Mandolin player David Grisman headlines New Music Works show

By WALLACE BAINES
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To mandolin players the world over, David Grisman is royalty. Grisman’s reputation rests largely on his insistence in taking the mandolin into places it has rarely, if ever, been before.

Grisman is the headliner at this Saturday’s “Whirled on a String,” presented by the Santa Cruz-based group New Music Works.

“Whirled,” which takes place Saturday at Cabrillo College’s Music Recital Hall, will feature Grisman coming together with the equally adventurous composer and conductor Philip Collins, NMW’s musical director. The concert features three Grisman standards — “Dawg’s Waltz,” “Opus 57 in G minor” and the Jewish prayer “Shalom Aleichem” — specifically arranged for Collins’ NMW Ensemble. Grisman also will be on hand to debut his latest composition “Eight by Eight.”

Also featured in the third concert of the NMW season is Nigerian-American Santa Cruz composer/singer Akindele Bankole, who will debut his new composition “The Place ‘Ha-Makom,’ Opus 1,” in which he also sings tenor. Collins’ 2010 composition “Springing” will also have its world premiere.

Besides Grisman and Bankole, the featured artists include pianist Sandra Gu, violinist Roy Malan and violist Chad Kaltinger, performing pieces by Peter Maxwell-Davies, Elliott Carter, Luciano Berio and Morton Feldman.

IF YOU GO

‘WHIRLED ON A STRING’

PRESENTED BY: New Music Works
FEATURING: David Grisman, Sandra Gu, Chad Kaltinger, Akindele Bankole, the NMW Ensemble
WHEN: Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
WHERE: Cabrillo College Recital Hall, VAPA Building 5000, Aptos
COST: $23 general; $17 senior; $12 student; $3 Cabrillo music students
DETAILS: www.newmusicworks.org