

MIJC

MELBOURNE JAZZ CO-OPERATIVE

Presenting original jazz & improvised
music in Melbourne since 1983

January & February

2021



Sundays 7:30PM-10:00PM at The JazzLab
27 Leslie St. Brunswick - off Victoria St.
\$25 & \$18 Con. Unless otherwise noted

NIRAN DISAKA

January

Sunday, 3rd

Dasika/Keller/Svoboda - Premiere

Hailed for his "captivating honesty" (The Music Trust), Niran Dasika is a multi award-winning trumpeter and improviser, known for his ethereal, expressive trumpet playing and deeply evocative compositions, described as "ravishing" (The Sydney Morning Herald) and "exquisite" (Australian Book Review). Dasika's latest project introduces a new trio with legendary Melbourne pianist Andrea Keller and emerging bass virtuoso Helen Svoboda, presenting an evening of contemplative, minimalist compositions. Based in the Netherlands for the last two years, Svoboda is the recipient of 2020 Freedman Jazz Fellowship, and the AAO's 'Pathfinder' Music Leadership program for 2020/2021.

Sunday, 10th

Meatshell + Claire Cross & Harry Cook - Debuts

MEATSHELL is the experimental-folk duo of Helen Svoboda (contrabass/voice) and Andrew Saragossi (tenor saxophone). With a shared curiosity for the subtle beauty of things, the pair cultivates unconventional sound worlds, transcending traditional song forms by emphasising the power of story-telling through sound. Infused with elements of minimalism, contemporary jazz and free improvisation, the music is intimate, raw and unapologetically honest. Originally from Brisbane, the duo recently returned here from two years in the Netherlands, and have since settled into their new hometown of Melbourne. They released their debut album 'Afar' in July 2019 through MADE NOW MUSIC, and their second album 'Since Subito' is due for release in 2021. The second set features electric bassist Claire Cross and pianist Harry Cook, presenting an intimate duet performance of their original music, as well as some personal folky favourites. The music draws deeply on influences including Big Thief, Sufjan Stevens, Ethan Gruska, and Skúli Sverrison. Cross was the inaugural recipient of the MIJC's "Take Five" program in 2019.



MEATSHELL

Sunday, 17th.

Holly Moore Quartet - Debut

As the 2020 recipient of the Melbourne International Jazz Festivals program Take Note, Holly Moore premiered a new suite of music for sextet (3-piece horn section and rhythm section) at 'These Digital Times' to much acclaim. As an advocate for women in jazz, Holly also designed and delivered a series of online jazz workshops to Victorian high school students with the MIJC. Holly Moore brings together her new quartet featuring some of Melbourne's finest young musicians. This group explores her new compositions inspired by the chaos of 2020, delving into themes of love, loss and displacement. Drawing on European jazz and post-bop influences, their sound is lush, grand and dynamic. Holly Moore (alto saxophone) performs with Kade Brown (piano), Robbie Finch (double bass) and Luke Andresen (drums).

Sunday, 24th

Stephen Byth Octet (Boston/Melbourne) - Premiere

Returning from three years studying and living abroad in Boston, USA, saxophonist and composer Stephen Byth brings together a group of seven of his favourite Australian musicians to play music from his upcoming album, 'Reparations.' Ranging from sweeping orchestral soundscapes to explosive dynamic peaks, this album draws inspiration from influences ranging from John Coltrane to Béla Bartók to Andrea Keller. Depicting musical narratives in an Australian context, 'Reparations' explores themes such as identity, landscape, time and place, as well as the navigation of complex social dynamics. This performance will feature Niran Dasika (trumpet), Josh Kelly (alto saxophone), Stephen Byth (tenor), James Macaulay (trombone), Julien Wilson (clarinet and bass clarinet), Kade Brown (piano), Sam Anning (double bass) and Angus Mason (drums).

Sunday, 31st

Tony Gould's 81st Birthday Celebration

This special concert is a celebration of the 81st birthday - and ongoing career - of the highly respected pianist/composer/educator Dr. Tony Gould, who retired from his fulltime position as Professor of Music at Monash University at the end of 2015. Gould is possibly the most 'formally' recognised figure to work in the Australian jazz scene (although he refers to his music as "post-jazz"), with a Two Year Australia Council Fellowship over 2006/2007, and a Don Banks Fellowship in 2009 (as well as an Order of Australia), plus the 2011 Australian Jazz Award "Hall of Fame". For this occasion, he is joined by long-time colleagues Ben Robertson (double bass) and Tony Floyd (drums), together with guests, Angela Davis (alto saxophone), and Mirko Guerrini (tenor saxophone). He also wishes to "introduce" one of his favourite young classical pianists - Berta Brozgul- who will perform Chopin and other classical pieces in a solo cameo.

February

Sunday, 7th

Stephen Magnusson^{Solo} & Guests

Guitarist/composer Stephen Magnusson is one of the most versatile and distinctive musicians in Australia. After spending several years teaching in Switzerland in the 1990s (being nominated for the Swiss Fellowship award in 1999), he returned to Australia in 2000, and was co-winner of the 2000 National Jazz Guitar Award at Wangaratta. In 2013 he received the \$30,000 Melbourne Music Prize, while his album Magnet (on LP and CD), won the 2013 'Bell' Australian Jazz Award for Contemporary Jazz Album of the Year. Having recorded a solo album, 14 Little Creatures (ABC Jazz) back in 2007, he will bring a wealth of experience in performing two Solo sets (with a guest or two). Visit www.mag.net.au

"An artist with nothing to prove but much to say" - All About Jazz, USA



Sunday, 14th

Ted Vining Trio & "Blow" (Hobart/Melbourne)

Now based in Hobart, drummer Ted Vining is an important elder in jazz circles for forming two long-running ensembles: the Ted Vining Trio (1970-2006) and Musiikki Oy (renamed as Blow in 2000). Now an energetic 83, his achievements were recognised with the Hall of Fame award at the 2017 'Bell' Australian Jazz Awards. With the passing of bassist Barry Buckley, younger bassist Gareth Hill joined the Trio of pianist Bob Sedergreen and Vining (who share a 50 year association).. This Trio has maintained a great deal of the trademark interplay, humour and swing of its predecessor on both standards and some originals. With the addition on Peter Harper (tenor saxophone) and Ian Dixon (trumpet), the trio will become part of the long-running "Blow" ensemble, which performs originals by Harper, and has produced several albums.

Sunday, 21st

Christopher Hale + Luke Moller (USA)

Violinist Luke Moller (alumnus of the bands of Dolly Parton, Carrie Underwood, Hank Williams Jr, among many others) escaped his Nashville base just days before his original home of Queensland closed its borders. Having packed his life into a friend's garage he returned to Australia and served his 14-day isolation. However, he soon after inexplicably returned to the US, just as COVID was conquering the South. We still don't know why. Naturally, good sense prevailed, and he made the trip again - and three cancelled flights, lost luggage and another 14 days isolation later he is based in Brisbane, healthy and slowly recovering his Queensland accent. For this special gig, Moller joins close friend Christopher Hale for a night of reuniting, some bluegrass and country tunes, a bit of swinging, lots of string instruments, a few songs and maybe a friend or two. Hale (bass, mandolin, guitar, lap steel), Moller (violin, octave violin, mandolin, guitar)

Sunday, 28th

Laurence Pike^{Solo} (Sydney) + CD Launch & Niran Dasika^{Solo}

Sydney percussionist/composer Laurence Pike returns to Melbourne to launch Prophecy - his third solo album in as many years for the UK's Leaf Label, following Distant Early Warning (2018), and last year's acclaimed Holy Spring. Created during the height Australia's recent catastrophic fires, the music on Prophecy adopts the working formula of 'one-take' studio performances for drum kit and sampler; channeling the moment through Pike's singular, organic use of electronics, and intuitively constructed arrangements.

Pike has been operating across the electronic, rock and jazz music worlds for the better part of two decades with dozens of critically acclaimed releases to his name as part of forward-thinking groups such as PVT, Triosk and Szun Waves (with Luke Abbott and Portico Quartet's Jack Wyllie), as well as collaborations with the likes of legendary jazz pianist Mike Nock, Bill Callahan, Burnt Friedman, Sarah Blakso and D.D. Dumbo. Pike also recently joined avant-rock band Liars, who are currently working on a new studio album.

View <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nU312TJxSfws&feature=youtu.be> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erUTptAa730>

Opening set features Niran Dasika, whose solo performances combine his virtuosic trumpet playing with synthesisers and live electronics to create immersive, beautiful soundscapes, all with a focus on his lyrical trumpet playing.

March

Sunday, 7th

Bone Marreux- Premiere

Recently returned from Japan, trombonist James Macaulay premieres this duo with bassist Sam Anning.

Jazz News

State & Federal Funding Results For The M.J.C.

The MJC was recently informed that it was unsuccessful in its application to the Australia Council for its 2021 Annual Program. While the MJF and AAO are on multi-year funding, no jazz organisation presenting regular performances (including SIMA) has been funded by the AC for 2021. Since 2017 funding, the MJC has only been successful once in these four years (in 2019). Applicants can re-apply for mid-year funding in early March. The MJC has yet to be informed by Creative Victoria if our application for support for our 2021 Program has been successful. The MJC currently has an APRA/AMCOS grant of \$5,000 for the 2020/2021 financial year.

Memberships & Acknowledgements

support the co-op in 2021

M.J.C. Associate Membership

MJC Membership for 2021 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 melbournejazzcooperative@gmail.com 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 the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria, and an APRA/AMCOS grant of \$5000 over 2020/2021

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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