

III MJC

MELBOURNE JAZZ CO-OPERATIVE



Presenting original jazz and improvised music in Melbourne since 1983.

May/June 2015 Program

Sunday & Tuesday nights 9:00pm - 11.00pm

\$18/\$12 (unless noted)

Bennetts Lane Jazz Club
25 Bennetts Lane, Melbourne

www.mjc.org.au

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MAY

Sunday, 3rd

ANDREA KELLER QUARTET

Multi award winning pianist and composer Andrea Keller leads her long-running ensemble, which features longtime collaborators Eugene Ball (trumpet), Ian Whitehurst (tenor saxophone) and Joe Talia (drums). The ensemble has performed throughout Australia, including a national tour in 2009, and internationally in Europe in 2007 and 2014. In 2012 the AKQ won the Australian Jazz Bell Award for Jazz Ensemble of the Year. They have released five highly acclaimed albums, winning an ARIA Award, and two Australian Jazz Bell Awards. Their latest release, *Wave Rider, AKQ with strings*, was nominated for four awards in 2014 (Bell, ARIA, AIR and Victoria Genre) winning the Australian Jazz Bell Award for Best Australian Modern Jazz Album. Visit www.andreakellerpiano.com.au

Tuesday, 5th

PANORAMA BRASIL

Panorama Brasil was formed by drummer/composer Alastair Kerr, one of Australia's leading exponents of Brazilian percussion. Over the past three years, Panorama Brasil have presented a wide range of Brazilian music, including *Stone Flower: A Jobim Tribute*. They performed Kerr's suite *The Archer & the Dancer* at the 2013 Melbourne International Jazz Festival. For this MJC performance, they will be playing selections from that suite, as well as new music by Kerr, influenced by his studies of the ceremonial drumming of Candomblé. Featuring Asha Henfry (flute), Alistair Parsons (trombone), Matt Boden (piano), Jorge Albuquerque (bass), and Alastair Kerr (drums/percussion). Visit www.panoramadobrasil.com

Sunday, 10th

ROB BURKE SEXTET - CD Launch

Saxophonist/composer Rob Burke recorded a CD in New York last July with the acclaimed American pair of bassist Mark Helias and drummer Nasheet Waits - both musicians considered archetypal improvisers on the New York scene - together with Melbourne colleagues Paul Williamson (trumpet), Jordan Murray (trombone) and Paul Grabowsky (piano). The concept of the album was based on original compositions that informed free improvisation. The overarching theme being the 'power of the idea'; the spontaneous improvisations were perceived to be genuinely 'in the moment' as distinct from pre-conceived material. Burke, Williamson, Murray, and Grabowsky will be joined for this performance by bassist Marty Holoubek and drummer Dave Beck.

Tuesday, 12th

“DONUT”

Donut was formed in the late 1990s to perform at Bennetts Lane, back when the club presented a second band from midnight into the early hours. The younger sextet of Eugene Ball (trumpet), Ian Whitehurst (tenor sax), Jordan Murray (trombone), Colin Hopkins (piano), Matt Clohesy (acoustic bass) and Dave Beck (drums) were together for several years, developing into a popular group. The band's teeth were cut on the iconic repertoire of Blakey's

Jazz Messengers, but over almost ten years grew to include a strong book of originals and new arrangements by all members (particularly Ball and Murray). Nearly two decades on, they reconvene for one last performance at their old venue. Founders Eugene Ball (trumpet), Jordan Murray (trombone), Ian Whitehurst (tenor saxophone) and David Beck (drums), will be joined on this auspicious occasion by Sam Keevers (piano) and Tamara Murphy (bass).



Sunday, 17th

JEX SAARELAHT QUARTET feat. JONATHAN ZWARTZ (Sydney)

Pianist/composer Jex Saarelaht returns with his 'masterly quartet', featuring the talents of drummer Niko Schäuble, tenor saxophonist Julien Wilson, and, from Sydney, bassist Jonathan Zwartz, performing some not-so standards from the jazz canon and distinctive original works from all members, including material from their Jazzhead release *Fiveways* (recorded live at Chapel Off Chapel during Stonnington Jazz '09). Formed in 2009, they maintain a chemistry, which is not always achieved with a band made up of bandleaders.

'The players of Fiveways are all masters of touch and tone. Come and hear this. You'll find it entrancing'
- Review by John Clare, 4/5 stars, The Sydney Morning Herald, July 2010

Tuesday, 19th \$20 & \$15

The Original BENNETTS LANE BIG BAND

The Original Bennetts Lane Big Band was co-founded in 2001 by Nick Haywood, Eugene Ball and Andrea Keller. With the aim of developing a forum for contemporary compositions for extended jazz ensemble, the 11-piece ensemble held a monthly residency at the club for 12 years, before passing the baton to a younger generation of musicians. Having featured some of Australia's finest improvising musicians and composers/arrangers, the band performed original works by artists including Satoko Fujii Quartet (Japan), Dinesen and Pallensen (Norway), Joe Chindamo and Gian Slater, and at festivals. The original BLBB released *The Snip* (on ABC Jazz) in 2008. This performance features Phil Noy (alto sax), Julien Wilson (tenor sax), Ian Whitehurst (tenor sax), Gideon Brazil (baritone sax), Damien Maughan (trumpet), Eugene Ball (trumpet), James Macaulay (trombone), Andrew Hammon (bass trombone), Andrea Keller (piano), Tom Lee (bass), and Tony Floyd (drums).

Sunday, 24th

CASEY GOLDEN TRIO (Sydney) - CD Launch

Sydney's impressive young Casey Golden Trio return to Bennetts Lane to launch a new live album, recorded at this iconic venue in 2014. *Live at Bennetts Lane* captures the trio in high-energy mode showing an extraordinary level of band cohesion and interaction. A companion album to their recent release *Outliers*, the trio will be playing music from both recordings on this gig. Featuring Casey Golden (piano), Bill Williams (bass) and Ed Rodrigues (drums).



Tuesday, 26th

REMCO KEIJZER QUARTET

Expatriate Dutch tenor saxophonist/composer Remco Keijzer has bought a wealth of experience and a positive approach to the local scene via his various music projects. After graduating at the Manhattan School of Music and the Conservatory of Amsterdam in 2003 Keijzer has been experimenting with many different formations playing mostly original material. Rooted in the jazz tradition, the classic setting of the saxophone-piano quartet, backed by an energetic, textured rhythm section, offers a platform for adventurous improvisation and experimentation with form and melody. This Quartet features pianist Joe O'Connor (winner of the 2013 National Jazz Award and the 2014 Bell Award), bassist Marty Holoubek and drummer Danny Fischer. Visit: <http://www.reverbnation.com/remcokeijzerquartet>

JUNE

Sunday, 21st

JAMES SHERLOCK & STEPHEN MAGNUSSON (Solo)

8.30pm Uptown Jazz Café, upstairs, 177 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy

Melbourne guitarists James Sherlock and Stephen Magnusson reprise their acclaimed solo concert from 2013. Both have produced solo guitar albums, and will each present a set of solo works, before culminating the concert with a rare duo performance of original music. Co-winner of the 2000 National Jazz Guitar Award, Magnusson's solo album was *13 Creatures*, released on ABC Jazz in 2008 to critical acclaim. Sherlock, winner of the Ike Isaacs

International Jazz Guitar Award (1997) and nominated for the Freedman Fellowship in 2005, has toured internationally in his duo with vocalist Kristin Berardi (recently returning from New York performances, after a previous European tour). Sherlock released his first solo guitar album, *Solo*, on the Pinnacles label in 2009. See www.jamessherlock.com & www.mag.net.au.

Sunday, 28th

REFRACTION - Debut/CD Launch

8.30pm Uptown Jazz Café, upstairs, 177 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy

Trio ensemble Refraction melds the various colours of contemporary jazz composition and improvisation together into a compelling musical soundscape. Drawing inspiration from such artists as Tord Gustavsen, Marcin Wasilewski, Brad Mehldau and Weather Report, the group's material is centered around drummer and leader Chris Broomhead's compositions and arrangements – pieces which allow space for collective ensemble interpretation, interaction and improvisation, but hold a clear vision that makes the journey the very destination the music is seeking. Joining Broomhead in this project are pianist Brenton Foster and acoustic bassist Jordan Tarento. Their debut album *As We Were* was released in March (on Broomhead's independent label Rare Colour Records).

JULY

Saturday, 4th & Sunday, 5th

BARNEY McALL'S A.S.I.O. & BARNEY McALL'S NON-COMPLINACE TRIO (Sydney/Melbourne)

8.30pm Uptown Jazz Café, upstairs, 177 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy

Upcoming:

Warwick Alder (Sydney); Diane Peters (Italy); and Alistер Spence Trio (Sydney)

AROUND THE SCENE

Contemporary performances outside the MJC program

ANDREA KELLER & MIROSLAV BUKOVSKY'S KOMEDA PROJECT (Melbourne/Sydney)

Friday, May 15th, 7.45 pm, at Chapel-off-Chapel; \$30 & \$25.

JULIEN WILSON QUARTET (featuring Barney McAll) & **KRISTIN BERARDI-JAMES SHERLOCK**

Saturday, May 16th, 8.00 pm, at Malvern Town Hall; \$25 & \$20

BENNETTS LANE BIG BAND

Monday, June 8th at Bennetts Lane.

ALLAN BROWNE GROUPS

Mondays, June 22nd & 29th at Uptown.

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JAZZ NEWS

M.J.C. & ALLAN BROWNE'S SERIES RELOCATED TO UPTOWN

With the closure of Bennetts Lane Jazz Club in mid-June, the MJC will be relocating its Sunday night "A-Live Jazz" weekly performance series to the Uptown Jazz Café, 177 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, commencing on June 21, at the early starting time of 8.30 pm. This move coincidences with the relocation of Allan Browne's long-running Monday Night residency from BL to Uptown (commencing June 22). For the remainder of 2015 the MJC has been forced to suspend its second weekly "Transitions" Series (on Tuesday nights) due to the significant shortfall in State funding from Arts Victoria (under the Coalition Government).

Uptown has celebrated their sixth anniversary, and has demonstrated an admirable commitment to the presentation of instrumental jazz over that time. The MJC had presented occasional performances there since the venue opened, and has run a monthly concert series there over the past four years. The venue will introduce several improvements at this juncture, including the acquisition of a grand piano and expansion of the stage; upgrade of the sound system; and, acoustic drapes on the windows. Excellent Japanese food can be provided from the Akari Restaurant below the club. The venue has already seen many great concerts (such as the Dave Ades Benefit, George Garzone, James Muller, Bernie McGann and Mike Nock) and will cement its reputation as "the home of creative jazz" in Melbourne.

The MJC is also excited to announced that it will be staging some co-presentations at the prestigious Melbourne Recital Centre, in the beautiful acoustics of The Salon venue, in the second half of this year.

M.J.C. AT BENNETTS LANE JAZZ CLUB

The MJC and Bennetts Lane Jazz Club have enjoyed a mutually beneficial and unique symbiotic relationship over the past 22-and-a-half years. The MJC commenced its weekly Sunday night "A-Live Jazz" series at the venue in January 1993, and its second weekly "Transitions" Series in late 1997 (moving to Tuesday nights in January 1998, and enabling the club to open 7 nights per week). The MJC also founded the annual Melbourne Women's Jazz Festival in December 1997, staging it over 8 nights at the club (and managing it to 2004). The MJC did much to establish the artistic credibility of the venue in its early years, presenting 3 night weekend seasons by The Necks, Mike Nock Quintet, and the Bernie McGann Quartet, as well as facilitating international artists such as Billy Harper, Sheila Jordan, John Stubblefield, Bobby Previte and James Williams.

The MJC list of international presentations includes American artists Steve Lacy, Greg Osby, Marilyn Crispell, Wadada Leo Smith, Kirk Lightsey and Eugene Wright, British artists John Taylor, Trevor Watts and Veryan Weston, as well as numerous European artists (including Misha Mengelberg). Just as crucially, it also introduced an exhaustive list of emerging talents from across Australia to the venue, including Andrea Keller, Jamie Oehlers, Shannon Barnett, Marc Hannaford, Band of 5 Names, Joe O'Connor, The Vampires, misinterprotato, Zac Hurren, and Sam Anning, as well as expatriate artists such as Sean Wayland, Chris Cody, and Tony Buck.

The MJC has greatly appreciated the wonderful facilities, listening environment policy and supportive staff provided by BL owner Michael Tortoni, and the virtually complete lack of interference in our programming. It is these factors that have made this partnership such a strong and fruitful

one for over 22 years.

STONNINGTON JAZZ 2015 - 10 YEAR CELEBRATION

The belatedly launched Stonnington Jazz 2015 program sadly sees a major departure from its previous artistic direction of the past 9 years, with the inclusion of more popular genres, and with Adrian Jackson no longer involved as Artistic Director. The main reason given for this change from an important cultural event presenting "100% Australian jazz" (which was predominantly original) to yet another more populist festival is cited as being "financial". Comprising a decidedly mixed quality and unimaginative roster and incorporating a more commercial "Jazz and Soul" direction. The more interesting jazz concerts are the Komeda Project and Julien Wilson Quartet. While both guitarist George Golla's 80th. birthday concert, and the tribute to the late Kerrie Biddell are worthy projects, overall this is a disappointing way to "celebrate" 10 years of a previously respected cultural event. Program details: www.stonningtonjazz.com.au

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

The Melbourne International Jazz Festival is being staged from May 28-June 7, with over 50 concerts, and headline U.S. artists including Chick Corea and Herbie Hancock, New Orleans Jazz Orchestra (with Dee Dee Bridgewater), Kurt Elling with the M.S.O., Pharoah Sanders, Joe Lovano, Ellery Eskelin, Miguel Zenon and The Bad Plus, as well as Richard Bona (Cameroon), Tord Gustavsen (Norway) and Stefano Bollani (Italy). Also Masterclasses, Jazz for Kids, Free Concerts, and Festival Opening Night. See www.melbournejazz.com

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Andrea Keller Quartet

///MJC MELBOURNE JAZZ CO-OPERATIVE

MJC ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: SUPPORT THE CO-OP in 2015

MJC Membership for 2015 is available in three tiers: \$75 for Gold level, \$30 (\$20 concessions) for the Silver level, and \$10 for Bronze level (for musicians). Membership benefits vary with levels, but can include free entry for one MJC performance by a Victorian act, concession entry to all MJC performances, a 20% discount on extempore publications, special member deals on selected events, and regular giveaways through the e-newsletter.

Visit www.mjc.org.au/membership to join or renew for 2015, and please contact melbournejazzcooperative@gmail.com for more information.

SIGN UP TO OUR ENEWS

Keep up to date by joining our free mailing list. Emails are sent once a fortnight with the latest gigs, albums and giveaways.

Sign up online at www.mjc.org.au or email info@mjc.org.au

See www.uptownjazzcafe.com & www.bennettslane.com for more gigs. See www.mjc.org, www.jazz.org.au, www.australianjazz.net, www.sima.org.au for more news.

Melbourne Jazz Co-operative

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This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, and the Victorian Government, through Arts Victoria, via its Arts Development programs.

Founding Artistic Patron: the late Brian Brown, OA
Artistic Patrons: Mike Nock, ONZM, & Professor Tony Gould, OA
MJC Chairperson: Allan Browne, OA