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**Notes from editor (not for publication):**

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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Next Stage Arts presents Matt Flinner, Joe K. Walsh Nov.

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TEXT BODY:

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Next Stage Arts Project and Twilight Music present  
mandolin duo Matt Flinner and Joe K. Walsh at Next Stage  
Saturday, Nov. 15, at 7:30 p.m. Known for their “mastery of the  
mandolin and tasteful musicality,” said organizers in a news  
release, Flinner and Walsh “bring rich voices and diverse textures  
to the acoustic and bluegrass worlds.”

11 Vermont-based multi-instrumentalist Flinner has made a  
12 career out of playing acoustic music in new ways. Starting out as  
13 a banjo prodigy who was playing bluegrass festivals before he  
14 entered his teens, he later took up the mandolin, won the  
15 National Banjo Contest at Winfield, Kansas, in 1990, and took  
16 the mandolin award there the following year. Since then, Flinner  
17 has become recognized as one of the premiere mandolinists as  
18 well as one of the finest new acoustic/roots music composers  
19 today.

20 He has toured and recorded with a variety of bluegrass,  
21 new acoustic, classical, and jazz artists, including Tim O'Brien,  
22 Frank Vignola, Steve Martin, and Darrell Scott. His two solo CDs  
23 on Compass Records, *The View from Here* and *Latitude* are  
24 widely considered classics in the new acoustic/modern bluegrass  
25 style.

26 Hailed by David Grisman as a “wonderful mandolin  
27 player,” and by Darol Anger as “one of the finest mandolin  
28 players ever,” Portland, Maine-based musician Walsh is best  
29 known for his collaborations and recordings with acoustic music  
30 luminaries including Anger, Brittany Haas, Molly Tuttle, and Sam  
31 Grisman, and pop-grass darlings Joy Kills Sorrow. He has  
32 performed at festivals, clubs, and theaters all over North America  
33 and Europe.

34 Walsh currently splits his time between string band Mr  
35 Sun (with Anger, Grant Gordy, and Aidan O'Donnell), the Mike  
36 Block Trio, duo Flinner, and a trio with Ella Jordan and Jed  
37 Wilson, moving from mandolin to mandola, octave mandolin,  
38 and mandocello.

39 An in-demand educator, Walsh is an associate professor  
40 at the Berklee College of Music, and teaches regularly at music  
41 camps and workshops across North America and Europe and  
42 online through Peghead Nation.

43 Next Stage is at 15 Kimball Hill in downtown Putney.  
44 Tickets are \$22 in advance, \$25 at the door, and \$10 for access to  
45 the livestream. Advance tickets are available at [nextstagearts.org](https://nextstagearts.org).

46 Next Stage will provide a beer, wine, and cocktail cash bar. For  
47 information, call 802-387-0102.

48 As part of Next Stage's 15th anniversary celebration, two  
49 of its founders, Eric Bass and Virginia Scholl, will be honored at  
50 this event.

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