

# Modern & Contemporary Jazz Musics Melbourne

November/December 2009



## Melbourne Jazz Co-Operative Program

### @ Bennetts Lane Jazz Club

25 Bennetts Lane, City Ph 9663 2856

A-Live Jazz Series - Sunday nights 9.30pm - 11.30pm

Transitions Series - Tuesday nights 9.30pm - 11.30pm

### @ Paris Cat

6 Goldie Place, City (between Little Bourke & Lonsdale Streets) Ph 9642 4711

Ezz-Thetics Series - Thursday nights 9.00pm - 11.00pm

All \$15.00 & \$10.00 Concession (unless otherwise noted)

## NOVEMBER

Sun 1

### ANDY SUGG GROUP

Originally from Adelaide, tenor and soprano saxophonist Sugg's style is based on his prodigious technical facility. His 2006 CD release *After Utopia* was his first album to feature original compositions written for this fusion project. Since then this group has evolved via changing personnel, and residencies. The current line-up comprises pianist/keyboardist Daniel Gassin, guitarist Nash Lee, bassist Sam Zerna and drummer James McLean. The ASG plays its own hard-burning take on jazz/funk/fusion. At this gig the band plays originals from its forthcoming album 'Brunswick Nights: The Andy Sugg Group Live'.



Tues 3 \$30/\$25

### BARNEY McALL's SYLENT RUNNING (New York/Melb.)

In late 2007, New York-based pianist/composer McAll was able to undertake an extended two month stay (courtesy of his Australia Council Fellowship), and collaborated with some Melbourne musicians to premiere both a new ensemble sound and new material, built around vocalist Gian Slater. McAll recorded the album, 'Empathy Chip', with drummer Jojo Mayer and US -based guitarist Nir Felder during Slater and Chris Hale's stay in New York earlier this year. The CD is being launched via a national tour, with Sylent Running comprising vocalist Slater and US guitarist Felder, along with Hale (acoustic bass guitar), Dan West (laptop) and Ben Vanderwal (drums). See [www.barneymcall.com](http://www.barneymcall.com)

Thurs 5 \$30/\$25

### BARNEY McALL QUARTET feat. NIR FELDER (New York)

New York-based pianist/composer Barney McAll is returning to Australia with New York-based guitarist Nir Felder to tour with the Sylent Running project. For this concert he will perform other material and feature Felder. Originally from Israel, Felder has established a formidable reputation on the competitive NYC scene playing with Greg Osby, Meshell N'degeocello and Josh Roseman among others. They will be accompanied by Sam Anning (acoustic bass) and Ben Vanderwal (drums). See [www.barneymcall.com](http://www.barneymcall.com)

\* Supported by Australia Israel Cultural Exchange

Sun 8 \$18/\$15

### JONATHAN ZWARTZ ENSEMBLE (Sydney) feat. BARNEY McALL

Released earlier this year, *The Sea* is the superb debut from well-known Sydney double-bass player Jonathan Zwartz, featuring some of his

favourite Australian musicians. The Melbourne and Sydney launches will be the only opportunity to hear this music performed live by this Sydney group, as Barney McAll returns to New York. Originally from New Zealand, Zwartz has established himself in the Sydney scene over two decades. Across the eight compositions of *The Sea* the mood flows with warm, gentle rhythmic currents of Latin, bossa and rumba. With Zwartz on bass, *The Sea* band is Barney McAll (piano), Eugene Ball (trumpet), Doug DeVries (nylon string guitar) and Sydney's Hamish Stuart (drums). See [www.myspace.com/jonathanzwartz](http://www.myspace.com/jonathanzwartz)

Sun 8 3.00pm \$18/\$15

### LAIA GENC 'LIAISON TONIQUE' (GERMANY) & ADAM SIMMONS

A rising star on the German jazz scene (she has won prizes at jazz events in Leipzig, Koln, Paris and Rome), Koln-based pianist Laia Genc leads *Liaison Tonique*, with bassist Sebastien Gramms and drummer Nils Tegen. Broadening the colours of modern jazz with the palette of contemporary music, Laia's compositions are realised by the trio's intuitive and beautiful interplay. The concert is part of the first national tour throughout Australia where the trio is joined by Adam Simmons (saxophones).

[www.laiagenc.com](http://www.laiagenc.com) / [www.myspace.com/laiagenc](http://www.myspace.com/laiagenc)

'The talented pianist Laia Genc, a big hope in the new generation of the German jazz scene.' - *Jazz Podium*

\* Supported by the Goethe Institut

Tues 10

### WILLOW NEILSON QUINTET (Shanghai/Melbourne)

Finalist (3rd place) in both the Montreaux (2003) and London (2004) saxophone competitions held by the White Foundation, Willow Neilson is visiting as a finalist in the National Jazz Saxophone Awards at the Wangaratta Festival. Returning for the first visit in two years since moving back to Shanghai in 2007, Neilson brings a new book of original compositions drawing from afro-latin rhythms, Chinese ethnic minority folk songs and the decrepit speaker calls of the amenity providers of the city of Shanghai. For this welcome return he will perform with Sam Keevers (piano) Sam Anning (acoustic bass), Ryan Mendezes (drums) and Javier Fredes (percussion). See [www.willowsax.com](http://www.willowsax.com)

Thurs 12

### LONI THOMSON ENSEMBLE

From Adelaide and now based in Melbourne, vocalist and composer Loni Thomson draws on her experience performing jazz, blues and folk music to produce her own personal style. Since moving to Melbourne in 2007 Thomson has focused on writing and performing her own original compositions. 'The Loni Thomson Ensemble' was formed in 2008 in collaboration with double bassist Sam Zerna. The group, comprising three former Adelaide musicians in Zerna, Hugh Stuckey (guitar) and Hugh Harvey (drums), together with Darrin Archer (piano), explore different song forms and styles to create a unique contemporary ensemble sound.

Sun 15 \$15/\$12

### DIANE PETERS TRIO (Italy/Australia) - 'original songs without words and jazz'

Before successfully basing herself in Italy over the past few years, harpist and vocalist Diane Peters was well known to Melbourne audiences as leader of *Archaeopteryx*. On this visit she is undertaking a small tour with Italy's Maria Vicentini (viola), a jazz graduate from Verona, who works with Ettore Martin. For this performance they will be joined by acoustic bassist Tamara Murphy in a Trio to perform 'original songs without words and jazz'. See [harpandsong.com](http://harpandsong.com)



Tues 17

### EQ

EQ is a Melbourne-based, jazz-fusion group that has been playing together for eight years, culminating in their self-titled debut album *EQ* in 2008. EQ's music has been shaped and influenced by such luminaries as Wayne Krantz, Allan Holdsworth, Chick Corea, Tribal Tech, Robben Ford, Weather Report, The Yellowjackets and John Mayer, amongst others. The band will be featuring music from their upcoming album. The lineup is Chris Bieniek on guitar, Chris Broomhead on drums, Kit Riley on bass and Daniel Gassin on keyboards. See [www.myspace.com/eqfusion](http://www.myspace.com/eqfusion)

Thurs 19

### SARAH MCKENZIE QUARTET

McKenzie/Brooks/Abbey/McLean Quartet is a newly formed Melbourne based group featuring Sarah McKenzie (piano and voice), Andrew Brooks (alto saxophone), Nick Abbey (acoustic bass) and James McLean (drums). McKenzie moved here recently from Perth, where Brooks had also been a graduate from WAAPA. For this performance they will showcase an array of new original material inspired by Jazz and Brazilian musicians Maria Schnieder, Lee Konitz, Paul Motion and Gal Costa as well featuring a collection of well-loved Jazz classics.

Sun 22

### MISTAKEN IDENTITY

The Sedergreen brothers - pianist/educator Steve and self-taught multi-saxophonist (alto, tenor and soprano) Mal - have been operating *Mistaken Identity* since they emerged in the late 80s, and have produced several LP and CD albums). Steve is now a well-established figure himself through both his involvement in the running of the previous Dizzy's Jazz Club, and his 20 years of teaching jazz. Their last project saw the brothers move full circle with their teaming with a 'senior' jazz figure who had mentored them when they were starting: drummer Ted Vining (plus acoustic bassist Nick Haywood). They will be performing mostly original compositions.

Tues 24

### BEN WINKELMAN TRIO

Pianist/composer Ben Winkelman has been developing *The Ben Winkelman Trio* into a distinctive and dynamic contemporary jazz piano trio. They play all original repertoire, which draws on diverse influences, ranging from Afro-Cuban and Brazilian music to stride piano, Argentinean tango and Jelly Roll Morton's 'Spanish Tinge'. The trio has released two albums on Jazzhead to critical acclaim and toured all over Australia in both

2006 and 2007. Winkelman is joined by regular colleagues Sam Anning (acoustic bass) and Raj Jayaweera (drums). See [www.benwinkelman.com](http://www.benwinkelman.com)

**Thurs 26**

#### MICHIKO MORITA QUINTET

Japanese pianist/composer Michiko Morita and her eponymous Quintet will perform Morita's original classically infused compositions. An earthy blend of impressionism, baroque and contemporary jazz, Morita explores the musicality of Japanese tongue twisters, the mystery of garden vegetables and her haunting by evocative tributes to the strange beauty in others. Featuring Adrian Sherriff (bass trombone), Tom Lee (acoustic bass), Ronny Ferrella (drums) and Rachael Kim (violin).

**Sun 29 \$15/\$12**

#### THE MUTE CANARY PROJECT (Brisbane/Melbourne) - Eric Dolphy Tribute

Brisbane band leader and saxophonist Elliott Dalglish is undoubtedly one of Australia's leading avant-garde figures. His national profile increased further with his win in the 1995 National Jazz Saxophone Award at the Wangaratta Jazz Festival. He was also an integral member of the Australian Art Orchestra for a considerable period. The Mute Canary Project was established in Brisbane in 2005 with performances ranging from pre-determinate compositions to totally free improvisations.

For this 'Eric Dolphy Tribute', the personnel comprises five Brisbane musicians in Elliott Dalglish (soprano, alto, tenor saxophone); Dave Ades (alto sax) Scott McConnachie (soprano & alto saxophone); Jack Richardson and Yusuke Akai (guitar); with four Melbourne players in Phil Noy (alto and baritone saxophone); Marc Hannaford (piano); Sam Anning (acoustic bass); Allan Browne (drums).

*'No Australian saxophonist is better equipped or suited to pay tribute to Dolphy than Elliott Dalglish' - John Shand, The Sydney Morning Herald, September 1, 2009*

## DECEMBER

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**Tues 1**

#### 'THE PORCH DWELLERS' (HAUPTMANN/ANNING/JAYaweera) - Premiere

The Porch Dwellers take their name from the fact that rehearsals are held on their drummer's front porch, workshoping their catchy music. This new project will showcase ex-Sydney musician Ben Hauptmann (guitar), who has been steadily establishing himself on the Melbourne scene. 2nd place winner at the 2007 Wangaratta Festival of Jazz National Jazz Guitar Awards, he toured nationally in October with the Sydney-based band The Alcoholicks. For this collaborative unit his colleagues are bassist Sam Anning and drummer Rajiv Jayaweera. They will perform mainly originals compositions.

**Thurs 3**

#### SAM ANNING QUARTET

After graduating from WAAPA, bassist/composer Sam Anning went on to study and perform in New York City, the U.K., and Europe. Since moving to Melbourne in December 2006, he was a finalist in the 2007 Melbourne Prize for Music, received 3rd place in the 2008 National Jazz Awards, and received the 2008 Bell Award for Young Jazz Musician of the Year. This group brings together Eugene Ball (trumpet), Andrea Keller (piano), Rajiv Jayaweera (drums) and Anning (acoustic bass). As well as recent originals by Anning, this performance will feature music from artists such as Ornette Coleman, Claude Debussy, and Thom Yorke (Radiohead).

**Sat 5 \$18/\$15**

#### JAMES MULLER QUARTET (Sydney/Melbourne)

**8.30 pm Uptown Jazz Cafe, 1st Floor, 177 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy**  
Fresh from his collaboration with Sean Wayland and U.S. drummer Mark Guiliana, brilliant Sydney guitarist James Muller reprises a Melbourne version of his group with acoustic bassist Sam Anning and drummer Ben Vanderwal, plus Julien Wilson (tenor saxophone). While still in his 20s Muller had already won the 2000 ARIA & Mo awards, 2004 MCA Freedman Fellowship and 2000 National Jazz Guitar Award. After two CDs on ABC, he recorded 'Kaboom', an acclaimed international collaboration in New York with John Scofield's drummer Bill Stewart and bassist Matt Penman. His profile was further enhanced by his collaboration with guitarist Scofield at last year's Wangaratta Festival.

**Sun 6 \$18/\$15**

#### JAMES MULLER QUARTET (Sydney)

At Bennetts Lane, see December 5th for details.

**Tues 8**

#### TIM STEVENS TRIO

Lyrical pianist/composer Tim Stevens formed his own trio in early 2002, with the sympathetic combination of Ben Robertson (acoustic bass) and Dave Beck (drums), to perform his original compositions with an emphasis on collective improvisation. With influences ranging across musical genres and periods, the work of this Trio has developed into a distinctive presence on the Australian improvised music scene. Following the trio's 2004 debut CD release *Nine Open Questions* (on Rufus Records), they recorded *Three Friends in Winter* (also on Rufus). Because of other musical commitments, this will be their first performance in over 12 months.

**Thurs 10 \$15/\$12**

#### AARON SEARLE BRUBECK TRIBUTE

December 2009 marks the 50th anniversary of the release of Dave Brubeck's *Time Out* which was incredibly innovative for the time because of the use of odd time signatures, and was also extremely successful - especially the tunes 'Take Five' and 'Blue Rondo al la Turk'. Woodwind specialist / composer Aaron Searle is an ideal person to stage a tribute, as he often utilizes odd time signatures in his own compositions. Joined by Marc Hannaford (piano), Barney Loveland (acoustic bass) and George Andrews (drums), the repertoire will be taken from *Time Out* and its follow up album, *Time Further Out*, as well as some of Brubeck's other famous compositions like 'In Your Own Sweet Way' and 'The Duke'. This performance also celebrates Dave Brubeck's 89th Birthday (which was on December 6th).

**Sun 13 (MWIJF) \$15/\$12**

#### 'NOISY JAMAMA' & GEOFF HUGHES/ANDREA KELLER

This new collective was formed by Andrea Keller (Nord keyboard & piano) and Mick Meagher (acoustic bass), and features Raj Jayaweera (drums) and the under-exposed talents of alto saxophonist Phil Noy. Triple 2002-2003 ARIA-winning and recipient of the 2001 MCA Freedman Jazz Fellowship and a recent \$90,000 Two-Year Australia Council Fellowship, pianist/composer Andrea Keller is best-known for her bass-less Quartet, while Meagher works in 'Blow'. This new collaboration for these four will mainly focus on interpreting great songs from a mixture of styles. The opening set will see Keller perform in duo with guitarist Geoff Hughes, performing their originals, with Hughes then guesting with the quartet. See [www.andreakellerpiano.com](http://www.andreakellerpiano.com)

**Tues 15 (MWIJF) \$15/\$12**

#### VEHERE (Norway/Belgium/Australia)

Vehere features vocalist Kari Bleivik (Norway), pianist Sean Foran (Australia), and clarinetist Joachim Badenhorst (Belgium). The trio draw upon their various cultural influences to create music that conjures up sounds of Scandinavian folk music, contemporary improvised music, and a range of jazz, world, folk traditions and ideas. Their debut album 'Unravelling', recorded in the UK in February 2009, features new compositions by award-winning composer Sean Foran plus thoughtful re-imaginings of music by Nick Drake, Swedish folk songs and obscure jazz standards.

#### NAT BARTSCH TRIO

Young Melbourne pianist/composer Nat Bartsch is joined by young talents Josh Holt (bass) and Leigh Fisher (drums). The trio's focus lies in creating improvised music with melodic and harmonic beauty and elements of rhythmic minimalism. Last year saw the release of the trio's debut CD, the beginning of Nat's solo piano project, and her overseas study in Europe with ECM artists Tord Gustavsen and Nik Bartsch This performance will feature new compositions the trio is preparing to record for a new album in December. See [www.myspace.com/natbartschtrio](http://www.myspace.com/natbartschtrio)

**Thurs 17 (MWIJF) \$15/\$12**

#### LAUREN LUCILLE & WADE GREGORY (Brisbane) - Debut

The young Brisbane duo of vocalist Lauren Lucille and pianist Wade Gregory make their Melbourne debut. As the daughter of renowned Brisbane jazz vocalist Sharny Russell, Lucille has a sound grasp of harmony and sophisticated rhythmic sense to add to the natural talents of a powerful voice. As an instrumentalist, she has original works covering genres as diverse as folk, jazz, soul, classical and pop. At 24, she has appeared Internationally at Jazz After Dark in London (2005) and at various Festivals in Queensland.

#### THE TWOKS

The Twoks features original compositions by Melbourne-based electric violinist, Xani Kolac. Currently studying for her Masters in Music Performance (Improvisation) at the Victorian College of the Arts, Xani is constantly exploring ways to blend new technology such as electric guitar effects pedals with a traditionally acoustic instrument, as well as merging art and jazz tendencies with indie styles of music. The Twoks includes Stewart Taylor on electric bass and Mark Leahy on drums and together they weave dark, textural landscapes with driving underground beats. The Twoks performed at the 2008 Melbourne International Arts Festival, were winners of the Atlantis Award at the Melbourne Jazz Fringe Festival in 2008 and have supported the Andrea Keller quintet. They recently launched their debut album, 'It Won't End That Way'.

**Sun 20 (MWIJF) \$15/\$12**

#### MWIJF FESTIVAL SEXTET with SANDY EVANS (Sydney)

Since 2000, the MWIJF seeks each year to form a sextet of leading female musicians to perform and promote their own original material. Past members have included Felicity Provan, Monique di Mattina, Anita Hustas, Nadje Noordhuis and Fiona Burnett. This year the sextet's core members of Shannon Barnett (trombone), Andrea Keller (piano) Tamara Murphy (bass) and Sonja Horbelt (drums), are joined again by exciting young violinist Xani Kolac, and feature from Sydney, saxophonist Sandy Evans. The group will perform original compositions from all members and premiere a new work from Sandy.

## JAZZ NEWS

### MELBOURNE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL RETURNS IN 2009

(WITHOUT MAJOR FUNDING)

Having been founded by the Melbourne Jazz Co-operative in 1997, the Melbourne Women's International Jazz Festival had grown exponentially each year, peaking with the presentation of Japanese pianist/composer Satoko Fujii in collaboration with the Bennetts Lane Big Band in 2007. Last year the Festival did not run, as it had not applied for State funding and was not eligible for City of Melbourne funding. However, the Festival Board did have ambitious plans for the return of the Festival in 2009. But, in two bewildering decisions that could effectively 'kill off' an event that is unique outside of the U.S.A., and had successively run for 11 consecutive years, neither the City of Melbourne nor Arts Victoria decided to fund the event for 2009.

Through an APRA grant of \$2,000 and its remaining capital reserves, together with the support of the MJC (in co-presenting 4 concerts), a truncated version of the Festival will run over 8 consecutive nights, from December 13-20 at Bennetts Lane and the Paris Cat venues. For full program details, see [www.mwijf.org](http://www.mwijf.org)

#### AUSTRALIA COUNCIL FUNDING RESULTS

The recent rounds of Australia Council grants results included \$5,000 increases to SIMA (\$65K), the MJC (\$55K) and The Jazzgroove Association (\$30K), with Jazz Queensland \$38,000 (up \$10,444), Jazz SA \$27,500 (up \$2,500) and JazzWA \$50,000 (down \$5,000). Individual grants saw a two-year \$90,000 Fellowship to Andrea Keller, Phil Slater \$15,500 for development of the Sculthorpe Songbook, Sandy Evans \$10,000 for a national tour, and Des White \$5,000 for study in the U.S.A. Controversially, the National Jazz Program was not funded, despite its impressive track record with Joanne Kee. Arts Victoria results are due to be announced soon.

#### EXTEMPORE JOURNAL, ISSUE 3 NOW AVAILABLE

Visit [www.extempore.com.au](http://www.extempore.com.au) for news and information.

See [www.pariscat.com.au](http://www.pariscat.com.au) and [www.bennettslane.com](http://www.bennettslane.com) for more gigs. See [www.jazzvic.org](http://www.jazzvic.org) and [www.jazz.org.au](http://www.jazz.org.au) and [www.sima.org.au](http://www.sima.org.au) for more news.

#### M.J.C. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: SUPPORT THE CO-OP in 2009

Associate membership of the Melbourne Jazz Co-op. for 2009 is available for \$20.00 (\$12.00 for musicians/students/unemployed) per annum. This membership entitles the recipient to a Free Entry Voucher for one Sunday or Tuesday performance by a Victorian act ; mailout of this brochure; and some discounts (such as international concerts). Cheques, payable to the Melbourne Jazz Co-operative, can be sent to our address (below), together with your name and postal address to 16 Geel Street, Bentleigh, 3204.

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**ARTS  
VICTORIA**



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