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MUSIC WITH A MISSION – STRIKING A CHORD SINCE 2010

WHAT: Music With A Mission (MWAM)

WHEN: Thursday - April 19, 2018 - 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

WHERE: The Midnight Mission, 601 S. San Pedro St., LA, CA 90014

WHO: **Klaymation**

Matt Ritvo is the front man for the rock band Klaymation. Klaymation is a power trio that plays original rock and roll inspired by Pavement, Steely Dan and Bob Dylan. Guitarist and composer Matt Ritvo attended the Berklee College of Music on a John Scofield scholarship and received a bachelor's degree in guitar in 1989. He was the recipient of the Harris Stanton Award, given annually to Berklee's top guitarist. He went on to study under the great Joe Diorio at USC, where he earned a Master's Degree in Studio/Jazz Guitar. Matt has been teaching guitar since 1987 including brief stints at Berklee's summer program and at the Dick Grove School of Music. Since returning to Los Angeles in 1989, Matt has performed as a guitarist and bandleader playing original jazz and rock music at all of the top venues from the Pasadena Jazz Institute to the Coconut Teaser. He has worked as a sideman and a leader with LA legends such as Sonship Theus and Michael Session as well Rahmlee Michael Davis of Earth, Wind & Fire. He has recorded with Putter Smith (who played with Thelonious Monk), Pete Christleib (session musician featured on iconic Steely Dan tracks), Joe Bagg, Ron Eschete, Syd Jacobs, Ken Rosser, Bruce Foreman, and Larry Koonse. Matt's original cutting edge jazz material has been featured on KPFK, KCRW and KXLU and received consistent airplay in Europe. His songs have been featured on Henry Rollins Radio Show and Mike Watt's Podcast *The Watt from Pedro Show*. In 2012 Matt released his documentary film *Turn the Mics On*, about jazz musicians in L.A. The film earned awards and critical acclaim in festivals on the east coast and Europe.

For more information about Klaymation, please visit (<http://soundcloud.com/mritvo>)

The Midnight hosts Music With a Mission (MWAM) to entertain and inspire those living on Skid Row. Music is a survival tactic for many people in dealing with life's difficulties. MWAM is aimed at bringing our community together through music. MWAM is quite simple. Musicians bring their instruments and play for our homeless and near-homeless guests. It is an intimate setting, so musicians have the opportunity to interact with our guests, answer questions and/or talk about music and its history. We encourage musicians to invite their fan base so they can engage and enjoy music with individuals they would not normally encounter in their daily lives. **We are currently looking for sponsors for this ever-growing community event. If you are interested, please contact Georgia Berkovich at 213-624-4588 or gberkovich@midnightmission.org.**

About The Midnight Mission: Founded in 1914, The Midnight Mission offers paths to self-sufficiency to men, women and children who have lost direction. Our emergency services and 12-step recovery, family living, job training, education and workforce development programs offer a compassionate bridge to achieve and maintain healthy, productive lives. We remove obstacles and provide the accountability and structure that people who are experiencing homelessness need to be productive in their communities. Our conviction and commitment to their success define us. For additional information, please visit www.midnightmission.org.