

# ||| MJC

MELBOURNE JAZZ CO-OPERATIVE

Presenting original jazz & improvised music in Melbourne since 1983

# March & April

2021



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

## March

Sunday, 7th

### Bone Marreux - Debut

'Bone Marreux' is a new project featuring bassist Sam Anning and trombonist James Macaulay (who had spent most of the past year based in Japan). Both winners of the National Jazz Award, they have joined forces to present compositions and songs in homage to their diverse musical tastes including Bill Callahan, Steve Coleman, J-pop (yes, the whole genre). Combining original, challenging instrumental music, as well as their original songs replete with backing vocals, Bone Marreux is a unique and intimate musical experience.

Sunday, 14th

### Jex Saarelaht Trio

Melbourne jazz pianist/composer Jex Saarelaht is one of Melbourne's distinctive contemporary jazz pianists, who has been consistently honing his oeuvre over three decades, and for over twenty-five years with his long-time trio compatriot's acoustic bassist Philip Rex and drummer Niko Schauble. With an emphasis on robust interaction, they will continue to explore Saarelaht's distinctive original music, as well as jazz compositions by the likes of Jason Moran, Geri Allen, Herbie Nichols, Andrew Hill, Abdullah Ibrahim and Thelonious Monk.

"All three bring such ebullience to bear that the music never treads water, but rather is always picking you up and taking you off on another exhilarating joyride..."  
- John Shand, review of Jex Saarelaht Trio's CD,

"Liminal" - The Sydney Morning Herald, 23 January, 2015

Sunday, 21st

### Scott Tinkler (Tasmania)

On this all too rare trip back to Melbourne from his home on Bruny Island, trumpeter Scott Tinkler returns to the Jazzlab for a special evening of intimate and exploratory music making. Collaborating with Tinkler are three prominent figures in Melbourne's creative music scene in Jenny Barnes (voice), Mick Meagher (bass), and Maria Moles (drums). Jenny is regarded as a creative linguistic genius, who explores the voice with passion and imagination, creating a language of her own. Maria Moles is an incredibly diverse talent who explores the use of layering sounds and rhythms in her work bringing dynamic textural explorations to her performances. Mick Meagher brings his unique approach to the electric bass to the group. Mick also works across the musical spectrum from The Putbacks and Emma Donovan, to Andrea Keller's Five Below and Eugene Ball 4tet.

Sunday, 28th

### Katarzyna Wiktorski Octet - EP Vinyl Launch

Polish born Katarzyna Wiktorski is a pianist, composer, arranger, and producer. Inspired by Andrea Keller's Wave Rider and Linda Oh's Aventurine she formed her Octet in 2019. They debuted at The Jazzlab in December, as part of the Melbourne Women's International Jazz Festival (in a co-presentation with the MJC). Fusing an unconventional string quartet with a piano-saxophone jazz quartet, her music is influenced by classical, jazz, film music and contemporary sensibilities. Kat's music explores light and dark landscapes that create an emotional, ornate listening experience. During Lockdown in August, she updated the arrangements of pieces Gratitude, From a Distance and Pique & Piece along with completing a new composition The Warming. Since its release late last year, the EP has featured on national and international radio including BBC6, and was included in The Guardian's Best 10 Contemporary Albums of 2020. This show launches the vinyl edition of From a Distance EP, with two sets of original music, including new compositions. Wiktorski (piano) performs with Jade Nye (saxophone), Darcy Gilkerson and Ffion Stoakes (cello 1 & 2) Chloe Sanger and Blakely McLean Davies (violin 1 & 2), William Base (double bass) and Oliver Ledi Hanane (drums).

KATARZYNA WIKTORSKI



SCOTT TINKLER

# April

Sunday, 5th

## Nick Haywood Trio

This collaborative improvisation trio is known for taking simple themes and allowing complexity to unfold as a collective exploratory process. With pianist Colin Hopkins and drummer Niko Schäuble, Nick will be playing original tunes by ensemble members, and some lesser-played standards, alongside free improvisations. The group first performed together as a trio in 2003 where ABC's Jazztrack recorded a performance at Bennetts Lane Jazz Club. There was an instant connection between the players and they have been developing their sound ever since. This will be the first performance of the trio since lockdown and the band are really excited to be able to play together again.

"The parts are mutually independent but constantly in dialogue - a keen reminder of the maturity and mutual respect between these musicians"

- Christopher Hale, The Music Trust

Sunday, 11th

## Danny Healy Trio (Hobart)

Multi-woodwind instrumentalist/composer Danny Healy is a V.C.A. graduate, with peers such as Luke Howard. He debuted for the MJC in 2001, performing annually, and composing for smaller ensembles, as well as a memorable concert of large scale Third Stream works for an Octet. Over the past decade or so, he has spent much of this period based overseas in the U.K. and Asia, teaching and performing. Last year he had left Moscow and had just settled in Tbilisi when COVID bought him back to his home base, which has been in Hobart for some years. Drawing on wide and varied influences the Trio, with Sam Anning (double bass) and Danny Fischer (drums), will be performing mainly originals composed by Healy (clarinet and saxophones).

Sunday, 18th

## I Hold The Lion's Paw

Jon Hassell meets Ornette Coleman, meets Sun Ra. I Hold the Lion's Paw sounds familiar and, at the same time, like nothing else you've ever heard. It is the brainchild of trumpeter-composer-electronic artist Reuben Lewis, who navigates his team of longstanding collaborators into an immersive world of electro-acoustic ambience, slowly evolving soundtracks, grungy afro-beat grooves and psychedelic free jazz. This is music as assemblage, using the stage as a laboratory whilst practicing post-production sorcery in real-time. His 2018 studio album with Lion's Paw, 'Abstract Playgrounds', gained international acclaim, including a glowing review in 'The Wire' magazine. Reuben Lewis (composition, trumpet, pedals, synths) collaborates with Emily Bennett (voice, synths, electronics), Adam Halliwell (bass) and Ronny Ferella (drums).

"A beguiling stew of afro-beat, jazz-rock-inflected postbop, and electro-acoustic noise" - Andy Hamilton, The Wire, UK

Sunday, 25th

## Robbie Melville's Smallchestra - Premiere

Robbie Melville's smallCHESTRA is the latest project from Melville, winner of the Instrumental Category of the 2018 International Song Competition. The six members of the smallCHESTRA explore the meeting point between folk melody, jazz harmony and textural improvisation through a series of compositions written by Melville that allow room for spontaneous interaction, introductions and endings as soloists, duos and trios. Featuring Melbourne jazz veterans Ronny Ferella (drums), Tamara Murphy (bass), Robbie Melville (guitar), Gideon Brazil (tenor saxophone) and Adam Simmons (alto saxophone), with classical cellist Zoe Knighton, the smallCHESTRA creates a spectacular range of dynamic and timbral possibilities in a relatively small package, and blurs the lines between contemporary folk and modern jazz.

# May

Forthcoming:

## Jordan Tarento Sextet & Eugene Ball Quartet



I HOLD THE LION'S PAW

ROBBIE MELVILLE



# 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](mailto:melbournejazzcooperative@gmail.com) or write to 16 Geel Street, Bentleigh 3204, for more details

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CREATIVE VICTORIA

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

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