

A black and white photograph of a woman in profile, looking upwards and to the right, playing a double bass. She is wearing a dark dress with a light-colored belt. The image is overlaid with various colorful geometric shapes: a large green circle, a large blue circle, a large yellow circle, a large orange circle, a small orange triangle, a small red triangle, a small blue triangle, a small green triangle, and a small orange triangle. The background is a solid orange color.

Sydney Con Jazz Festival

**30 May
2021**

Welcome to the Sydney Con Jazz Festival

Presented by the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and the Open Academy in Association with SIMA



Prof. Anna Reid
Head of School
and Dean

The Sydney Conservatorium of Music is delighted to welcome so many lovers of jazz into the building for our fourth annual Jazz Festival. Jazz has been at the centre of our curriculum since 1976 and many of our graduates have become key players in the field. It is wonderful then to give our current students, and the public, this great opportunity to hear and work with Australia's and the World's best during the festival! It is extraordinarily exciting watching students' music grow in new ways when they respond to the voices of other jazz players. We hope to see you at the Festival.



Zoe Hauptmann
SIMA Artistic Director

Australia is abundant with creative artists who are producing diverse and exciting work, opening up new sound worlds for their audiences. For 35 years, SIMA has been integral in the development of this work, providing a platform for artists to develop and present their music. That is why we are thrilled to partner in presenting this important festival which places Australian jazz and improvised music firmly at the fore. We hope that in this program you discover new music while hearing from the leading artists of Australia and elsewhere – all within the beautiful venues of the Sydney Conservatorium.



David Theak
Artistic Director

On behalf of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our 2021 Jazz Festival. For this fourth instalment we are grateful to be able to present an incredible program of new works, existing masterpieces and fresh collaborations by some of our finest musicians.

Staging this festival presented some challenges...how do we stage an international jazz festival when international travel is essentially non-existent? We couldn't expect visiting artists to quarantine for weeks just to perform a concert at our boutique festival, or risk that their flights would be cancelled, so we did what jazz musicians do, we improvised and created a program that capitalised on these unique circumstances which led to some of world's most creative jazz musicians seeking refuge within our borders.

Their stories included some incredible tales of fleeing NY with 24 hours' notice with a young family in tow or having a world tour performing with Pat Metheny cancelled at short notice. Within these trials and tribulations, there still exists a burning need for our festival artists to create and perform and these stories, only strengthened our resolve to present a festival which is our most diverse and creative program to date.

This Festival is a collaboration between Sydney Conservatorium's Jazz unit, the Conservatorium Open Academy and the Sydney Improvised Music Association and this dynamic team has sought to create an event where the musicians and their art is the primary focus. Our concerts are uniquely acoustic in a world where amplification and volume is increasing and with 23 concerts and 8 masterclasses the Festival has something for everybody. From cutting edge new commissions and international debuts to the joyous swinging sounds of our cafe stage, this entire event is housed in a world class venue, all on one day with affordable ticket options for the entire community.

Come and join us for a one-day celebration of one of the world's most vibrant and creative artforms, Jazz.

Ticketing

The Festival has a wide variety of ticketing options available to suit every budget and taste. Ticketing is through the Sydney Conservatorium's box office via the festival website, sydneyconjazzfestival.com

Entry to the Conservatorium will require registration via a QR code using the Service NSW mobile app.

To comply with social distancing concerts in Verbrugghen Hall, Music Workshop and Recital Halls East and West will have allocated seating

The wearing of masks is strongly recommended and please do not attend if you are feeling unwell.

FESTIVAL GOLD PASS

\$169 / \$152 conc (no student pass)

Includes entry into all events

FESTIVAL DAY PASS

\$99 / \$90 conc. / \$45 student

Includes entry into all events except Gala Concert and Vince Jones meets ANJO

GALA CONCERT W/ LINDA MAY HAN OH QUARTET & THIS WORLD

\$59 / \$53 conc. / \$20 student

Entry included with Festival GOLD pass

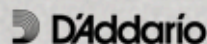
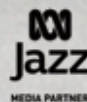
VINCE JONES MEETS ANJO

\$59 / \$53 conc. / \$20 student

Entry included with Festival GOLD pass



Supporters





GALA CONCERT

Verbruggen Hall 7.30pm

Opening set by This World

Linda May Han Oh Quartet

LINDA MAY HAN OH CONTRABASS
WILL VINSON ALTO SAXOPHONE
FABIAN ALMAZAN PIANO
BEN VANDERWAL DRUMS & CYMBALS

“...one of the
most dynamic
rising stars in
jazz today.”

—
THE WALL ST JOURNAL

Based in New York City and currently waiting out the pandemic in her home town of Perth, **Linda May Han Oh** is an internationally renowned bassist/composer who has performed and recorded with artists such as Pat Metheny, Kenny Barron, Joe Lovano, Dave Douglas, Terri Lyne Carrington, Steve Wilson, Geri Allen and Vijay Iyer.

Originally born in Malaysia and raised in Perth, Western Australia, she has received many awards such as 2nd place at the BASS2010 Competition, a semi-finalist at the BMW Bass competition, an honorary mention at the 2009 Thelonious Monk Bass Competition, the 2010 Bell Award for Young Australian Artist of the Year, 2012 Downbeat Critic's Poll "Rising Star" on bass. Voted the 2018, 2019 and 2020 Bassist of the Year by the Jazz Journalist's Association, Linda recently received a Jerome Foundation Fellowship, as well as the Chamber Music America New Jazz Works Grant for 2019. She has had five releases as a leader all of which have received critical acclaim and has written for large and small ensembles as well as for film

Linda is based in New York City and is currently Associate Professor at the Berklee College of Music and is also part of the Institute for Jazz and Gender Justice. As an active educator she has also created a series of lessons for the BassGuru app for iPad and iPhone.



CONCERT
Music Workshop 6PM

Vince Jones meets the Australian National Jazz Orchestra

VINCE JONES VOCALS & COMPOSER

DAVID THEAK ANJO CONDUCTOR & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL JAZZ ORCHESTRA:

SAXOPHONES CARL MACKAY (VIC), ANGELA DAVIS (VIC), JULIEN WILSON (VIC), MIKE RIVETT (QLD), NICK BOWD (SA), **TRUMPETS** MAT JODRELL (VIC), SIMON SWEENEY (NSW), RICKI MALET (WA), NADJE NOORDHUIS (NSW), DAN QUIGLEY (QLD), **TROMBONES** JORDAN MURRAY (VIC), JAMES GREENING (NSW), NICK MULDER (VIC), COLIN BURROWS (NSW), **GUITAR** AARON FLOWER (NSW), **PIANO** MATT MCMAHON (NSW), **CONTRABASS** SAM ANNING (VIC), **DRUMS** BEN VANDERWAL (WA)
BIG BAND ORCHESTRATIONS & ARRANGEMENTS BY VANESSA PERICA, NICK MULDER, ANDREW MURRAY, FLORIAN ROSS, JOHANNES LEUBBERS

**"In this country,
Jones remains the
benchmark..."**

JOHN SHAND, SMH

Australia's leading jazz vocalist, **Vince Jones**, is also a remarkable interpreter and composer of songs in a contemporary jazz style – a style that appeals equally to listeners and his musical peers. As a vocalist he resists showing off technique to the detriment of feel – he's confident in his musical literacy and sings like there's nothing to prove. It's a refreshing approach that gives us, the audience, the chance to be really moved. Vince Jones also plays trumpet and over the years his style has developed a distinctive reserve and subtlety – he plays a little less and draws a good deal more from it than he did in earlier days. A brief, thoughtful solo from Vince is worth a hundred notes played with less discretion.

Born in Glasgow, Vince and his family came to live in Australia when he was 11 years old. He grew up in Wollongong, NSW, listening to his musician father's collection of great jazz albums, and the feel, style and essence of the music became a natural part of Vince's world. Starting his jazz performance journey as a bebop trumpet player, the young man had no idea that in 10 years, then 20 years – his superb voice would touch the hearts and minds of many listeners – in Australia and beyond. At 20, Vince began playing the club circuit in Melbourne. He was drawn to R&B music – a genre in which the emotive force of the voice is matched by technical and improvising skills. To a young man steeped in jazz and blessed with a good voice – it was natural to meld these elements together and so began the evolution of Australia's great jazz vocalist.

The Australian National Jazz Orchestra is the brainchild of Sydney saxophonist and bandleader David Theak. Australia has a long history of big bands and in 2017 ANJO was established as a truly national orchestra that reflects the diversity and talent that Australia has to offer both as musicians and composers. ANJO exists primarily to perform, record, broadcast, tour, and commission new Australian work by Australian artists.



CONCERT

Verbruggen Hall 4PM



Jo Lawry

JO LAWRY VOCALS & COMPOSER

WILL VINSON SAXOPHONES & PIANO

SAM ANNING CONTRABASS

BEN VANDERWAL DRUMS & CYMBALS

STUDENT STRING QUARTET

DAVID CARREON (VIOLIN I), MONTY GUO
(VIOLIN II), SOPHIE NICKEL (VIOLA),
NOAH OSHIRO (CELLO)



“She has...a feel
for the stories
they tell and an
instinct for how
to drape a lyric
elegantly across
a vivid melody...
Lawry, effervescent
and riveting, imbued
her singing with a
freedom.”

—

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

Australian-born, New York based vocalist **Jo Lawry's** debut album *I Want to Be Happy* was released in 2008 to rave reviews, and named among the “Best CDs of the Decade” by *Downbeat Magazine*. She has become known beyond jazz circles, however, for her work with Sting - with whom she has been recording and touring since 2009 - and more recently with Paul Simon and Peter Gabriel. She was also featured in the recent Oscar-winning documentary, *20 Feet from Stardom*.

Jo Lawry has spent nearly two decades living and working in New York City, and touring internationally with the likes of Sting, Paul Simon and Peter Gabriel. Now she's back on her home turf in Adelaide, performing original songs from her critically-acclaimed albums and reworkings of jazz standards orchestrated for strings by Fabian Almazan & Linda May Han Oh.



CONCERT

Verbruggen Hall 1PM

...Its flavors
are bold and
complicated”

—
DOWNBEAT

Cuban-American pianist/composer **Fabian Almazan** found his musical roots as a child in Havana studying the classical piano tradition. Following the completion of his jazz piano degree at Manhattan School of Music, Almazan immersed himself in orchestral composition, studying instrumentation and orchestration with Mr. Giampaolo Bracali. More recently, Almazan’s work can be heard in such films as Harriet, Chi-Raq, Red Tails and Miracle at St Anna.

Almazan is the founder and director of Biophilia Records, working with artists that are united by a common goal to positively impact the environment and their communities by collaborating with organizations that specialize in conservation, sustainability and outreach initiatives, regularly volunteering hands-on in community events. An environmentalist and naturalist, Almazan travelled back to Cuba making field recordings of endemic Cuban birds which were Incorporated into “This Land Abounds With Life”, Almazan’s 5th album as a leader. He continues to work diligently towards ensuring a continued dialogue of awareness concerning music and environmental justice.

As a performer, Almazan has developed a personal voice through the electric manipulation of the acoustic piano in live and studio settings. He has toured his music extensively as well as accompanied artists such as Linda May Han Oh, Terence Blanchard, Gretchen Parlato, John Hollenbeck, Mark Guiliana, Dave Douglas, Avishai Cohen and Ambrose Akinmusire among others.

Awards include a Grammy nomination for his work on Terence Blanchard’s E-Collective album, “Breathless”, the SWR New Jazz Meeting commission, the Copland Fund, the Jerome Fund for Emerging Composers Award, the Jazz Gallery Residency, Rockefeller Brothers Residency, Cintas Foundation Award in Composition and the Sundance Composers’ Lab.

Fabian Almazan & Rhizome

FABIAN ALMAZAN PIANO & COMPOSER
JO LAWRY VOCALS

LINDA MAY HAN OH CONTRABASS

BEN VANDERWAL DRUMS

STUDENT STRING QUARTET

DAVID CARREON (VIOLIN I), MONTY GUO
(VIOLIN II), SOPHIE NICKEL (VIOLA), NOAH
OSHIRO (CELLO)



CONCERT

The SIMA Stage - Recital Hall East

12.30PM

“Delicate piano notes dance... only to be picked up by the sweeping timbre of the trumpet.”

—
HEADPHONE COMMUTE

In the European of summer of 2014, pianist/composer Luke Howard and Brooklyn-based trumpeter Nadjé Noordhuis recorded an album of miniatures – *Ten Sails* – on Nils Frahm’s piano in Berlin. Seven years, a global pandemic and millions of streams later, they re-unite in Australia where they will debut these gorgeous works for Sydney audiences. Comprising 10 exquisite miniatures, *Ten Sails* combines cinematic sweep, transportive emotion and rich melodic grandeur.

Luke Howard is an Australian Music Prize long-listed composer signed to U.K. label Mercury KX. He has toured extensively internationally and released several records, including the ARIA-nominated *All That Is Not Solid and The Sand That Ate The Sea*. He has worked with film and theatre extensively, working amongst others with *Back to Back Theatre* and *The Royal Ballet* at Covent Garden. Luke is one of Australia’s foremost practitioners of contemporary classical music whose work continues to captivate audiences worldwide.

Described as ‘one of the most compelling voices to emerge on her instrument in recent years’ (Dan Bilawsky, *All about Jazz*), Australian-born trumpeter/composer **Nadjé Noordhuis** possesses one of the most unforgettably lyrical voices in modern music. Her deeply felt, clarion tone and evocative compositional gift meld classical rigor, jazz expression, and world music accents into a sound that is distinctively her own. Noordhuis was one of 10 semi-finalists in the 2007 Thelonious Monk International Jazz Trumpet Competition and was selected as a Carnegie Hall Young Artist in 2012. Based in New York since 2003, she is a member of the multiple Grammy-winning Maria Schneider Orchestra, Grammy-nominated Darcy James Argue’s *Secret Society*, and the Grammy-nominated Anat Cohen *Tentet*.

Nadjé Noordhuis & Luke Howard

NADJE NOORDHUIS TRUMPET
LUKE HOWARD PIANO



CONCERT

Music Workshop 2PM

Will Vinson with ANJO Youth Big Band

WILL VINSON ALTO & SOPRANO SAXOPHONE

MACE FRANCIS & DAVID THEAK CONDUCTORS

ANJO YOUTH BB ARTISTIC DIRECTORS NADJE NOORDHUIS,
DAVID THEAK AND MACE FRANCIS

ANJO YOUTH BIG BAND:

SAXOPHONES TESSIE OVERMYER (NSW), LACHLAN MCGARGILL (SA),
PATRICK LEFEVRE (VIC), ISAAC POWER (QLD), MICHAEL WILLIAMS
(NSW) **TRUMPETS** HARRISON BALL (NSW), DEVEN RAHMEN (NSW),
LACHLAN MCKENZIE (QLD), TOM AVGENICOS (NSW), BERNICE TESARA
(NSW) **TROMBONES** THOMAS VOSS (SA), WILLIAM PETHICK (WA), SAM
HADLOW (WA), KIT MILLAIS (VIC) **GUITAR** JOSH MEADER (NSW) **PIANO**
AUSTIN SALIBURY (WA) **CONTRABASS** AIDAN EFRON (SA)
DRUMS & CYMBALS GEORGE GREENHILL (NSW)

BIG BAND ORCHESTRATIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS BY ALAN
FERBER, TIM GARLAND, GUILLERMO KLEIN, FLORIAN ROSS, MIHO
HAZAMA, & WILL VINSON. PROGRAM COMMISSIONED BY THE SYDNEY
CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC IN 2020.

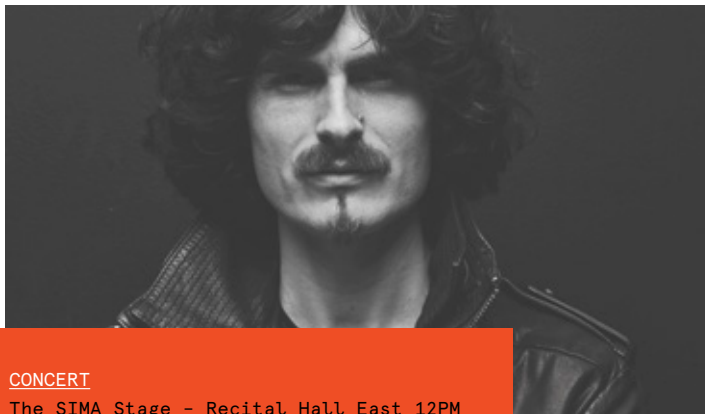
“exhilarating,
cascading...
outstanding”

—
JAZZ TIMES

Originally from London, Alto Saxophonist/Composer **Will Vinson** moved to New York City in 1999 and has cemented his international reputation as a leader and sideman. During his time in NYC, he appeared and/or recorded with Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Ari Hoenig, Marcus Gilmore, Chris Potter, Kurt Elling, Lage Lund, Aaron Parks, and many others. Will is a member of a number of leading ensembles, including pianist Gonzalo Rubalcaba's Quartet, Ari Hoenig's Punk Bop and Nonet, Miguel Zenon's Identities Orchestra, and his own groups featuring, among others, Lage Lund, Jeff Ballard, Aaron Parks, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Shai Maestro and Mike Moreno. In 2012, along with bassist Orlando le Fleming and guitarist Lage Lund, he formed the critically acclaimed OWL Trio, whose eponymous debut in 2013 was hailed by critics and listeners alike.

Will's saxophone playing is executed with incredible power and dramatic sensitivity, and is characterized by his imposing sound and technique; influenced by saxophonists from Cannonball to Chris Potter, he nevertheless brings his own unique approach to every performance. Will's writing, and the playing of his colleagues, combines a great respect for the century-long jazz tradition with explorations into the rhythmic, harmonic and melodic realms of contemporary forms.

The **ANJO Youth Big Band** brings together our brightest and youngest stars from around the country for the first time to form a truly national youth Big Band. Entry to the ANJO Youth Big Band was by competitive, blindfold audition with the successful candidates travelling to Sydney for a week-long intensive including rehearsals, performances, & sectional.



CONCERT

The SIMA Stage - Recital Hall East 12PM

Rai Thistlethwayte

Growing up in Sydney, with a classical piano teacher mother and a bass & guitar playing/ language teacher father, **Rai Thistlethwayte** developed an appreciation for a wide variety of music, including classical, rock, pop and jazz.

Rai attended the Sydney Conservatorium on scholarship, studying jazz piano where he came to the attention of Columbia Records USA and signed his first record deal. Before this debut album was released, Columbia experienced a management shake-up, and Rai was released from his contract. Returning to Australia he started rock band Thirsty Merc, which over the next ten years would release three successful albums (one platinum, one double-platinum in Australia).

After the band's third album, Rai took a break to focus on writing music incorporating jazz and his other early influences. Relocating to LA in 2012, he started writing and performing extensively, landing opening slots on tours with Bernhoft and Oh Land. He's attracted the attention of innovators such as Chris Douridas (KCRW), Louis Cole (Knower). Rai released three EPs under the moniker "Sun Rai," and continues to work with Thirsty Merc, splitting his time between Sydney and Los Angeles.

RAI THISTLETHWAYTE PIANO



GALA CONCERT Verbruggen Hall 7.30pm

Followed by Linda May Han Oh Quartet

This World

In 2018, four Australian Jazz legends performed some jazz standards in a cosy Sydney basement for a small but enthusiastic crowd. Mike Nock's return from a six-month hiatus brought an incredible joy and vitality to this performance, and although all four had worked in countless situations and combinations previously, this combination had a chemistry that was palpable and immediate.

Six months later they performed four consecutive shows, followed by two days in Sony Studios to capture **This World**. The shared history and personal connection is present in every note of this recording which has a strong tradition while pushing the boundaries. Individually the members of the quartet have worked with some of the greatest musicians in the world: Coleman Hawkins, Pharoah Sanders, Hugh Masekela, Ian Moss, Yusef Lateef, Hermeto Pascoal, Charlie Haden, Michael Brecker and Don Walker.


"...the dream quartet of Australian jazz"

JAZZOZMENTIS

JULIEN WILSON TENOR SAXOPHONE
MIKE NOCK PIANO
JONATHAN ZWARTZ CONTRABASS
HAMISH STUART DRUMS & CYMBALS

Festival Schedule

	Verbruggen Hall	Music Workshop	The SIMA Stage – Recital Hall East
12pm			Rai Thistlethwayte
12.30pm			Nadje Noordhuis & Luke Howard
1pm	Fabian Almazan & Rhizome		
1.30pm			
2pm		Will Vinson with ANJO Youth Big Band	
2.30pm			
3pm			Zela Margossian Quintet
3.30pm			
4pm	Jo Lawry		
4.30pm			
5pm			Svoboda/ Keller/Dasika
5.30pm			
6pm		Vince Jones meets the Australian National Jazz Orchestra	
6.30pm			
7pm			Paul Cutlan String Project
7.30pm			
8pm	<u>Gala Concert</u> This World & Linda May Han Oh Quartet		
8.30pm			
9pm			



	Recital Hall West	Music Cafe	Joseph Post Auditorium
12pm	Michael Griffin + Eleven	Kate Wadey Quartet	<u>Masterclass:</u> Will Vinson
12.30pm			
1pm			<u>Masterclass:</u> Zela Margossian
1.30pm		Kate Wadey Quartet	
2pm	Arcing Wires		<u>Masterclass:</u> JO LAWRY
2.30pm			
3pm		3D Trio	<u>Masterclass:</u> Helen Svoboda /Andrea Keller /Niran Disaka
3.30pm			
4pm	Fiddes vs Tinkler	3D Trio	<u>Masterclass:</u> FABIAN ALMAZAN
4.30pm			
5pm			<u>Masterclass:</u> LINDA MAY HAN OH
5.30pm			
6pm	Nick Garbett	Dan Barnett Quintet	<u>Masterclass:</u> SCOTT TINKLER
6.30pm			
7pm			<u>Masterclass:</u> MAT JODRELL
7.30pm		Dan Barnett Quintet	
8pm	Andrea Keller w/ Tessie Overmyer Quartet		
8.30pm			
9pm			



CONCERT Recital Hall West 4pm

“...a landmark work in Australian jazz. Yes, it’s hell of a thing.”

AUSTRALIANJAZZ.NET

Fiddes vs Tinkler

Internationally acclaimed trumpeter **Scott Tinkler** and composer **Andy Fiddes** re-unite to recreate their 2016 masterpiece Tinkler vs Fiddes with the Sydney Conservatorium Jazz Orchestra. Composer Andy Fiddes has created a work that highlights the exceptional depth and breadth of Tinkler’s virtuosity that showcases the cutting edge of the Australian jazz scene, alongside the artists of tomorrow, resulting in a work of great quality and nuance.

SCOTT TINKLER TRUMPET

ANDY FIDDES COMPOSER & CONDUCTOR

SYDNEY CONSERVATORIUM JAZZ ORCHESTRA # 1:

SAXES TESSIE OVERMYER, DAMON POPPLETON, BEN DEVRIES, TOM WALSH, ALEC WATTS **TRUMPETS** HARRISON BALL, ARKI MOORE, BERNICE TESARA, ZACHARIE EGAN **TROMBONES** JULIAN MCKAY, TOM LEVINGS, HARRY SNELL, MATT BELL **GUITAR** NICK DRAKAKIS **PIANO** OWEN GIBSON **CONTRABASS** CHARLES WILKINSON **DRUMS & CYMBALS** GEORGE GREENHILL



CONCERT Recital Hall West 6pm

Nick Garbett

Recorded and produced in Berlin over the course of two years, *The Glider* is the first release from the new project of long time friends and collaborators **Nick Garbett** and **Mike Majkowski**.

Coming off the back of Garbett’s 2018 Freedman Jazz Fellowship win, and subsequent relocation to Italy, the album captures a period of travel, discovery, and reconnection between old friends. The result is a meditation on colour, texture and rhythm, with musical landscapes and electronic flourishes reminiscent of Jon Hassell and Brian Eno’s *Fourth World*, all grounded in a distinctly Australian celebration of togetherness.

The *Glider*’s seven tracks are built on the interweaving rhythms of celebrated Australian drummers Tony Buck (The Necks), Finn Ryan and Steve Heather, with Majkowski on bass and synthesisers, Garbett on effected trumpet, Johannes Schlieirmacher on saxophone, and a guest appearance by guitarist Matt Smith.

Nick Garbett has assembled an Australia-based lineup for this album’s release and their performance at the Con Jazz Festival.

NICK GARBETT TRUMPET **MATT KEEGAN** SAXOPHONE **DAVE RODRIGUEZ** GUITAR **PAT HARRIS** BASS **FINN RYAN** DRUMS & CYMBALS **VINCENT SEBASTIAN** PERCUSSION



CONCERT The SIMA Stage - Recital Hall East 7pm

“...this performance was a triumph.”

THE AUSTRALIAN

Paul Cutlan String Project

A long-standing member of the Australian Art Orchestra and the ARIA winning MARA, composer and multi-instrumentalist **Paul Cutlan** is an in-demand ensemble member who exemplifies excellence in jazz and improvised music. As a commissioned composer, Paul has written works for the Sydney Festival, Ars Musica Australis and Aurora Festival of Living Music.

Following the 2015 release ‘Across the Top’, a suite written for bass clarinet and string quartet which was lauded by the critics as haunting music of great beauty, the Paul Cutlan String Project was born. This latest offering bridges classical, jazz and improvised music and touches on themes of motherhood, friendship, memory, conflict, sorrow, horror and the pointlessness of war. The works have developed gradually, harnessing a more improvised approach than Across the Top. The one large multi-movement work The Eleventh Hour also uses improvised performance practices.

PAUL CUTLAN CLARINETS, SOPRANO SAXOPHONE & COMPOSER **LIISA PALLANDI** VIOLIN **CAROLINE HOPSON** VIOLIN **JAMES ECCLES** VIOLA **OLIVER MILLER** CELLO **GARY DALEY** PIANO **BRETT HIRST** CONTRABASS



CONCERT The SIMA Stage - Recital Hall East 5pm

Svoboda / Keller / Dasika

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” (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**, performing a collection 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. **Andrea Keller** is a highly acclaimed pianist with a broad discography of albums that have won multiple Aria awards, Australian Jazz ‘Bell’ Awards, Art Music Awards among others.

NIRAN DASIKA TRUMPET **HELEN SVOBODA** CONTRABASS
ANDREA KELLER PIANO



CONCERT The SIMA Stage - Recital Hall East 3pm

Zela Margossian Quintet

Born in Beirut, of Armenian heritage, **Zela Margossian** begins studying piano at a very young age. Graduating from Hamazkaine's Parsegh Ganatchian Musical College, she carries on her musical studies at the Lebanese Higher State Conservatory and at the same time, she continues her education in English literature at Haigazian University. Upon earning her B.A. degree in English literature, she leaves for Armenia to further her musical studies at the Yerevan Komitas State Conservatory in the class of the renowned pianist and professor Vili Sargsyan. In 2007, Zela earns her Masters degree in Piano Performance from the Yerevan Komitas State Conservatory.

During her years studying in Armenia, Zela develops a great passion towards Armenian ethno-jazz music that she experiences in local jazz venues. After moving to Sydney, she embarks on a new journey of nurturing this passion and makes her mark here as a blossoming composer and artist.

ZELA MARGOSSIAN PIANO **STUART VANDERGRAFF**
WOODWINDS **ADEM YILMAZ** PERCUSSION **JACQUES EMERY**
CONTRABASS **ALEXANDER INMAN-HISLOP** DRUMS &
CYMBALS



CONCERT Recital Hall West 2pm

"...this is today's jazz for
a new audience."

MIKE NOCK, SYDNEY JAN 2020.

Arcing Wires

Featuring two guitars, tenor saxophone, bass and drums, **Arcing Wires** are a 5-piece high energy modern jazz rock group from Sydney, Australia. Drawing influence from artists like Kneebody, Ben Eunson, Avishai Cohen's Big Vicious and Donny McCaslin Group, this collaborative unit performs original compositions, written by all 5 members, with a heavy prog-rock slant.

The groups members met while studying jazz at the Sydney Con, and since graduation have emerged as some of Sydney's most respected sidemen. This band represents the pinnacle of the younger generation with drummer Alex Hirlian winning Australia's top jazz prize, The National Jazz Award while guitarist Felix Lalanne placed 2nd at the Montreux Jazz Festival Guitar Competition.

The band has performed at the Sydney VIVID Festival as well as the Sydney Fringe Festival and is fast gaining a local reputation undertaking several tours including international appearances at Amersfoort Jazz Festival, a mainstage appearance at Ubud Jazz Festival and an extended tour around Australia in December 2019.

NISH MANJUNATH SAXOPHONE AND FX **YUTARO OKUDA**
GUITAR **FELIX LALANNE** GUITAR **NICK HENDERSON**
ELECTRIC BASS **ALEX HIRLIAN** DRUMS & CYMBALS



CONCERT Recital Hall West 12pm

"This is a highly satisfactory album for which Marty Paich, who conducts and did the arranging, deserves a full measure of credit... The whole album is in excellent taste."

DOWNBEAT 1961 ORIGINAL LP REVIEW BY
RALPH J. GLEASON

Michael Griffin + Eleven

Recreating music from the seminal 1960's LP Art Pepper + **Eleven**, these incredible arrangements of jazz standards by Marty Paich feature the best of the cool school with one of Australia's most remarkable young saxophonists, **Michael Griffin** leading an all-star band made up of the stars of tomorrow under the musical direction of WAYJO Chief Conductor, Mace Francis.

MICHAEL GRIFFIN SAXOPHONE SOLOIST **MACE FRANCIS** CONDUCTOR **NED OLIVE** ALTO SAXOPHONE **YONAH MCGURR** TENOR SAXOPHONE **BEN LERNER** BARITONE SAXOPHONE **BERNICE TESARA** TRUMPET **LACHLAN MCKENZIE** TRUMPET **TOM LEVINGS** FRENCH HORN **JULIAN MCKAY** TROMBONE **NICK BARNARD** BASS TROMBONE **JORDAN CHUNG** PIANO **MAXIMILLIAN LITTLE** CONTRABASS **ABBY CONSTABLE** DRUMS & CYMBALS



CONCERT Music Café 6pm & 7.30pm

"One of the most satisfying sounds in Australian music"

THE AUSTRALIAN

Dan Barnett Quintet

Dan Barnett was born into music being the son of the legendary Sydney Bassist Cliff Barnett. He began his musical life as a trombonist and quickly developed a love for singing and has since carved out an enviable reputation on the Australian music scene.

Having studied under some of the leading musicians in Australia and the USA, Dan career has found him collaborating with a diverse cross section of performers – ranging from Dragon, The Whitlams and Jimmy Barnes – to Mark Murphy, James Morrison and Tommy Emmanuel. Dan has also delighted theatre audiences with his featured roles in the Australian productions of Buddy (the Buddy Holly story), Testimony – The Legend of Charlie Parker and The Trocadero Dance Palace (Sydney festival). Dan was a runner up in the prestigious 2006 London International Jazz Competition for singers. Dan is a renowned bandleader of both big band and small groups and has nine critically acclaimed albums to his name.

DAN BARNETT TROMBONE & VOCALS **ANDREW ROBERTSON** SAXOPHONE **SAM ROLLINGS** GUITAR **BRENDAN CLARKE** CONTRABASS **ANDREW DICKESON** DRUMS & CYMBALS



CONCERT Music Café 12pm & 1.30pm

“...one of the best singers
the Sydney jazz scene has
encountered...”

GEOFF BULL

Kate Wadey Quartet

Kate Wadey began her career in Adelaide singing in gospel choirs and jazz vocal ensembles from age 13. After completing her Honours in Acting at Flinders University she relocated to Sydney where she has become one of the scene's most in demand singers. She performs regularly with the cream of Australia's current crop of jazz musicians and composers, including Geoff Bull, Bob Henderson, George Washingmachine, Andrew Dickeson, Dan Barnett, Matthew McMahon, Craig Scott, Chris O'Dea, Zoe Hauptman and Harry Sutherland.

As a bandleader, Wadey has performed at Manly Jazz, Wangaratta Jazz and Blues Festival, Sydney Festival, Adelaide Fringe Festival and Womadelaide and well as two international tours of New Zealand and Japan. A frequent collaborator with classical/contemporary composers Ben Ward, Chris Pidcock and Van-Anh Nguyen she is equally at home collaborating with many different musical outfits including The Cope St Parade, Michael Griffin Quintet, Arthur Washington Big Band, The Finer Cuts and The Swinging Blades.

KATE WADEY VOCALS **ANDREW SCOTT** PIANO
SAM DOBSON CONTRABASS **JAMES WAPLES** DRUMS
& CYMBALS



CONCERT Music Café 3pm & 4.30pm

3D Trio

Throughout the history of jazz and rhythm and blues, the organ trio has been synonymous with soulful grooves and driving beats. The classic lineup was a Hammond organ, drums and either sax or guitar. During the 1960s, names such as Jimmy Smith, Jack McDuff, Jimmy McGriff and Big John Patton were at the forefront of the genre sometimes known as organ groove. The tradition has continued right up to the present day with groups such as Medeski, Martin and Wood and the Larry Goldings Trio winning numerous fans with this ageless combination.

3D Trio is Sydney's own dynamic organ trio featuring the talents of guitarist **Carl Dewhurst**, organist **Clayton Doley** and drummer **Andrew Dickeson**. Carl Dewhurst is one of Australia's most versatile musicians traversing all styles and genres. Clayton Doley is one of this country's most in demand keyboard players and a long time aficionado of the mighty Hammond organ. A highly prized sideman he has also led bands such as The Hands, The Organ Donors and The Clayton Doley Organ Experience. Andrew Dickeson is without a doubt one of the most swinging drummers in town and the perfect driving force behind this trio.

CARL DEWHURST GUITAR **CLAYTON DOLEY** ORGAN
ANDREW DICKESON DRUMS & CYMBALS



CONCERT Music Café 12pm & 1.30pm

Andrea Keller w/ Tessie Overmyer Quartet

One of Australia's most sophisticated and accomplished improvising musicians, **Andrea Keller**, mentors an ensemble led by **Tessie Overmyer**, a remarkable young alto saxophonist originally from Newcastle.

ANDREA KELLER PIANO & MENTOR **TESSIE OVERMYER**
SAXOPHONE **MILES ROONEY** TRUMPET **HARRY BIRCH**
CONTRABASS **KYU KODAMA** DRUMS & CYMBALS



CONCERT Conservatorium Atrium 2pm-6pm

Aaron Blakey Quartet

New Zealand born **Aaron Blakey** relocated to Sydney in 2011 after a four-year stint of playing in Japan as an active pianist on the Tokyo Jazz Scene.

Aaron's Quartet performs original tunes based on his experiences from living in Auckland, Tokyo, New York and Sydney, as well as choice jazz standards.

AARON BLAKEY PIANO **ANDREW CRAGO** ALTO
SAXOPHONE **TOM BOTTING** CONTRABASS **TIM FIRTH**
DRUMS & CYMBALS

CONverge Series

The CONverge section of the festival brings together leading students from the Sydney Conservatorium Jazz Studies Program, the oldest and most prestigious of its kind in Australia, and pairs them with a mentor drawn from highly progressive and dynamic musicians. Music is rehearsed in advance featuring compositions provided by the guest artist(s) but it's during the rehearsals and the performance with the artist(s) that this concept truly comes alive.

CONverge concerts

MICHAEL GRIFFIN + ELEVEN

Recital Hall West 12pm

FIDDES VS TINKLER

Recital Hall West 4pm

ANDREA KELLER & TESSIE OVERMYER

Recital Hall West 8pm



Masterclasses

All masterclasses in the Joseph Post Auditorium.

Central to the Sydney Conservatorium Jazz Festival is the presentation of masterclasses for all students, musicians, thinkers and lovers of jazz. One of the things that sparks our lifelong curiosity of jazz is the complexity and design behind music that sometimes appears mind-boggling and almost impossible to perform to us 'mere' mortal listeners.

Questions such as: how is that possible? what was that? how did you arrive at this concept? how did you work at executing this? who influenced your music? what are you trying to invoke? will be tackled by eight of our festival artists throughout the festival.

Masterclasses involve a presentation and then a Q & A session with the artist within a 50mins time slot.

WILL VINSON 12pm

ZELA MARGOSSIAN 1pm

JO LAWRY 2pm

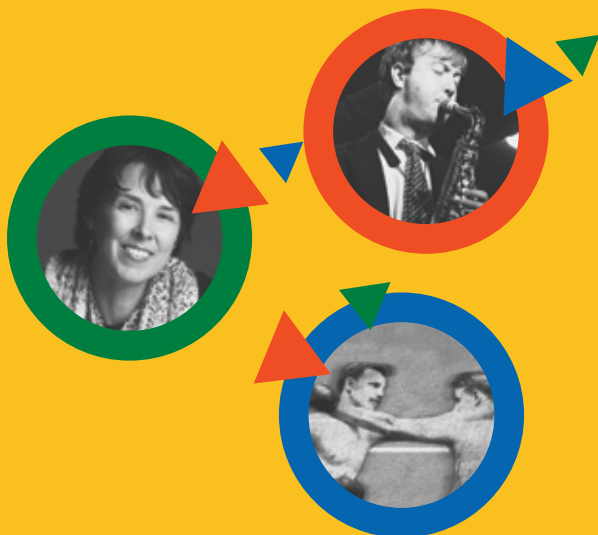
HELEN SVOBODA | ANDREA KELLER | NIRAN DISAKA 3pm

FABIAN ALMAZAN 4pm

LINDA MAY HAN OH 5pm

SCOTT TINKLER 6pm

MAT JODRELL 7pm





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SYDNEY IMPROVISED MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Festival Venue



The Festival will be held on **Sunday, May 30** at the **Sydney Conservatorium of Music**, Macquarie Street, Sydney. Concerts can be found off the Atrium on level 1 or in Verbruggen Hall on level 3.

Getting to the Conservatorium

The Conservatorium is located in the CBD and easily accessible by train, bus and taxi.

By train: Catch a train to Circular Quay and a short walk to the campus.

By bus: Catch any bus going to Circular Quay, alight there and a short walk to the campus.

Parking: There is no onsite parking at the Conservatorium, however private parking stations can be found close by on Macquarie Street.

Our Team

Sydney Con Dean
Anna Reid

Festival Artistic Director
David Theak

Festival Producer
Marcus Hodgson

Publicist
Emma Collison Publicity

Program Design
Green Peas for Breakfast

Production Supervision
David Kim-Boyle & Jarrad Salmon

Ticketing & Front of House
Felicity Knibbs

USYD Marketing Support
Grace Hall

Sima Marketing Support
Amy Curl & Reuben White

Website Design & Maintenance
David Theak



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For more information head to:
music.sydney.edu.au/jazz

Sydney Con Jazz Festival

30 MAY 2021

Linda May Han Oh Quartet

**Vince Jones meets the Australian
National Jazz Orchestra**

Jo Lawry

Fabian Almazan & Rhizome

Nadje Noordhuis & Luke Howard

**Will Vinson with the ANJO Youth
Big Band**

Rai Thistlethwayte

This World

Fiddes vs Tinkler

Nick Garbett

Paul Cutlan String Project

Svoboda | Keller | Dasika

Zela Margossian Quintet

Arcing Wires

Michael Griffin +Eleven

Dan Barnett Quintet

Kate Wadey Quartet

3D Trio

Aaron Blakey Quartet

Andrea Keller w/ Tessie Overmyer Quartet

+ 8 masterclasses
