

—
Uptown Jazz Café

Upstairs, 177 Brunswick St,
Fitzroy

—
The Salon

Melbourne Recital Centre,
Southbank Blvd and 31 Sturt St
Southbank

—
The JazzLab

27 Leslie St, Brunswick
- off Victoria St

—
Bella Union

Level 1, Trades Hall,
Cnr. of Lygon and Victoria St,
Carlton entry off Lygon St.

Saturday & Sunday nights
\$20/\$15 concessions

*UNLESS NOTED

May
—
June
2017
Celebrating our 35th
Annual Program

May

— Sunday, 7.5 , 8.30pm at Bella Union

Sam Anning's "DataMeta" with Gian Slater

2015 National Jazz award winner Sam Anning is a ubiquitous part of Melbourne jazz scene. After five years in New York City he has returned to Melbourne where he leads a variety of ensembles including The Sam Anning Sextet, The Stretchropolitans, and this exciting new analog electronics-focused group, DataMeta. Tonight's incarnation features 2016 Jazz ARIA winner Barney McAll (keyboards & electronics), 2015 PBS Young Elder recipient Gian Slater (voice & electronics) and Leigh Fischer (drums & electronics). In this more open and experimental project, they will be "navigating deep sonic subterrain to unearth rare terrestrials and clamber through shifting mercurial structures".

— Sunday, 21.5 8pm at Bella Union

Grayson, Sherlock & Fischer

Long time collaborators Ben Grayson (Hammond organ) and James Sherlock (guitar) are joined by special guest Danny Fischer (drums). Playing material from their 2016 release "Wolf & Hound"; as well as new material and standards from the Hammond trio songbook. The trio explores openness and receptivity within the bass-less ensemble format. Ben Grayson is no stranger to the organ, or to the Australian musical landscape. His work with Aussie funk pioneers The Bamboos is widely recognised and has toured with US folk icon Martha Wainwright and New York local Bilal. Danny Fischer (filling in for original member, Daniel Farrugia) is a drummer's drummer, and has covered a diverse variety of musical styles after returning here from New York. James Sherlock is widely respected, having performed and recorded with Dale Barlow, Bernie McGann, Barney McAll and Allan Browne, as well as with visiting artists Jeff "Tain" Watts, Jon Riley, Cyrille Aimee and Sheila Jordan. Support set by Brennan Hamilton-Smith Quartet

Support set by Brennan Hamilton-Smith Trio, a group that explores the music of Australian icons such as Bernie McGann and Dale Barlow, as well as jazz classics. The Trio has a focus on group interaction, and forging a distinct identity. Brennan Hamilton-Smith (tenor sax), Paddy Fitzgerald (bass) and Miles Henry (drums).

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

— Saturday, 27.5 at Uptown Jazz Cafe

Sam Keevers Trio

Since moving to Melbourne from Brisbane in 1991, Sam Keevers has been active on the Australian music scene, particularly as an in-demand sideman. He has worked with Vince Jones, Kate Ceberano, The Black Arm Band, Meshell Ndegeocello, Scott Tinkler, Bernie McGann, Chris Potter, Bobby Previte, and many others. In 2008 he recorded the Katie Noonan album Blackbird in New York (with Ron Carter, John Scofield and Joe Lovano), which won the ARIA for Jazz in 2009. As a leader he has recorded several albums including No Conditions No Exceptions, as well as five albums with Jamie Oehlers, and a recent recording with Red Fish Blue, The Sword and the Brush. This performance is a rare chance to explore some new material with Christopher Hale (bass) and Danny Fischer (drums). Visit www.samkeevers.com

— Sunday, 28.5 8pm, at Bella Union

Stephen Magnusson Quartet

Co-winner of the 2000 National Jazz Guitar Award at Wangaratta, Stephen Magnusson is one of the most versatile and distinctive musicians in Australia. Currently a member of Elixir with Katie Noonan, he spent several years teaching in Switzerland, and has performed or recorded with artists including Charlie Haden's Music Liberation Orchestra, Meshell Ndegeocello, Rickie-Lee Jones, Tim Berne, George Garzone, Jim Black, Paul Grabowsky, Mike Nock, and Vince Jones. In addition to winning the \$30,000 Melbourne Music Prize in 2013, Magnusson's Magnet (on LP and CD), won the 2013 'Bell' Australian Jazz Award for Contemporary Jazz Album of the Year. In this ensemble, he collaborates with keyboardist Sam Keevers, bassist Frank DiSario and drummer Dave Beck to produce earthy, bluesy grooves, while retaining the freedom to take the music in different directions. Visit www.mag.net.au

"An artist with nothing to prove but much to say"

— All About Jazz, USA

Support set by Zac O'Connell Quartet, a newly formed group inspired by European post-jazz music from artists such as Reinier Baas, Joris Roelfs, and Ben Van Gelder, as well as the undefined music of Australian artists Scott Tinkler, Joe O'Connor, and Will Guthrie. They play music composed by, and for, members of the band, and continually aspire for originality, freedom of artistry, and creative spontaneity. Zac O'Connell (alto saxophone) with Selene Messines (piano), Isaac Gunnoo (acoustic bass) and Maddison Carter (drums).

June

—Sunday 18.6 JazzLab

Kade Brown Quintet

From the far south coast of NSW, young pianist and composer Kade Brown moved to Melbourne in 2014 to study at Monash University. Over the past two years he has been building his reputation as an emerging voice in the Melbourne jazz scene, and formed his debut quintet in late 2015. Collaborating with some more experienced players, it featured Paul Williamson (trumpet), Julien Wilson (tenor sax), and Sam Anning (bass), as well as his peer, Luke Andresen (drums). The quintet, which drew a large audience for the MJC at Bennetts Lane in January, will present new material, including a Suite, the first movement of which won the Monash Jazz Prize. His originals aim to explore themes of Australian art music traditions, with a nod toward American influences such as Paul Bley, Lennie Tristano, and Andrew Hill. Brown's distinctive compositional style highlights the group's unique energy, each voice contributing a raw character and intensity that allows for dynamic ensemble improvisation and intelligent interaction.

Visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nzjMIiiYkw>

—Sunday, 25th The JazzLab

MJC Collective

This is a Collective group, formed from bandleaders (and composers), to highlight the work undertaken by the MJC. It was an initiative of tenor saxophonist Mirko Guerrini, who moved to Melbourne from Italy. Drummer Niko Schauble, guitarist Stephen Magnusson and trumpeter Eugene Ball are all long-time veterans of Melbourne's jazz scene, while bassist Tom Lee, pianist Joe O'Connor and trombonist James Macaulay are younger members of the ensemble. Three of the members are winners of the prestigious National Jazz Award (Magnusson, O'Connor and Anning). The purpose of the Collective is to perform original compositions, and to showcase some of Melbourne's most talented jazz musicians. For their fourth performance, they will be expanding their repertoire of all originals written and specifically arranged for the group by Mirko Guerrini, Niko Schauble and other members.

July

—Saturday, 22.7 The Salon, M.R.C \$30 / \$25 con.

Johannes Luebbers Dectet

Around the Scene

Contemporary performances outside the M.J.C. Program

—June 6-11 at Bird's Basement, \$40-\$75, + b/f.

The Cookers USA

The "all-star" sextet features Eddie Henderson and David Weiss (trumpets), Billy Harper (tenor sax), George Cables (piano), Cecil McBee (bass) and Billy Hart (drums).

Jazz News

Stonnington Jazz 2017

The Stonnington Jazz 2017 program has again been produced with Chelsea Allen as Artistic Director, and runs May 11-21, featuring more than 20 events over 11 days in more than 10 venues across the City of Stonnington. One highlight will be the Monash Art Ensemble with the Young Wagilak Group to premiere the multi-movement suite by Paul Grabowsky, Nyjlipidgi (ABC Records), presented on Friday, May 19, at Malvern Town Hall. Program details: www.stonningtonjazz.com.au

Melbourne International Jazz Festival

The Melbourne International Jazz Festival is being staged from June 2-11, with over 120 events, including artists from Israel, Japan, Switzerland, Luxemburg, Poland and Singapore. Headline U.S. artists are vocalists Dianne Reeves, and Patti Austin, while the Modern Masters series at the M.R.C. will feature the trios of pianists Kenny Barron and Carla Bley (with Steve Swallow and Andy Shepard), and guitarist Bill Frisell (all making their Australian debuts), as well as saxophonist Donny McCaslin's Group. Other artists include Greg Osby, Jim Black, Satoko Fujii, Ari Hoenig, and Tigran Hamasyan. Australian artists include The Necks, Vince Jones and Paul Grabowsky. See www.melbournejazz.com

Jazzlab Venue Launched

The JazzLab venue, the new venture from Bennetts Lane founder (and MIJF Artistic Director) Michael Tortoni, opened on April 7 at 27 Leslie Street, Brunswick. Currently running on weekends, it will host the MJF's club program, and expand to more nights (including the MJC's new residency on Sunday nights) after the Festival.

Australian Jazz Bell Awards

Celebrating its 15th year in 2017, winners of the 2017 Australian Jazz Bell Awards will be announced in Melbourne at a function at Bird's Basement on Monday, 15th May. The Jazz Bell Awards are the only jazz-specific awards in Australia to acknowledge excellence in performance, creativity and presentation, with each award of the 7 categories featuring \$5,000 prize money.

Memberships & Acknowledgements

M.J.C. Associate Membership *support the co-op in 2017*

MJC Membership for 2017 is available in three tiers: Gold level is \$75, the Silver level is \$30 (\$20 concessions), and Bronze level is \$10 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, discounts at TITLE stores, special member deals on selected events, and regular giveaways through the e-newsletter. Visit our website, email membership@mjc.org.au or write to 16 Geel Street, Bentleigh 3204, for more details

Sign Up To Our E-News

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 melbournejazzcooperative@gmail.com

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council and its arts funding and advisory body, the Victorian Government, through Creative Victoria, and APRA/AMCOS.



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

Piano at Uptown Jazz Cafe is generously supplied by Kawai Pianos, Australia

KAWAI
THE FUTURE OF THE PIANO

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