

Mon & Tue

**MAR 23 & 24**

7:30 pm

Pavilion

# Stephane Wrembel Ensemble

*Just Friends Jazz Series*



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We are pleased to partner with the Lied Center of Kansas to present the *Just Friends Jazz Series*.

**There will be no intermission during this performance.**

The repertoire for this evening's show will include original compositions by Wrembel, in addition to select pieces by legendary composer/guitarist Django Reinhardt, celebrating the Sinti style of guitar.

**Stephane Wrembel** stands as one of the world's most celebrated guitarists. Originally from Fontainebleau, France, Wrembel is renowned for his masterful blend of jazz, gypsy swing and world music, enchanting audiences across the globe with his unique sound. *Rolling Stone* called him "...a revelation."

Wrembel is a highly respected composer with original compositions featured in the acclaimed films *Midnight in Paris* ("Bistro Fada") and *Vicky Cristina Barcelona* ("Big Brother"). *Midnight in Paris* won the Grammy Award for Best Compilation Soundtrack. At the 2012 Academy Awards, Wrembel was handpicked by renowned composer Hans Zimmer to join his all-star band, performing alongside luminaries like Esperanza Spalding, Pharrell and Sheila E.

With an impressive discography of over 20 albums released under his name and the pseudonym, The Django Experiment, Wrembel released *Triptych*—three CDs entitled *Phase 1*, *2* and *3*—recorded with Canadian improvisational pianist Jean-Michel Pilc in April 2024, receiving glowing press in *Downbeat*, *Guitar Player Magazine*, *Acoustic Guitar Magazine*, *New York Jazz Record* and more.

His latest recording, *Django New Orleans II: Hors-Série*, was released in November 2025. Django New Orleans is a nine-piece specialty group fusing New Orleans brass and rhythms with the spellbinding guitar style of Jazz Manouche. *Hors-Série* offers fresh interpretations of timeless classics, alongside two brand-new original compositions by Wrembel—including his debut as a vocalist.

Wrembel has shared the stage with legends including Elvis Costello, Patti Smith, The Roots, Medeski Martin & Wood, Me'shell Ndegeocello, John Scofield, Larry Keel, Stochelo Rosenberg and Sam Bush. His performances on NPR's prestigious radio show *Mountain Stage* and the syndicated radio show *WoodSongs Old Time Radio Hour* further showcase his diverse talent.

His performances transcend genre boundaries, offering something different to every music enthusiast. As he himself puts it, "I just play my own music. It's not only for the rock-music lover, the Django Reinhardt lover or jazz lover. It's for the music lover."