzarelli** belongs to the fraternity of musicians who have kept mainstream and traditional jazz alive for more than half a century. Having begun his professional career while still a teenager, Bucky has always been in high demand. As a result, the list of big bands and vocalists with whom he has performed and recorded reads like a *Who's Who of Jazz*. In short, he is a complete musician who moves effortlessly from the daunting format of solo guitar to playing solid, swinging rhythm and single string solos. This is Bucky's fourth appearance at *Arizona Musicfest*.

**Jessica Molaskey** is a veteran of a dozen Broadway shows, most recently the revival of Steven Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George*. Other appearances include *A Man of No Importance*, *Parade*, *Tommy*, *Crazy For You*, *Les Misérables*, *City of Angels*, *Chess*, *Cats* and *Oklahoma!* She has also performed off Broadway and regionally in dozens of productions.

Jessica has premiered music written by Ricky Ian Gordon, Adam Guettel, Jason Robert Brown, and Stephen Sondheim and John Bucchino. She has written songs for almost a dozen recordings including *Greed* for Audra McDonald's show at Carnegie Hall, *Seven Deadly Sins*. In addition to her feature appearances on cast albums, Jessica has produced notable solo recordings, among them *A Kiss To Build A Dream On* and *Sitting In Limbo*.

With her husband, John Pizzarelli, she hosts a weekly national radio program, *Radio Deluxe*. This is Jessica's first appearance at *Arizona Musicfest*.

*Our thanks to Diamond Baton Impresarios Paul & Merle Marcus  
for sponsoring this swinging evening.*