



Presenting original jazz & improvised music in Melbourne since 1983

March & April

Sundays 8:30PM-11:00PM at The JazzLab
27 Leslie St. Brunswick – off Victoria St.
\$20 & \$15 Con. Unless otherwise noted



KEITH HOUNSLOW

March

Sunday 1st

Steve Barry's Blueprints Trio (Sydney)

Barry's recent trio/quartet and solo projects traverse the boundaries of jazz and classical art music, balancing the intricately composed with freewheeling ensemble interplay. His 2018 quartet release Blueprints & Vignettes received 4-stars in The Sydney Morning Herald and was long listed for the 14th Australian Music Prize. The Blueprints trio - featuring the emerging talents of bassist Jacques Emery and drummer Alex Inman-Hislop - continues to mine the terrain established by this record, replete with lyrical chromatic counterpoint, restive rhythmic propellants and a broad spectrum of harmonic hues. This concert is part of an Australasian tour in advance of recording a follow-up album of this new material.

Sunday 8th (International Women's Day)

Nat Bartsch 'Lullaby' Project

Melbourne pianist Nat Bartsch composes ethereal, gentle music that explores the space between jazz and classical genres. In 2017 Nat became a mother and launched her 'Lullaby Project', inspired by Max Richter's Sleep and the children's genre-crossing of the Teeny Tiny Stevies. Influenced by music therapy research and her son's stages of development, Nat composed a series of pieces designed to encourage babies to sleep. The resulting album, Forever, and No Time At All, was released on ABC Classic. As part of the MWIJF in December (a MJC co-presentation), Nat launched the release of Forever on vinyl, performing this music with a larger group, and premiering a series of new lullabies. Nat Bartsch (piano) reprises this work, joined by Anita Quayle (cello), Robbie Melville (guitar), Charlie Rank (double bass) and Maddison Carter (drums).

Sunday 15th

FRANKLIN & HEKKA (Sydney) - Debuts

This double bill brings together some of the most exciting young improvisers in Australia (including the 2019 Freedman Jazz Fellowship recipient, Novak Manojlovic). FRANKLIN is a project by Australian composer and bassist, Joseph Franklin, working at the intersection of improvised, composed and experimental music. Following his 2018 debut album, Rites (featuring Jamie Oehlers and Ollie McGill), his next album, Amen (Earshift Music), was recorded in New York in 2019, with Marc Hannaford (piano & electronics), and Satoshi Takeishi (drums). This performance will feature Sydney's Sam Gill (soprano & alto saxophone), Joe O'Connor (piano), Joseph Franklin (bass guitar) and Hugh Harvey (drums). HEKKA is a piano/bass/drums unit that seeks to work outside it's own loaded parameters. Comprising pianist Novak Manojlovic, drummer Tully Ryan and double bassist Jacques Emery, the trio collectively navigates melodies and structures with a unique empathetic approach. They explore song forms through a kaleidoscope of loops, beats & improvisations. Over the past year, HEKKA has become of the most unique ensembles in the country with their idiomatic and broad-minded take on the piano trio format (as evidenced by their award of the prestigious Freedman Fellowship Award in 2019).

"HEKKA...was thrillingly distinctive. This trio's improvising language is all its own" - John Shand (The Sydney Morning Herald)

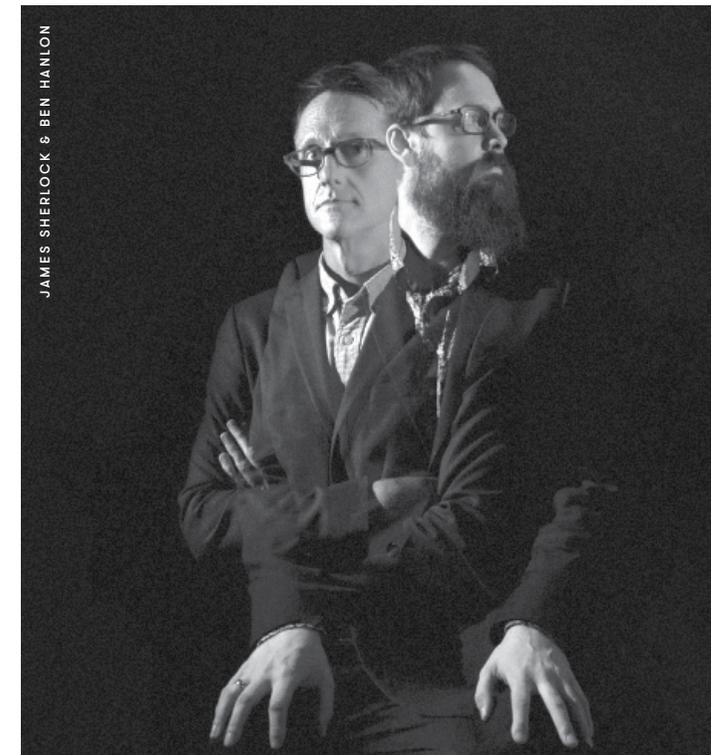
Sunday 22nd

Shannon Barnett's 'small talk' (Germany/Melbourne) - Debut
A born and bred Victorian, internationally-acclaimed trombonist Shannon Barnett has been based overseas since 2011, firstly in New York City and more recently in Cologne, Germany, where she performed for several years with the renowned WDR Big Band. In 2019 she became Professor for Jazz Trombone at the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz in Cologne and has found time between semesters to visit Melbourne and perform with long-time collaborators, Julien Wilson (tenor saxophone) and Hugh Harvey (drums), as well as a special German guest on double bass - introducing them to one of the most exciting voices from the German jazz scene. Together they will interpret a variety of compositions from each of the ensemble members.

Sunday 29th

Niko Schauble's "Then This"

Drummer/composer/bandleader Niko Schauble premiered this latest project for the MJC last year, bringing together four exciting musicians, playing new originals by Schauble. Their combined musical backgrounds - together with the bass-less format of the ensemble - will create a setting which allows for unique and surprising twists and turns. Tony Hicks (woodwinds) is an in-demand soloist in a wide range of styles, while Mirko Guerrini (saxophones) has an impressive list of international credits. Stephen Magnusson (guitar) has been a longtime collaborator of Schauble's (featuring on the acclaimed Night Music album with Enrico Rava). Schauble has led his own ensembles (Tibetan Dixie, Papa Carlo, Quattro Club), as well as recording with the Australian Art Orchestra, Paul Grabowsky and Arthur Blythe.



JAMES SHERLOCK & BEN HANLON



April

Sunday 5th.

Open Home – Debut

Open Home is a new ensemble, which offers an invitation to explore the ebbs and flows of life through the compositions of Shaun Rammers (tenor sax and clarinet). Joining him are some of Melbourne's most creative younger musicians: Flora Carbo (alto sax and bass clarinet), Harriett Allcroft (vocals), Adam Halliwell (guitar and flute), Isaac Gunnoo (bass) and Lewis Pierre-Humbert (drums). Together they explore musical landscapes, which are always evolving, improvising their way through Rammers' compositions to create emotional, highly energetic music. Open Home is recording their debut album later this year.

Sunday 12th

James Sherlock & Ben Hanlon – Debut

Guitarist James Sherlock and M.S.O. double bassist Ben Hanlon bonded over their shared passion for jazz and backgrounds in classical music. As such their performances combine improvisation, dynamic interplay and genre-straddling arrangements of jazz standards, classical repertoire, modern orchestral, chamber works and the occasional popular work. Their debut duo recording (released last year) is a collection of 10 compositions, combining interpretations of works by Massenet, Chopin and Schubert alongside jazz composers such as Jimmy Rowles and Sonny Rollins and songwriters Sting and Jack Lawrence. They have also re-arranged works by Stravinsky, and will include part of Bach's St. Matthew's Passion for this concert.

Sunday 19th

Ben Wilcock & "The Jellyrolls" (New Zealand) – Debut

"The Jellyrolls" one of New Zealand's most in-demand jazz ensembles, are making their debut Australia tour, following a recent tour of Scotland (including the Edinburgh Jazz Festival). The Jelly Rolls' unique brand of swinging piano trio jazz initially had its base in the classic styles of Errol Garner, Ahmad Jamal, Oscar Peterson and Fats Waller. But their latest release, The Phantom Canoe (Thick Records NZ), is an album of originals based on Māori myths and legends. They will also perform material from previous CDs Sneaky Weasel and Live in

Cromwell. Pianist Ben Wilcock, who has performed with Bennie Maupin and Bob Moses, is joined by Scottish jazz icon, drummer John Rae (Ethan Iverson, Vijay Iyer, Scottish National Jazz Orchestra), and Dan Yeabsley (on bass & saxophone). Visit www.benwilcock.com

Sunday, 26th

Unbroken Trio – Debut + Joe O'Connor (Solo)

Led by trombonist and composer Scott van Gemert, the Unbroken Trio plays original music that focuses on the collective sound of the ensemble. Also featuring Theo Carbo (guitar) and Maddison Carter (drums and percussion), these three unique musical voices come together to create an array of improvised sounds in a highly interactive setting, focussing on a unified and melodic approach to music creation. For this special MJC performance they will present their recently recorded 9-movement suite "SPARK". Stimulating pianist/composer Joe O'Connor, winner of the 2013 National Jazz Piano Award and recipient of the 2016 PBS Young Elder of Jazz Commission, will perform an opening solo set.

May

Sunday 3rd Holly Moore Quartet – Debut

See www.mjc.org & ausjazz.net & www.australianjazz.net & www.sima.org.au & www.jazz.org.au for more news

Around The Scene

Special Performances

Pat Metheny Quartet (USA)

Friday, March 6 at The Palais

See www.jazzlab.com & www.uptownjazzcafe.com for more gigs

Jazz News

M.J.C. Not Funded In Australia Council Results

The MJC was notified by the Australia Council on December 19 that our application for funding support for our 2020 Program was unsuccessful. The MJC had received AC funding continuously from 1983-2017, but was unsuccessful with applications for 2018. In 2019 we again received AC funding of \$60,000. Now, with our Creative Victoria application for State funding support also being unsuccessful, the MJC currently only has an APRA/AMCOS grant of \$3,000 for the 2019/2020 financial year, and is reliant on our Capital reserves to continue to pay artists (while The Jazzlab has agreed to waive our minimal rental fee whilst we are not funded). We have already applied for both State and Federal funding in the mid-year categories for our 2020/2021 Program. In both the State and Federal categories, success rate was approximately 15%.
Keith Hounslow (1929-2020)

Retired trumpeter Keith Hounslow, 91, passed away on February, 14th.

Originally from Perth, he moved to Melbourne in 1949, and moved freely between traditional and modern and contemporary styles for over 50 years. He recorded on the seminal 1958 Brian Brown Quintet (Australia's first Hard Bop group), and recorded again with Brown in 1979. He formed McJad, a free-improvisation duo with pianist Tony Gould in the late 70's, producing two LPs and a double CD.

Memberships & Acknowledgements

support the co-op in 2020

M.J.C. Associate Membership

MJC Membership for 2019 is available in three tiers: Gold level is \$75, while Silver level is \$30 (\$20 concessions), and Bronze level is \$10 for musicians. Membership benefits include free entry for one MJC performance by a Victorian act; concession entry to all MJC performances for Gold members; special member deals on selected events; and, semi-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



APRA
AMCOS

This project has been assisted by APRA/AMCOS.

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

||| MJC MELBOURNE JAZZ CO-OPERATIVE

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