

MJC
MELBOURNE JAZZ CO-OPERATIVE

CELEBRATING 40
YEARS OF JAZZ AND
IMPROVISED MUSIC
IN MELBOURNE

SINCE 1983

May & June



MJC ORCHESTRA

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

May

Sunday, 7th

Schwing/Anning/McLean (Bruny Island/Melbourne) - Debut
Julius Schwing is a guitarist and composer from Bruny Island, Tasmania. Since placing Third in the 2022 National Jazz Guitar Awards at the 2022 Wangaratta Festival, and being nominated for the Freedman Jazz Fellowship Award three times, he has started to develop a national profile (aided by his eight CD albums, seven of which are on his own creative music label, Isthmus Music). He composes music for his own ensembles, as well as for theatre, sound installations, and short film, and has performed with artists such as Scott Tinkler, Bae Il Dong, Akash Mittal, Petra Haden, and Christian Windfeld. This brand new trio comprises Schwing (guitars), Sam Anning (double bass) and James McLean (drums). They will explore new music by Julius punctuated with selections of Paul Motian, Ornette Coleman and Keith Jarrett. Julius's distinct improvising style and compositions are heavily influenced by the dramatic natural environment surrounding his home on Bruny Island, and a life lived amongst the elements.

Sunday, 14th

MAGNIFY - Debut/CD Launch

MAGNIFY is an ensemble led by alto saxophonist Flora Carbo exploring the intersection between acoustic and electronic improvisation. This project sees the amplification of the 'Flora Carbo Trio' (drummer Maddison Carter and double bassist Isaac Gunnoo) with the addition of Eitan Ritz (modular synthesiser) who processes and manipulates the sounds of the group live. Inspired by the music of Sidney Bechet, Ornette Coleman and Arthur Russell, these compositions are driven by the level of trust and deep friendships in the group. They are celebrating the release of their debut eponymous album, which was recorded live at Uptown Jazz Cafe in December 2021. This album is a vibrant capture of the music that was developed over 2021 as part of the 'Emergence' Residency at Uptown Jazz Café (supported by Creative Victoria). This will be one of Carbo's last performances before an extended stay in Europe.

Sunday, 21st

Loose Leaf:

Saragossi/Svoboda/van der Schyff - Album Launch/Debut

Loose Leaf is a contemporary jazz trio that creates music with a unique and uninhibited sense of freedom and trust.. Led by tenor saxophonist Andrew Saragossi, it features two of Australia's most idiosyncratic and exciting improvisers in Helen Svoboda (double bass) and expatriate Canadian drummer Dylan van der Schyff. Their music explores the intersection of structured composition and free improvisation, with a strong emphasis on texture, melody, expressiveness and spontaneity. This performance is part of Loose Leaf's Australian tour in support of their debut album "How We Cope", released on MADE NOW MUSIC in April 2023. Visit: <https://andrewsaragossi.bandcamp.com/album/overlay>

Sunday, 28th \$30/ \$25 con.

Mike Nock-Stephen Magnusson-Julien Wilson (Syd/Melbourne)

At 82, Sydney-based pianist/composer Mike Nock is simply a legend of Australasian jazz, with an international profile based on a 25-year career in the

U.S.A., and recordings with artists such as Michael Brecker and Yusef Lateef, and on international labels such as ECM and Impulse. The recipient of the 2009 'Bell' Australian Jazz Awards 'Hall of Fame' award, he is not one to rest on his laurels. One example is this bass-less and drummer-less project with two acclaimed Melbourne musicians: tenor saxophonist Julien Wilson and guitarist Steve Magnusson. With Nock on piano and keyboards, they first produced memorable concerts of spontaneous and creative music making as part of the 2013 Wangaratta Festival, followed by critical acclaim for their 2014 Sydney concert. They have since recorded for ABC Jazz.

"Nock made the music more playful, dense, dramatic and unpredictable. When Nock turned to synthesiser – an instrument to which he, too, brings a unique approach, but very seldom plays – the combination with the guitar made the whole sound world suddenly more capricious and marvellously intangible. It was disorienting in the best sense, and therefore both magical and exhilarating". – John Shand, The Sydney Morning Herald, December 14, 2014

MJC's 40th Anniversary Concert at MRC

Friday, May 26, 7:30 pm,
Elisabeth Murdoch Hall, MRC
\$55/\$45 con. (& Student Rush)

The MJC's 40th Anniversary Concert (co-presented by the Melbourne Recital Centre) brings together 24 jazz artists from Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane. The first half of the concert will present cameos from small ensembles, with Nock-Magnusson-Wilson; Sandy Evans-Andrea Keller duo; Torrio!; and, Barney McAll's Non-Compliance Trio. The highlight will be the premiere of the 4-part "Jumping Yaks" suite (comprising works by Erkki Veltheim, Erik Griswold, Eugene Ball and Niko Schauble). Conducted by Vanessa Perica, the specially formed MJC Orchestra comprises Paul Williamson, Eugene Ball, Ashley Ballat (trumpet); Lachlan Davidson, Tony Hicks (alto saxophone), Sandy Evans, Julien Wilson (tenor saxophone), Mirko Guerrini (baritone saxophone); James Macaualy (trombone), Adrian Sherriff (bass trombone), Dan Gordon (tuba); Fran Swinn (guitar); Erik Griswold & Paul Grabowsky (piano); Sam Anning (double bass); Niko Schauble (drums); Vanessa Tomlinson (percussion); and, Erkki Veltheim (violin)

Tickets are \$55 & \$45 concessions, and are on sale at the MRC's Box Office, or online at melbournerecital.com.au/events/2023/melbourne-jazz-co-operative/



This concert has been supported by the Victorian Government, through a \$20,000 Creative Project Fund grant from Creative Victoria

June

Sunday, 4th

Onur Puza Quartet - Debut

Melbourne-based guitarist, composer, arranger and educator Onur Puza moved from izmir, Turkey in 2018. Over the last two decades Onur has been recording, touring and performing throughout Turkey and Europe with many local and international musicians such as Howard Curtis, Ted Piltzecker, Matthew Hall, Francesco Angiuli, Doug Richards, Cem Aksel, Taylor Barnett, and Kim Scharnberg. Onur has recently collaborated with some of the finest local jazz musicians, and will perform with Julian Banks (tenor saxophone), Philip Rex (bass) and Felix Bloxsom (drums) to presents his new compositions for his band's debut performance in the venue. Visit www.onurpuza.com

Sunday, 11th

Richard Pavlidis Trio - Debut

Richard Pavlidis is a young tenor saxophonist and composer, and a graduate from the Victorian College of the Arts. He has toured Australia, New Zealand and Europe, performing at major festivals including Splendour in the Grass, The Manly Jazz Festival in Sydney, and the Melbourne International Jazz Festival. His debut album 'Without Within' was released in 2019, and received a glowing review in The Weekend Australian. His latest album, 'Iconography', is due for release in June 2023, and for this performance he presents his newest suite of music in a trio format, featuring Ben Robertson (double bass) and Darryn Farrugia (drums).

'A saxophone colossus in the making' - Eric Myers, The Weekend Australian



MIKE NOCK-STEPHEN MAGNUSSON-JULIEN WILSON



KADE BROWN

Nat Bartsch (Solo) + Mia Barham Sextet - Debut

Genre-bending pianist/composer Nat Bartsch has developed an outstanding reputation for inimitably melodic, lyrical music making. She adeptly traverses between jazz and classical genres, leading to ARIA nominations for the past two years in jazz (Forever More) and then classical (Hope). Her opening set will incorporate pieces from both of these releases, performed on piano and integrating live ambient electronics.

Mia Barham is an emerging saxophonist who is currently studying her undergraduate degree at the V.C.A. She has performed as part of the MJF and MWJF and has worked with renowned musicians such as Andrea Keller, Ingrid Jenson and Angela Davis. Mia has also been the recipient of multiple scholarships and awards such as the Dr Phillip Law Music Scholarship, The Monash Jazz Music Scholarship and the Marion Thomas Award. With her sextet she will premiere five new original works that feature beautiful melodies and intricate and sensitive harmony. Mia Barham (alto saxophone and flute) collaborates with Ashley Ballat (trumpet), Dean Kalait (tenor saxophone), Pat Jaffe (piano), Monty Shnier (double bass) and Marissa Di Marzio (drums)

Sunday, 25th

Kade Brown Quartet - Farewell Concert

Since moving to Melbourne in 2013 from the Bega Valley in far south coast NSW, Kade Brown has become an esteemed pianist in Melbourne's jazz scene, playing with many Australian and international artists, including Ben Monder, Melissa Aldana, George Garzone, Lennie White, Lucie Thorne, JK Group and Brian Campeau. Having studied jazz under Paul Grabowsky, Barney McAll and Sam Keevers at Monash University, Kade was a finalist in the 2021 National Jazz Piano Awards. His original music is inspired by the Australian landscape, particularly the stark juxtaposition of the elements where he grew up in coastal NSW. Through thoughtful composition he aims to transmute our landscape into music that becomes fertile ground for improvisation. Before relocating to Germany in early July, Kade will be performing new original music with his band. It comprises frequent collaborators in Julien Wilson (saxophones and clarinets), who is featured on Kade's most recent album "Frictions", and fellow Monash University alumni Alastair Kennedy (drums) and Angus Radley (double bass).

July

Sunday, 2nd

Magda Mayas (Solo) & Tony Buck/Alister Spence (Berlin/Sydney)

Jazz News

Dingo Jazz Journal: Issue 5

The fifth edition of Dingo: Jazz Journal was released in April, available at newsagents. The two annual editions are also available to subscribers via the website: <https://www.dingojazz.com/subscribe>

Memberships & Acknowledgements

Support the co-op in 2023

M.J.C. Associate Membership

MJC Membership for 2023 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

These events take place on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and we pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging

This 2023 Annual program is **no longer** being assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body, or the Victorian Government, through Creative Victoria. It is purely reliant on revenue from ticket sales. Support adventurous Australian jazz artists (especially when your Governments do not).

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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