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30TH BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL JULY 18TH TO 27TH 2014



Photo by Merlin Daleman

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BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL
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presents...

FRIDAY 18TH JULY
THE POTATO HEAD JAZZ BAND (FROM GRANADA, SPAIN)
 The Potato Head Jazz Band from Granada in Spain consists of six musicians from around the world and has performed in many notable jazz clubs and festivals.

SATURDAY 19TH JULY
LADY SINGS THE BLUES
 The critically acclaimed celebration of the music of Billie Holiday features seven of the UK's finest jazz musicians and current winner of The British Jazz Awards Best Vocalist title, Val Wiseman.

SUNDAY 20TH JULY
KING PLEASURE & THE BISCUIT BOYS
 Rough, tough and always rocking, the legendary King Pleasure and The Biscuit Boys' zany stage show sometimes belies the fact that here is the finest, most authentic rhythm & blues band ever to come from outside the USA.

FREE FREE
ADMISSION PARKING

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Birmingham City Council

"It is with great pleasure that Birmingham is welcoming the Birmingham International Jazz and Blues Festival for a landmark 30th consecutive year.

To mark this occasion the festival is again hosting big names from across the world with 175 performances at over 80 venues across the City. It is particularly impressive to see the festival increasingly attracting musicians from across Europe with France, Hungary, Czech Republic, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Slovakia and Spain all represented.

The festival is an important event in Birmingham's event calendar and is an opportunity for everyone to see live music and events at different venues making the festival accessible to all.

I always enjoy the event and I am looking forward to it again this year. The breadth of Jazz and Blues on offer make this year's event a must go festival for residents and visitors alike.

Let's hope the Jazz and Blues Festival brings the summer to Birmingham."

Ian Ward
 Deputy Leader of Birmingham City Council



Funded by

Festival Patron: Digby Fairweather

Advisory Board: John Hemming MP, Derek Inman, John James, Danny Longstaff, Cllr. Phillip Parkin, John Patrick, Cllr. Rob Sealey

Festival Director: Jim Simpson

Commercial and Development Director: Tim Jennings

Business and Marketing Manager: Yue Yang

Development Manager: Russell Fletcher

Programme Editor: Ron Simpson

Programme & Publicity Design: Nerys James (nerys.james@gmail.com)

Planning and Co-ordination: Giulia Iozzo, Lisa-Marie Martin, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Thomas Altmeyer, Nikolas Frink, Irene Filippini, Elise Le Gentil

Photographer: Merlin Daleman (www.merlindaleman.com)

Media: Irena Zaharina, Edgar Diver, Alice Hall, Joseph Hale, Bethany Bagnall-Ainslie

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Chinese Media Manager: Zhirong Yu, Shasha Zhang, Shuai Yuan

Volunteers: Burns Kieron, Daniella Birtley, Ella Harris, Giada Totaro, Nashema Graham, Shabana Niaz, Ana Maria Camino Cumbreno, Alison McLarey, Andreea Rozana Hanca, Megan Sheridan, Melissa Hobbs, Kim Doan, Roisin Reilly, Ethan McLaughlin, Xiangyu Mao, Billy Chan, Yuanjun, Martin Francis, Zeeshan Khattak, Christian Wells, Sean Leonard, Burnard Davis and all of those people who we don't yet know, but will surely become valuable team members.

Artists Booking: Big Bear Music Agency 0121 454 7020 agency@bigbearmusic.com

Technical Equipment: PMT Lawley Middleway Birmingham B4 7XX - 0121 359 5056 136

Mobile Communications: Cartel Communications 0121 622 5555

Film: One Digital (www.chambertv.co.uk/)

Accountants: David Cutter & Co (www.davidcutter.co.uk)

Book-keeper: Juliet Kenny

Website: Marion Hemming [mhemming@mazhemart.co.uk]

Hotel Partner: Hampton By Hilton [www.hampton.com]

Special Thanks To: Alison Corlett, Andrew Dunbar, Anita Dinham, Ann Tonks, Anthony Hughes, Aud Lamy, Bary Clark, Bart Buczna, Botanical Gardens, Bournville College, Brett Gibbons, Brian Gambles and Sue Wilkinson of Library of Birmingham, Bruno Pelletier, Clare Reeves, Craig Hamilton, Curtis Buck, Dan Auty, Daron Billings, David Baldwin & Thomas Lawes, David Dittrich of Czech Dreams, David Pardoe, Diane McInerney, Eddy Fogg, Fred Shaw, Garry Morris, Garry Chapman, Gay Faulkner, George Brown, Ginnie Wollaston, Graham Young, Ian Shaw, Irene De Boo, James Burkmar, James Lagneau, James Wheeler, James Wong, Jenny Wilkes, Jo Jeffries, Joanna Torbus, Joe Bishop, John Bunce, John Potter, Karen Wood, Ken Banks, Krystyna Atkins and Michael Mason of Crowne Plaza, Leon Shutkever, Lina Higuaita, Lisa Travers, Luke Crane, Mark Wilson & Silvia Jukes, Matt Grimes, Matt Hutchings, Matthew Henwood, Michele Wilby, Mike Bushell, Nathan Tromans, Nigel Barker, Patrice Hourbette of Music LX, Paul Bradford and Mark Dovaston, Paul Cole, Paul Roobottom, Paul Watkins, Paulo Jacinto, Peter Hodgson, Siew Kuan Yap and Lisa Travers of Blue Piano, Phil Thomson, Matt Grimes, Craig Hamilton, Izzy MacLachlan, Roy Priest, Paul O'Donnell and Nathan Tromans of BCU, Richard Morris, Richard Perry, Richard Westhead, Rimante Sodeikiene & Rita Valiukonyt, Robert Masters, Roy Davis, Simon Martin and Nikee Clynes, Stephen Spencer, Stuart Smith of SEAT, Sushil Virmani, Tahreen Kutub, The Asylum, Tony Elvin, Tony Potter, Warwick Printing, Zack Foley.

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Performances are free unless denoted otherwise. In restaurant performances, accepted etiquette applies in terms of dining.

THE BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL

PO Box 944, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 8UT

www.birminghamjazzfestival.com www.birminghamjazzfestaltv.com

Phone: 0121 454 7020 **Email:** festival@bigbearmusic.com

THE JAZZ FESTIVAL BOARD

Behind this short, sharp celebration of jazz, blues and related music lies many months of planning and organisation. Driving this forward is the Jazz Festival Advisory Board, a very special group of people who freely give up time, expertise and enthusiasm in order to help shape this Festival. Without the benefit of their wisdom, knowledge and encouragement it would be impossible.



John Patrick



John James



Philip Parkin



Derek Inman



John Hemming MP



Danny Longstaff



Cllr. Rob Sealey

SPECIAL FESTIVAL HOTEL RATE

The Hampton by Hilton Hotel on Broad Street is the Festival's Partner Hotel.

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Have you noticed how every other programme on TV these days is about cooking? Well, I firmly believe in keeping up with the times. So here's my recipe for a great jazz festival!

First of all, keep the music entertaining. Profound yes – but entertaining too; that's important. Oh, and stylistically and culturally broad so there's something for everyone. Then take the music and place it in a huge variety of free settings; everything from starchy concert stages to street events so that everyone has a chance to hear the happenings. Your mix of artists is a central factor involving detailed research and artistic judgment. It must include established names to stiffen your programme; locally-based players whose star-status is in no way diminished because they happen to live locally, and – just as importantly - new talented arrivals from as many international locations as possible. Be sure to check your ingredients to make sure that the quality of your dish isn't spoiled by musical economies. And then sit back, treat yourself to a glass of something warming, and watch the magic happen!

The 2014 Birmingham International Jazz and Blues Festival is with us now, and it's plain that – once again – director Jim Simpson and his Big Bear team have got it exactly right. Cast an eye down the list of attractions here and you'll see that



Photo by Merlin Daleman

Digby
Fairweather

the recipe above has been followed to the hilt. In and around the city you can marvel at British Jazz Award winners including saxophone showstoppers Simon Spillett, Derek Nash and Art Themen; the mighty trumpeter Bruce Adams, and singer Val Wiseman (absolutely the best in her field). For comedy at its most crafted there's Bob Kerr and his legendary Whoopee Band; for rock aficionados there's the great group of Trevor Burton (late of the legendary Move) and the finest jump'n'jive ensemble in the world, King Pleasure and the Biscuit Boys! Both of these acts hail from Birmingham and they're joined by other mega-talents from the city too; singer Roy Forbes, saxophonist Steve Ajao, pianist John Patrick and more.

But of course that's not all. Have a look at the jazz and blues map of the world and you'll find that many of its best representatives will be here. The USA, France, Lithuania,

Spain, Slovakia, Hungary, Luxembourg, Italy and the Czech Republic have all brought some of their finest acts to Birmingham this year in an exercise that gives the United Nations a musical run for its (or should that be 'their') money! As Patron of the Festival I've been allowed a preview of a few of them and they are sensational. The dynamic Pepper and the Jellies (a four-piece from Italy led by the beautiful Pepper) bring the blues music of Bessie Smith to fresh youthful life. The Budapest Ragtime Band presents the music with grace and heat combined. Steve Seagal's Blues Band from the USA lay down their righteous message. And that's just a start. Check the programme and have fun making your own great musical discoveries.

And – by the way - have a wonderful Festival!

Digby Fairweather
Festival Patron

EVENTS AT CENTENARY BAR & BRASSERIE

THROUGHOUT JULY & AUGUST



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THROUGHOUT JULY & AUGUST

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JULY EVENTS



COMEDY NIGHT

BARBARA NICE | THURSDAY 17TH JULY

£29.95 per person



BBQ ON THE TERRACE

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY IN JULY FROM 12PM

£15 per person



JAZZ SUNDAY BBQ

REMI HARRIS | SUNDAY 30TH JULY FROM 12PM

£20 per person



WINE TASTING NIGHT

THURSDAY 31ST JULY

£39.95 per person

8 courses & wines to match each course

AUGUST EVENTS



GRILL NIGHT

THURSDAY 7TH & THURSDAY 21ST AUGUST

£15 per person



BBQ ON THE TERRACE

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY IN AUGUST FROM 12PM

£15 per person



JAZZ SUNDAY BBQ

REMI HARRIS | SUNDAY 17TH AUGUST FROM 12PM

£20 per person

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18.00 Blue Piano **OPENING PARTY: NEW ORLEANS JUMP BAND [SPAIN]**

FRIDAY 18TH JULY 2014

11:00
Victoria Square
THE BROOMBUSTERS

11:30
Martineau Place
ARTHUR BROWN JAZZ BAND

12:30
Blue Piano
TOM ARMITAGE

12:30
The Mailbox
NEW ORLEANS JUMP BAND [SPAIN]

12:30
Red Rose Centre, Sutton Coldfield
THE JAZZ RAMBLERS

13:10
Barber Institute of Fine Arts
BRUCE ADAMS QUARTET

15:00
Victoria Square
C-JAM

16:30
Hampton by Hilton
NEW ORLEANS JUMP BAND [SPAIN]

17:00
Crown, Corporation Street
BEKAH'S RENEGADES

17:00
Brasshouse
THE JAKE LEG JUG BAND

17:00
Chung Ying Central
SUZI WOODS

17:00
New Street Station
THE PRECIOUS PENNY PLUCKERS

17:30
Brindleyplace, Waters Edge Bandstand
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA JAZZTET [USA]

18:00
Victoria Square
RUDIE & THE REVOLVERS

19:00
Blue Piano
ROY FORBES DUO

19:00
Café Rouge, Mailbox
VAL WISEMAN QUARTET

19:00
StarCity
POTATO HEAD JAZZ BAND [SPAIN]

19:30
Garden House
NEW ORLEANS JUMP BAND [SPAIN]

19:30
Lord Clifden
BRUCE ADAMS QUARTET

19:30
Cradley Heath Library
WHISKY BROTHERS

19:45
The Red Lion
BIRMINGHAM JAZZ PRESENTS: CHRIS GUMBLEY QUINTET: £8/ £5

21:00
Grosvenor Casino
RICKY COOL & THE IN CROWD

21:00
Hampton By Hilton
PRECIOUS PENNY PLUCKERS

21:15
The Kings Head
BOBBY WOODS DUO

PLEASE NOTE: This programme is correct at time of going to press. The Festival organisers cannot be held responsible for any loss or inconvenience caused as a result of any inaccuracies.



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Jazz Festival:
26-27th July

Queen Tribute:
17th August

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11am - 5pm
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Main Arena
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Equine/canine stunt team • Falconry display
Heavy horse logging demonstration

Young people's dance arena • Countryside pursuits paddock
Sports paddock • Craft fair • Youth services with buses & stage
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RHINO **OUT NOW** **lazz**

11:00
Bert & Gerts, The Parade,
Sutton Coldfield
THE JAZZ RAMBLERS

11:00
Victoria Square
JAZZBAND VELKE LOSINY
[CZECH REPUBLIC]

12:00
Cadbury World
THE CHASE JAZZMEN

12:30
The Mailbox
THE JAKE LEG JUG BAND

12:30
The Electric Cinema
FILM: COOL HAND LUKE
£13.50/£9.80/£7.80

13:00
Birmingham Museum & Art
Gallery
THE PRECIOUS PENNY
PLUCKERS

13:30
Brindleyplace, Waters Edge
Bandstand
NEW ORLEANS JUMP BAND
[SPAIN]

15:00
Victoria Square
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN
FLORIDA JAZZTET [USA]

15:00
Brasshouse
LITTLE JO AND THE MISFITS

16:00
Bournville Village Green
THE CHASE JAZZMEN

17:00
Bournville Village Green
NEW ORLEANS HOTSHOTS

18:00
Victoria Square
NEW ORLEANS JUMP BAND
[SPAIN]

18:00
Arcadian
JAZZBAND VELKE LOSINY
[CZECH REPUBLIC]

18:00
Bournville Village Green
THE CHASE JAZZMEN

19:00
Blue Piano
HARRY BOLT TRIO

19:00
Chung Ying Cantonese
Restaurant
NEW ORLEANS HOTSHOTS

19:00
StarCity
LADY SINGS THE BLUES –
TRIBUTE TO BILLIE HOLIDAY
WITH VAL WISEMAN, BRUCE
ADAMS, BOB SYDOR, ROY
WILLIAMS, BRIAN DEE, LEN
SKEAT, BOBBY WORTH

19:00
Thimblemill Library
STEVE AJAO BLUES GIANTS

19:30
Garden House
LITTLE JO AND THE MISFITS

JAGGER, THE KILLER AND THE PRETTIEST MAN IN ROCK AND ROLL

The photographic exhibition, *Jagger, The Killer and the Prettiest Man in Rock and Roll*, comes to Alvechurch Library from July 5th to 31st. Festival Director Jim Simpson has a unique archive from the 1960s when he divided his time between music and photography. This exhibition concentrates on images, many of them captured in informal moments, of many of the legends of blues and rock'n'roll and also records the many groups that made Brum Beat a force to be reckoned with.

20:00
Hampton By Hilton Hotel
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN
FLORIDA JAZZTET [USA]

20:00
The Wellington
THE PRECIOUS PENNY
PLUCKERS

20:30
The Bureau
THE JAKE LEG JUG BAND

20:30
Berkleys Lounge
NEW ORLEANS JUMP BAND
[SPAIN]

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TOUCHWOOD
EST. 2001



12:30
Searcys at The Rep
REMI HARRIS TRIO

12:30
The Mailbox
NEW ORLEANS JUMP BAND [SPAIN]

13:00
Blakesley Hall
ARTHUR BROWN JAZZ BAND

13:30
The City Tavern
THE PRECIOUS PENNY PLUCKERS

14:00
The Drop Forge
JAZZBAND VELKE LOSINY [CZECH REPUBLIC]

14:00
Hotel Du Vin
ALLIGATOR GUMBO

14:00
The Dog
BARBARA & ALL THAT JAZZ

14:00
Botanical Gardens
JOHN HEMMING & THE SISTERS OF JAZZ
£7 / £4.75

15:00
Brasshouse
NEW ORLEANS JUMP BAND [SPAIN]

17:00
Slug & Lettuce
C-JAM

17:00
O'Neills, Broad Street
STEVE AJAO QUARTET

18:00
The Kings Head
RICKY COOL & THE IN CROWD

18:00
Miller & Carter, Hockley Heath
JOHN PATRICK TRIO WITH LLUIS MATHER

18:30
Oobleck
THE PRECIOUS PENNY PLUCKERS
£5

18:30
Soloman Cutler
ALLIGATOR GUMBO

19:00
The Junction, Harborne
TREVOR BURTON BAND

19:00
StarCity
KING PLEASURE & THE BISCUIT BOYS

19:30
Lord Clifden
JAZZBAND VELKE LOSINY [CZECH REPUBLIC]

20:00
Robin 2
PAUL CARRACK
£25 Adv/ £ 27.50 on the door

To keep up-to-date on programme updates, news and any changes subscribe FREE to the Festival e-bulletin, send your email address to admin@bigbearmusic.com marked e-Bulletin

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Bratislava Hot
Serenaders



12:00

Birmingham Cathedral Grounds*
THE BACKYARD MUSIC BOYS

12:00

St Paul's Churchyard
**GIEDRE KILCIAUSKIENE JAZZ
MINIATURES [LITHUANIA]**

12:30

The Gracechurch Centre,
Sutton Coldfield
BOSTIN BRASS

12:30

The Mailbox
THE BROOMBUSTERS

12:30

Brasshouse
**POTATO HEAD JAZZ BAND
[SPAIN]**

Sponsored by Marstons Beer
Company

17:00

Church Street Square**
BOSTIN BRASS

19:00

Electric Cinema
**BRATISLAVA HOT SERENADERS
[SLOVAKIA]**
£15

19:30

Lord Clifden
MILLENNIUM EAGLE JAZZ BAND

20:00

Soloman Cutler
**POTATO HEAD JAZZ BAND
[SPAIN]**

20:00

Robin 2
**STEVEN SEAGAL'S BLUES BAND
[USA]**
£30 / £27.50

Wet Weather Alternatives:

* The Old Contemptibles

** The Old Joint Stock

SEAT SPONSORSHIP

The Birmingham International Jazz and Blues Festival is grateful to SEAT cars, in association with StarCity, for their generous provision of transport for the UK tour by the Potato Head Jazz Band from Granada, Spain. The band's three days at the Birmingham festival (21st-22nd and 25th) are the centre-piece of a longer tour, from July 17th to 27th.

BURT BACHARACH | GREGORY PORTER | LAURA MVULA | LOOSE TUBES

WARREN VACHÉ QUINTET FEATURING ALAN BARNES JT4 JOHN TAYLOR TRIO ZARA MCFARLANE A TRIBUTE TO STAN TRACEY
 PENGUIN CAFE VINICIUS CANTUÁRIA QUARTET POLAR BEAR DON WELLER & DAVID NEWTON TAPY LAFERTIN QUARTET TROYKA
 TRISH CLOWES QUINTET FEATURING GWILYM SIMCOCK DENNIS ROLLINS VELOCITY TRIO BEATS & PIECES BIG BAND CHRISTINE TOBIN
 THE BIG CHRIS BARBER BAND TOWNSHIP COMETS FEATURING PINISE SAUL MARIUS NESET QUARTET MICHAEL WOLLYN TRIO

DO NOT GO GENTLE: WALES MEETS DYLAN THOMAS KAIROS 4TET RHYTHMS OF THE CITY THE ROGER BEAUJOLAIS QUARTET
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The BROTHERS GROOVE

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11:00
 Birmingham Markets
THE JAZZ RAMBLERS

12:00
 Birmingham Cathedral Grounds*
BOSTIN BRASS

12:00
 St Paul's Churchyard
POTATO HEAD JAZZ BAND [SPAIN]

12:30
 Brasshouse
ELVIS FONTENOT & THE SUGAR BEES
 Sponsored by Marstons Beer Company

12:30
 The Mailbox
THE CHASE JAZZMEN

14:00
 Hagley Road Village
GIEDRE KILCIAUSKIENE JAZZ MINIATURES [LITHUANIA]
 £3.50



Wet Weather Alternatives:
 * The Old Joint Stock
 ** The Old Contemptions

THE SANDWELL FRINGE

The Birmingham International Jazz and Blues Festival is expanding this year to include some 16 events in Sandwell. Building on the initiative shown by the Library Service to turn libraries into street corner arts centres, the festival stages events at six libraries in the district. The Whisky Brothers appear at Cradley Heath Library (18th), Wednesbury Library (22nd) and Great Barr Library (24th). Thimblemill Library hosts the Steve Ajao Blues Giants (19th), the Remi Harris Trio plays West Bromwich Central Library (23rd) and the Potato Head Jazz Band appears at Blackheath Library (25th).

On the second weekend of the Festival the Sandwell Show in West Bromwich hosts lunch-time events, with Saxitude (25th) and the Backyard Music Boys (26th). Further Sandwell events focus on Bearwood, with Sunday afternoons at the Dog featuring Barbara and all that Jazz (20th) and Bob Hall and Dave Peabody (27th). The Budapest Ragtime Band appear at Lightwoods Park on the evening of 23rd and the King's Head and Hagley Road Village both have interesting programmes. Bobby Woods (18th), Ricky Cool and the In Crowd (20th) and Digby Fairweather (25th) appear at the King's Head and the Village follows a Tuesday afternoon with Giedre Kilciauskiene Jazz Miniatures with the explosive comedy and jazz of Bob Kerr's Whoopee Band (26th).

17:00
 Snow Hill Station Square**
THE JAZZ RAMBLERS

18:00
 BCU Parkside Building
POTATO HEAD JAZZ BAND [SPAIN]

19:00
 Fiesta Del Asado
GIEDRE KILCIAUSKIENE JAZZ MINIATURES [LITHUANIA]
 £3.50

19:00
 Don Diego
REMI HARRIS TRIO

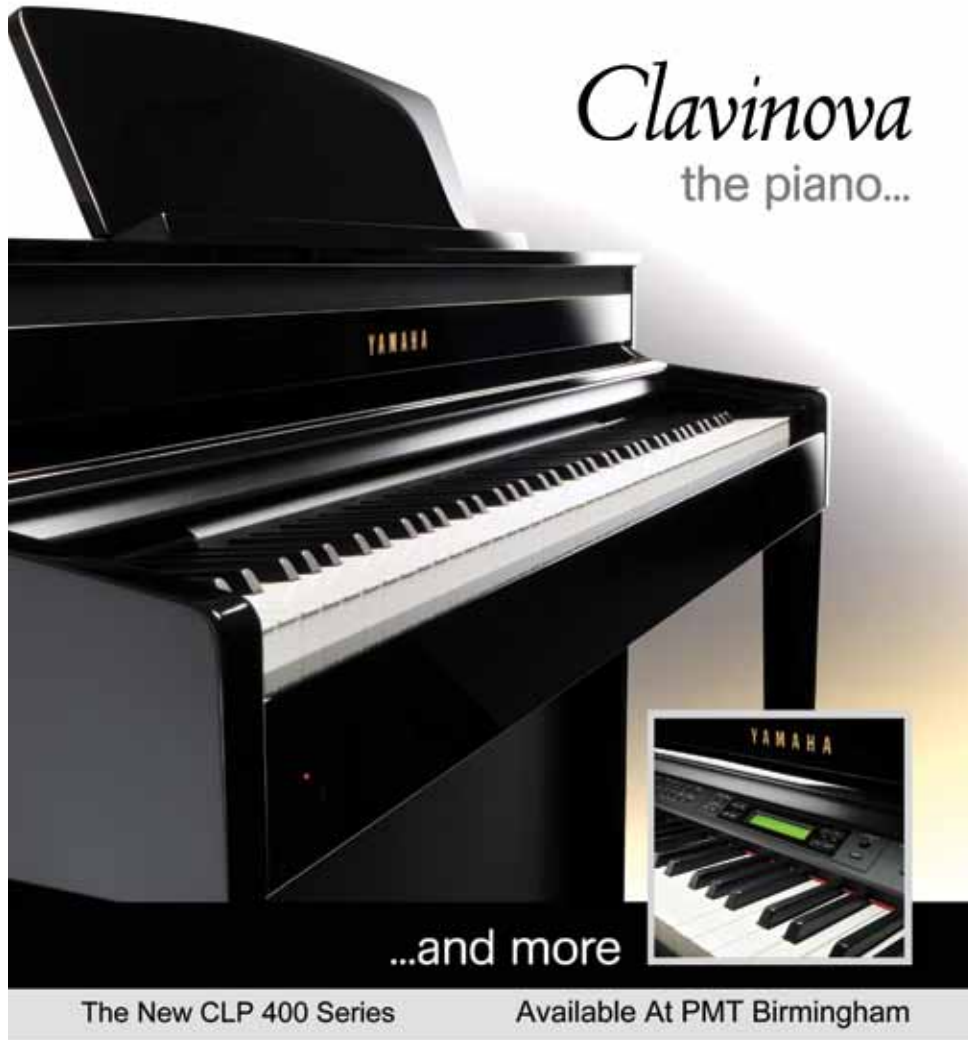
19:00
 Wednesbury Library
THE WHISKY BROTHERS

19:30
 Lord Clifden
ELVIS FONTENOT & THE SUGAR BEES

20:00
 Robin 2
STEVE SEAGAL'S BLUES BAND [USA]
 £30 / £27.50

20:30
 The Jam House
MAYSA
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BIRMINGHAM: THE LAND OF JAZZ

Playing a key role in this year's festival is the Blue Piano Bar and Restaurant in Edgbaston. The Blue Piano provides a suitably stylish setting for Birmingham: The Land Of Jazz, an exhibition of photographs taken at previous Birmingham International Jazz Festivals by photographer-in-residence Merlin Dalemán.

Action photographs feature such festival favourites as King Pleasure and the Biscuit Boys and Festival Patron Digby Fairweather, plus bands from the Costa del Sol to Budapest. Merlin's characterful portraits in appropriate festival settings include striking images of Dutch guitarist Nomy Rosenberg, tenor sax star Simon Spillett and powerhouse singer Debbie Jones of Tipitina.

The Blue Piano has a regular programme of music centred on its (unsurprisingly) blue piano, with resident pianist Tom Armitage and various duos and trios. During the festival this is supplemented by appearances by Roy Forbes (18th), Strumpit (23rd), Remi Harris (25th) and new Italian sensation Pepper and the Jellies (26th).

12:00

Colmore Square*

KANSAS SMITTY'S BIG FOUR

12:00

St Paul's Churchyard

ART THEMEN QUARTET

12:30

Brasshouse

**GIEDRE KILCIAUSKIENE JAZZ
MINIATURES [LITHUANIA]**

Sponsored by Marstons Beer
Company

12:30

The Mailbox

**BUDAPEST RAGTIME BAND
[HUNGARY]**

14:00

Sutton Coldfield Library

REMI HARRIS TRIO

17:00

Church Street Square**

**KANSAS SMITTY'S BIG FOUR
INC DIGBY FAIRWEATHER**

19:00

Blue Piano

STRUMPIT

19:00

Lightwoods Park

**BUDAPEST RAGTIME BAND
[HUNGARY]**

19:30

Lord Clifden

ART THEMEN QUARTET

19:30

West Bromwich Central Library

REMI HARRIS TRIO

20:00

The Roadhouse

**GREY GOOSE BLUES BAND; BIG
WOLF BAND; LOOKING BACK;
MELISSA KNIGHT-DAVIES; THE
HOLD**

£5

20:00

Robin 2

EVE SELIS [USA]

£12.50 Adv/ £15 on the door

20:30

The Jam House

THE BROTHERS GROOVE

20:30

Sutton Coldfield Trad Jazz Club

**CHRIS PEARCE'S FRENCHMEN
STREET JAZZ BAND**

£4

Wet Weather Alternatives:

* The Old Contemptibles

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Festival depends on the volunteer army whose efforts enable the event to function properly. Volunteers are already at work in the Festival office and around the city, but it's not too late to come on board.

We are looking for drivers, technical staff, IT, distribution, marketing, PR and admin. Call Sarah on 0121 454 7020 or email sarah@bigbearmusic.com.

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Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

Blakesley Hall

Museum of the Jewellery Quarter

Sarehole Mill

The Precious Penny Pluckers
Sat 19 Jul, 1-3pm*

Arthur Brown Jazz Band
Sun 20 Jul, 1-3pm**

Digby Fairweather
Sat 26 Jul, 12-3pm**

The Chase Jazzmen
Sun 27 Jul, 1-3pm**

*Free entry to Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. **This is a free outdoor event. Admission charges to the museum apply. Picnics welcome at Blakesley Hall and Sarehole Mill.

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12:00

St Paul's Churchyard*
BUDAPEST RAGTIME BAND [HUNGARY]

12:00

Cathedral Grounds
SAXITUDE [LUXEMBOURG]

12:30

The Mailbox
BECKY BRINE & THE HOT CLUB OF STONEHOUSE

12:30

Brasshouse
PACIFICO BLUES
Sponsored by Marstons Beer Company

12:30

The Gracechurch Centre, Sutton Coldfield
MILLENNIUM EAGLE JAZZ BAND

12:30

Blue Piano
GARY WILLIAMS

17:00

Snow Hill Station Square**
SAXITUDE [LUXEMBOURG]

19:00

Great Barr Library
THE WHISKY BROTHERS

19:30

O'Neills, Broad Street
PACIFICO BLUES

19:30

Lord Clifden
DIGBY FAIRWEATHER QUARTET

20:00

Junction, Harborne
SAXITUDE [LUXEMBOURG]

20:00

Pushkar
PEPPER & THE JELLIES [ITALY]

20:00

Miller & Carter, Hockley Heath
REMI HARRIS TRIO

20:30

The Jam House
MIKE SANCHEZ BAND £8

21:00

All Bar One
BUDAPEST RAGTIME BAND [HUNGARY]

21:00

Grosvenor Casino
BECKY BRINE & THE HOT CLUB OF STONEHOUSE

STARCITY JAZZ

Kickstarting the festival on its opening three evenings (18th-20th), the big-name high-octane events in the Atrium of StarCity are always an early highlight. This year the opening night features the Potato Head Jazz Band from Granada in Spain whose mix of rumbustious traditional jazz and exhilarating showmanship endeared them to audiences at last year's festival. Following them are two long-standing Birmingham favourites: Val Wiseman's classy Billie Holiday tribute, *Lady Sings the Blues* (Saturday) and the ever-popular King Pleasure and the Biscuit Boys (Sunday).

Wet Weather Alternatives:
* Pub Du Vin

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Birmingham Markets
**DIGBY FAIRWEATHER WITH
BECKY BRINE & HER RHYTHM
BOYS**

12:00
St Paul's Churchyard*
**DEREK NASH WITH THE LEE
JONES TRIO**

12:00
Colmore Square
**POTATO HEAD JAZZ BAND
[SPAIN]**

12:30
The Mailbox
PEPPER & THE JELLIES [ITALY]

12:30
Touchwood, Solihull
REMI HARRIS TRIO

12:30
Sandwell Show, High Street, West
Bromwich
SAXITUDE [LUXEMBOURG]

12:30
Red Rose Centre, Sutton Coldfield
BACKYARD MUSIC BOYS

12:30
Blue Piano
STUART BARKER DUO

12:30
Priory Square
ARTHUR BROWN JAZZ BAND

13:10
Barber Institute of Fine Arts
**BUDAPEST RAGTIME BAND
[HUNGARY]**

17:00
Chung Ying Central
BOBBY WOODS

17:00
Snow Hill Station Square**
**BECKY BRINE & HER RHYTHM
BOYS**

17:00
Cafe Opus
LEE JONES TRIO

17:00
St Paul's Churchyard
THE BROOMBUSTERS

17:00
Crown, Corporation Street
LEWIS FLOYD HENRY

17:00
Brasshouse
**BUDAPEST RAGTIME BAND
[HUNGARY]**

17:00
New Street Station
MILLENNIUM EAGLE JAZZ BAND

17:30
Brindleyplace, Waters Edge
Bandstand

SAXITUDE [LUXEMBOURG]
19:00
Blue Piano
REMI HARRIS DUO

19:30
Ibis Birmingham City Centre
RICKY COOL & THE IN CROWD

19:30
Garden House
DEREK NASH QUARTET

19:30
Lord Clifden
PEPPER & THE JELLIES [ITALY]

19:30
Blackheath Library
**POTATO HEAD JAZZ BAND
[SPAIN]**

20:00
The Drop Forge
RACHEL HUTCHINGS QUARTET

21:15
The Kings Head
DIGBY FAIRWEATHER QUARTET

Wet Weather Alternatives:

* Old Joint Stock

** Pub Du Vin





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Birmingham City Council has supported the Festival throughout its 30 year existence and is the longest-standing sponsor. Unwaveringly over the years the City has worked with the Festival and helped to establish it as a leading international event and an important part of the City's Arts & Culture portfolio.

11:00
 Birmingham Markets
LEWIS FLOYD HENRY

12:00
 Museum of The Jewellery Quarter
DIGBY FAIRWEATHER TRIO

12:30
 Sandwell Show, High Street, West Bromwich
BACKYARD MUSIC BOYS

12:30
 The Mailbox
SIMON SPILLETT QUARTET

12:30
 The Gracechurch Centre, Sutton Coldfield
BOB HALL & DAVE PEABODY

13:30
 Brindleyplace, Waters Edge Bandstand
FLORENCE JOELLE [FRANCE]

14:00
 Custard Factory
RUDIE & THE REVOLVERS

14:30
 Touchwood, Solihull
BOBBY WOODS TRIO

14:30
 Jazz On The Water
RACHEL HUTCHINGS
 £10

15:00
 Brasshouse
PEPPER & THE JELLIES [ITALY]

15:00
 New Street Station
THE RUMBLESTRUTTERS

18:00
 Arcadian
SIMON SPILLETT QUARTET
 Sponsored by Southside BID

19:00
 Chung Ying
THE JIVEHOLICS

19:00
 Botanical Gardens
THE MAGNOLIA SISTERS [USA]
 £15

19:30
 Alvechurch Village Hall
BOB HALL & DAVE PEABODY
 £5

19:30
 Garden House
THE RUMBLESTRUTTERS

19:30
 Radisson Blue
RACHEL HUTCHINGS QUARTET

19:30
 Blue Piano
PEPPER & THE JELLIES [ITALY]

19:45
 Hagley Road Village
BOB KERR AND HIS WHOOPEE BAND
 £5

20:00
 The Wellington
LEWIS FLOYD HENRY

21:00
 Marco Pierre White
FLORENCE JOELLE [FRANCE]



Bob Hall and Dave Peabody

Photo by Merlin Daleman

SUTTON COLDFIELD WELCOMES

30TH BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL JULY 18TH TO 27TH 2014

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Friday 25th **BACKYARD MUSIC BOYS – 12:30**

BERT & GERTS VINTAGE MARKETS

Saturday 19th **THE JAZZ RAMBLERS – 11:00**

THE GRACECHURCH CENTRE

Monday 21st **BOSTIN BRASS – 12:30**
Thursday 24th **MILLENNIUM EAGLE JAZZ BAND – 12:30**
Saturday 26th **BOB HALL & DAVE PEABODY – 12:30**

DON DIEGO

Tuesday 22nd **REMI HARRIS TRIO – 19:00**

SUTTON COLDFIELD LIBRARY

Wednesday 23rd **REMI HARRIS TRIO – 14:00**



12:30
The Mailbox
**DAVE MOORWOOD'S RASCALS
OF RHYTHM**

13:00
Sarehole Mill
THE CHASE JAZZMEN

13:00
Touchwood, Solihull
STRUMPIT

14:00
Hotel Du Vin
PEPPER & THE JELLIES [ITALY]

14:00
The Dog
BOB HALL & DAVE PEABODY

14:00
Botanical Gardens
**SIMON KEMP RHYTHM & BLUES
ORCHESTRA**
£7 / £4.75

15:00
Brasshouse
BIG JOE PLEASURE

TIPITINA AT LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM

For the first time the city's iconic new Library of Birmingham takes its place in the International Jazz and Blues Festival. The Discovery Terrace, an elevated garden terrace on Level 3, hosts Tipitina on the final evening of the festival, a fine opportunity to combine enjoying the unique New Orleans-influenced sounds of Tipitina with admiring one of the city's newest and most exciting buildings.

16:00
New Inn, Harborne
STEVE AJAO BLUES GIANTS

17:30
O'Neills, Broad Street
C-JAM

18:00
Slug & Lettuce
PEPPER & THE JELLIES [ITALY]

18:00
Café Rouge, Mailbox
BOB HALL & DAVE PEABODY

19:00
Discovery Terrace, Library of
Birmingham
TIPITINA
£8

19:00
Botanical Gardens
ELECTRIC SWING CIRCUS
£15

19:30
Lord Clifden
**DAVE MOORWOOD'S RASCALS
OF RHYTHM**

To keep up-to-date on programme updates, news and any changes subscribe FREE to the Festival e-bulletin, send your email address to admin@bigbearmusic.com marked e-Bulletin

JAZZ AT THE BOTANICAL GARDENS

The Botanical Gardens in Edgbaston are one of the most picturesque settings used by the Festival, as attractive a venue for an open-air concert as you could hope to find. On the final weekend of the Festival the Gardens are hosting two events which are likely to be as spectacular visually as they are exciting musically. On Saturday 26th the Magnolia Sisters bring the authentic sounds of South West Louisiana, four singers/multi-instrumentalists playing everything from Cajun stomps to front-porch ballads. The following evening, very different, but equally distinctive, Electric Swing Circus is the first band to introduce Birmingham festival-goers to the new sensation of electric swing.

During the festival two Sunday afternoon shows at the Gardens feature John Hemming and the Sisters of Jazz (20th) and the Simon Kemp Rhythm and Blues Orchestra (27th). Tickets from www.theticketsellers.co.uk or 0121 454 1860.

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Birmingham B1 2DS
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Alligator Gumbo

ALLIGATOR GUMBO

Alligator Gumbo are an exciting Leeds based swing band, with a line-up of clarinet, violin, trumpet, trombone, washboard, accordion, steel guitar and double bass. They play New Orleans swing/jazz from the 1920s era with songs made popular by the likes of Louis Armstrong, King Oliver, and Jelly Roll Morton, performed in the traditional style of upbeat tempos, entertaining improvisations and foot-stomping swinging rhythms.

ART THEMEN

The wonderfully original saxophonist Art Themen managed throughout a long and successful career as an orthopaedic surgeon to build a major reputation on the British jazz and blues scene, initially picking up national awards with the Cambridge University Jazz Band, then playing and touring with the likes of Alexis Korner, Mick Jagger and Jack Bruce before lending his Sonny Rollins-influenced tenor sax into many top jazz groups. Since retirement from medicine, Art has gone from strength to strength, with the British Jazz Award for tenor sax coming his way in 2008.



Art Themen

Photo by Merlin Daleman

ARTHUR BROWN JAZZ BAND

Having led his own band for many years, trumpeter Arthur Brown joined Pete Allen's band and then had a spell leading a band in Spain. On his return to the Midlands, he formed his

present band which appears regularly throughout the region and annually at the Birmingham Festival. Arthur remains dedicated to the robust buccaneering style of Dixieland.

BACKYARD MUSIC BOYS

This four piece acoustic band captures the excitement and verve of 1920s/1930s hot jazz. Lining up with clarinet, trumpet, sousaphone and banjo, led by Matt Palmer, they are equally comfortable strolling or static onstage.

BARBARA AND ALL THAT JAZZ

Barbara and All That Jazz Formed in 2001, Barbara and All That Jazz is a seven piece band with long established and versatile musicians, Led by singer Barbara Taylor and performing mostly traditional jazz and blues, the band plays most of the Midlands jazz clubs, plus the Upton and Abersoch festivals.

BECKY BRINE

The West Country's 'Jazzeoke Queen', Totnes-based Becky Brine will be remembered with affection by Birmingham patrons for her solo street entertainment. Always a little unconventional in her approach to marketing, Becky kick-started her jazz singing career by busking and still goes out to windy

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WEDNESDAY 23RD JULY - 20:30
CHRIS PEARCE'S FRENCHMEN
STREET JAZZ BAND

The band was originally formed in 2002 after Chris's first trip to New Orleans, where he stayed over the famous Snug Harbour Jazz Club on Frenchmen Street. Chris was also a member of The Blue Note Jazz Band in Bristol and had the opportunity of playing with Acker Bilk, Humphrey Lyttelton, Bud Freeman, Wild Bill Davison and many more. Chris left the Blue Notes to join The Antique Six Jazz Band. Now that The Antique Six has ceased playing, Chris has re-formed his own band.

Chris Pearce (leader/reeds), Dave Leithead (trumpet), Richard Leach (trombone), Roger Davis (bass), Phil Probert (banjo/guitar), Graham Smith (drums)

8-30 pm to 11 pm. Doors open 7-30pm
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boulevards and sings to passers-by, finding it a great rehearsal space and a good excuse to dress-up in top hats and cocktail dresses!

Versatile as ever, Becky appears at Birmingham 2014 in a variety of guises, leading her Rhythm Boys and the Hot Club of Stonehouse, a Django Reinhardt-styled three-piece.

BEKAH'S RENEGADES

Bekah's Renegades have recently burst onto the Midlands blues scene, a five-piece fronted by Rebekah Downes, whose unique and powerful voice draws on influences ranging from blues and soul to jazz and rock.

Rebekah's voice and performances have been, quite rightly, likened to such legendary artists as the full on Tina Turner, the bluesy feel of Etta James, and the raw power of Janis Joplin.

BIG JOE PLEASURE

Big Joe is one of the great jazz and swing performers. When the Boss of the Blues holds sway, nobody is in any doubt who's in charge. His ebullient singing is matched by his fine tenor and baritone sax playing in a memorably swinging package.

BOB HALL & DAVE PEABODY

Bob, described by *Folk Roots* as 'the finest blues and boogie piano player this side of the Atlantic', first came to fame in the Rhythm 'n' Blues explosion of the 1960s, as a founder member of The Groundhogs and later Savoy Brown. Later he acted as accompanist to countless US bluesmen such as John Lee Hooker, Howlin' Wolf, Little Walter, Jimmy Witherspoon, Chuck Berry, Homesick James, Lightnin' Slim and Charlie Musselwhite. Guitarist Dave Peabody has been voted Acoustic Blues Artist of

the Year three times by the British Blues Connection and *Blues in Britain* magazine. He's also been first choice accompanist for such American blues legends as David 'Honeyboy' Edwards and Charlie Musselwhite.

BOB KERR & HIS WHOOPEE BAND

Bob Kerr and his Whoopee Band return to Birmingham after last year's appearance at the Botanical Gardens. According to its publicity it is a jazz band which started in 1967 and continues to perform today. It is, of course, much more than that, possibly the last of the great comedy jazz bands that combine zany musical and visual humour with lively jazz and impeccable musicianship. The Whoopee Band was originally an offshoot of the eclectic Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band, and Bob himself, who is mainly featured on trumpet and cornet, was a member



Photo by Merlin Daleman

Bobby Woods



Photo by Merlin Daleman

of both the Bonzos and the New Vaudeville Band.

BOB SYDOR

After studying clarinet at the Guildhall, Bob Sydor has played in many different settings from classical to jazz to West End shows. He has played on many recordings, including, recently, the Frank Griffith Big Band's *Holland Park Non-Stop* where he played tenor sax and clarinet. He has played with the

CBD FOOD FESTIVAL

Friday 18th to Saturday 19th July, 11am-7pm
Victoria Square, Birmingham

The fourth annual CBD Food Festival is back in July and will showcase the superb food and drink offering in Birmingham's business quarter, Colmore Business District (CBD). The festival will include live cookery demonstrations from top chefs in the District, outdoor theatre and live music as part of CBD's involvement in the Birmingham International Jazz & Blues Festival. Music throughout the day features an exciting series of blues bands on Friday, with the Broombusters, C-Jam and Rudie and the Revolvers, followed by an international line-up of jazz bands on Saturday: Jazzband Velke Losiny, the University of Southern Florida Jazztet and the New Orleans Jump Band.
www.colmorebusinessdistrict.com

Laurie Holloway Big Band on the Michael Parkinson Show and *Strictly Come Dancing* and spent 10 years in the band for *Miss Saigon*. He has recently returned from a spell with a Sinatra tribute in Singapore.

BOBBY WOODS (USA)

Singer Bobby Woods was born in Chicago and grew up surrounded by the sounds of jazz, blues and gospel greats. Now based in Birmingham and a regular favourite at the city's Jazz and Blues Festival, Bobby has appeared with Osibisa, Eddie Grant and Third World and has toured widely in Europe and Africa.

BOSTIN BRASS

Birmingham's own Bostin Brass serve up New Orleans second-line shuffles, South American claves and classic funk backbeats in a melting pot of horns and drums. Gumbo with added HP sauce.

ELECTRIC CINEMA

The Electric Cinema in Station Street hosts a special concert on the evening of Monday 21st July. The oldest working cinema in the country opened its doors in 1909, but the 1920s saw its heyday, making it a suitable venue for the remarkable 18-piece period orchestra from Slovakia, the Bratislava Hot Serenaders.

Also at the Electric Cinema is a lunch-time showing on Saturday 19th of the Paul Newman film, *Cool Hand Luke*, with its jazz-tinged score by Lalo Schiffrin.
Tickets: 0121 643 7879

BRATISLAVA HOT SERENADERS (SLOVAKIA)

Established in 1992, the 18-piece Bratislava Hot Serenaders orchestra has

maintained its unique style without interruption. The Serenaders are devoted to the hot jazz and 'sweet and dance music' which arrived in Europe at the end of the 1920s from America. The Serenaders' other love is Slovak music, focussed on the doyen of Slovak pop singers, Frantisek Kristof Vesely.

The Bratislava Hot Serenaders are well-established abroad as well. In 1994 the orchestra won the Sidney d'Or Prix at the Grand Festival of Music of 20's and 30's in Saint Raphael, France. They regularly appear in concerts or jazz festivals in their homeland and abroad, taking their optimistic and authentic music to such countries as the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Netherlands, France and the UK.

THE BROOMBUSTERS

The Broombusters deliver a unique fusion of blues and reggae, rhythmic reggae basslines matched with gritty blues chords to create an original sound. The band takes influences from Bob Dylan, Elmore James, Jimi Hendrix and Muddy Waters, combined with reggae and good old-fashioned rock'n'roll. Leading the five-piece Broombusters is the charismatic Charlie 'Wolfman' Sylvester from

the late 1970s disco soul band the J.A.L.N. Band which toured Europe for over 25 years, making many appearances on *Top of the Pops*.

BROTHERS GROOVE (U.S.A.)

While playing with Detroit legend Johnnie Bassett, organ player Chris Codish met bass player James Simonson and the two began getting together and working on some of their own material. They soon developed a musical chemistry that would become complete with Kalamazoo-native Michael Caskey on drums in August of 1999. Almost immediately the trio clicked and starting gigging around the Detroit area as the Brothers Groove. The Brothers Groove are perhaps most conveniently described as a jazz funk trio with bluesy, soulful vocals. Their music exudes a sly, savvy funkiness sprinkled with unique characters, harmonies, and ideas.

BRUCE ADAMS

First choice for many an all-star band, trumpeter Bruce Adams has often been heard at many of the UK's leading jazz festivals. Over the years, Bruce's popularity has depended on his inspired and dynamic quartet and quintet gigs, reinforcing his reputation as one of the most exciting jazz trumpeters in the country. His remarkable technique and bravura playing have earned him numerous British Jazz Awards, either for Trumpet or (with Alan Barnes) for Small Group and New CD.

BUDAPEST RAGTIME BAND (HUNGARY)

Budapest Ragtime Band was established in 1980 by trained jazz and classical musicians who created a brand-new outstanding musical style by adding original instrumentation to the traditional piano interpretation of ragtime.

Subsequently, they broadened their repertoire



Photo by Merlin Daleman

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See menus for details

with jazz and Dixieland evergreens, musical parodies and humorous adaptations of world famous tunes and operas. Long-time favourites at many international festivals, including Birmingham, the band tours throughout Europe, America, Mexico and the Canary Islands and performs regularly on Hungarian, German, American and Swiss television.

C-JAM

C-JAM's repertoire is large and varied, ranging from cool jazz sounds to stomping blues/R&B and soul favourites. The experienced line-up includes three ex-members of the Steve Gibbons Band: Brian Badhams (keyboards and vocals), Brian Wilson (lead guitar/vocals) and drummer Brendan Day. Bassist Frank Walker's colourful music career includes working with Glenn Tipton in the Flying Hat Band and appearing with Alvin Stardust, whilst saxist Sam Rogers first came to notice with the Walsall Jazz Orchestra.

CHASE JAZZMEN

This highly popular and talented band comprises leading musicians in their field each of whom have a long standing history of playing traditional and popular jazz, plus numbers from the swing era.



With a high standard of musicianship and a touch of humour the band provides first class entertainment.

CHRIS GUMBLEY QUINTET

Saxophonist Chris Gumbley studied at Huddersfield School of Music before pursuing a freelance career in music. He has played professionally in many contexts, which included touring with The Temptations & Four Tops, The Pasadena Roof Orchestra and The Charleston Chasers, as well as stints with Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, English Chamber Orchestra, BBC Big Band, Fat Chops, and the Berkley Salon Ensemble. His current quintet re-creates the music of Cannonball Adderley.

CHRIS PEARCE'S FRENCHMEN STREET JAZZ BAND.

The band was originally formed in 2002 after Chris's first trip to New Orleans,

named after the famous Snug Harbour Jazz Club on Frenchmen Street. Chris was also a member of The Blue Note Jazz Band in Bristol and played with Acker Bilk, Humphrey Lyttelton, Bud Freeman, Wild Bill Davison and many more.

Chris left the Blue Notes to join The Antique Six Jazz Band. Now that The Antique Six has ceased playing, Chris has re-formed his own band.

DEREK NASH

Multi-award winning musician, Derek Nash, is one of the most in-demand saxophonists in the UK. He has been a member of the Jools Holland Rhythm and Blues Orchestra since 2004, has led the award-winning Sax Appeal for over thirty years and also fronts the funk/fusion band Protect the Beat. With his acoustic quartet, featuring Dave Newton on piano, he was

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awarded the British Jazz Award for Best CD in 2012 for *Joyriding*.

DIGBY FAIRWEATHER

Digby Fairweather has been a professional jazz musician for thirty-seven years. Since 1995 he has led his award-winning Half-Dozen, also touring and recording with blues-legend George Melly (2003-7) and Paul Jones (2007-present). Digby founded the Association of British Jazz Musicians (1987) and National Jazz Archive (1987) and broadcast widely on jazz for the BBC and Jazz FM (1986-1998) before returning to fulltime playing in 1998. In 2013 he received the Worshipful Company of Musicians' Lifetime Achievement Award for jazz. His group, Digby Fairweather's Half Dozen, has won the British Jazz Award for small group for eight of the last nine years and currently he is delighted to be Patron of the Birmingham International Jazz Festival!



ELECTRIC SWING CIRCUS

"One of the highlights of Glastonbury Festival..." – Official Glastonbury Guide 2013

The Electric Swing Circus is a 6-piece fusion of saucy 1920s swing and stomping electro beats. With an explosive sound that reverberates back through time, the ESC hotfoot their way through everything from breakbeat and house to reggae and dubstep, all with their own unique style of swing.

Fresh off the UK/Europe festival circuit for 2013, the ESC's live set includes electric double bass, vintage samples, gypsy-jazz guitar, keys, drums, synths and electro beats. Fronted by a sassy female double-act, the ESC delivers a consistently dazzling show.

ELVIS FONTENOT AND THE SUGAR BEES

Elvis Fontenot and the Sugar Bees were formed in 1992 and have developed their own take on cajun, zydeco, soul and blues which they call 'Swamp'n'roll'.



Photo by Merlin Daleman

Electric Swing Circus

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Florence Joelle

all these influences, carving out a unique sound that, although deeply rooted in the past, vibrates in the present.

'She sings rock 'n' roll like Billie Holiday might, croons a torch ballad as Wanda Jackson may, and spices it all with a bit of Patti Smith attitude.' (Michael Dregni)

GARY WILLIAMS

Guitarist Gary Williams, well known for his gypsy jazz stylings, now offers an eclectic and soothing mixture of improvised pieces and well-known melodies.

GIEDRE KILCIAUSKIENE AND JAZZ MINIATURES (LITHUANIA)

One of the big successes of last year's Birmingham

In 2006 and 2009 they were voted European Zydeco band of the year at the European Cajun and Zydeco Awards in Holland. Nick Barber won European rub-board player of the year in 2009 and, as the award has not run again, he's still the undefeated champion!

swamp-rock of *Rubber and Glue* to the plaintive country heartbreaker *Don't You Feel Lonesome* to Leonard Cohen's majestic masterpiece *Hallelujah*.

'Eve is a deeply creative caring artist who gives everything to her craft.' – Bob Harris

EVE SELIS (U.S.A.)

with special guest Berkley Hart

Winner of seven San Diego Music Awards in Americana and Adult Alternative, Eve Selis is no stranger to Roots music. Her newest CD *Family Tree* features 14 sturdy tracks drawn from the dark, rich soil of American music, from the

FLORENCE JOELLE (FRANCE)

Bred on jazz at home, and on the music of the Paris streets, the Gypsy art of Django Reinhardt, bal murette, and North African rai, singer/songwriter/blues harmonica player Florence Joelle started collecting rock'n'roll, doo-wop, Latin jazz, and early blues as a girl. Her music draws from



Giedre Kilciauskiene

Photo by Merlin Daleman

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BRUCE ADAMS QUARTET
FRIDAY 18 JULY, 7.30PM

JAZZ BAND VELKE LOSINY
[CZECH REPUBLIC]
SUNDAY 20 JULY, 7.30PM

MILLENNIUM EAGLE
JAZZ BAND
MONDAY 21 JULY, 7.30PM

ELVIS FONTENOT & THE
SUGAR BEES
TUESDAY 22 JULY, 7.30PM

ART THEMEN QUARTET
WEDNESDAY 23 JULY, 7.30PM

DIGBY FAIRWEATHER
THURSDAY 24 JULY, 7.30PM

PEPPER & THE JELLIES [ITALY]
FRIDAY 25 JULY, 7.30PM

DAVE MOORWOOD'S
RASCALS OF RHYTHM
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International Jazz and Blues Festival, Giedre Kilciauskiene returns this year with her full band. Giedre, who was well-known in Lithuania and abroad as the lead vocalist of hip and extremely popular electro-punk bands Milky Lasers and Empty for some years, has recently switched to acoustic jazz settings with Jazz Miniatures. She adds intelligence and taste to a marvellous voice of unique sweet timbre, bright and wide palette, perfect pitch and controlled power.

Pianist and arranger Andrej Polevikov, her regular collaborator who appeared with her at Birmingham 2013, is joined in Jazz Miniatures by Vytyis Nivinskas (bass) and Darius Rudis (drums). The Jazz Miniatures quartet has just released their first CD *Jazz Miniatures*.

GREY GOOSE BLUES BAND

Formed in 2008 by singer/songwriter/guitarist Frankie Williams, the Grey Goose is fast developing a reputation in the Midlands as the freshest and most original blues band around. Having cut their teeth on the Black Country pub circuit, Williams, bass guitarist Rufus T Watson, drummer Chuddy Mitchel and harmonica player 'Lil' Dave Smith have played many major blues festivals since 2010: Nantwich, Upton-upon-Severn,



Tewkesbury, Swanage, Shetland, Aber Jazz and Blues and, of course, Birmingham International Jazz and Blues.

HARRY BOLT TRIO

Having studied at the Birmingham Conservatoire, pianist Harry Bolt is now making a name for himself in the jazz world, touring with the Clark Tracey Quartet.

JAKE LEG JUG BAND

The Jake Leg Jug Band bring you the authentic sounds of 1920's and 30's America - jazz, blues, gospel, ragtime - and put their own twist on it. Quickly gaining a reputation as a lively, feel-good band, their performance at the Congleton Jazz & Blues Festival drew the comment: 'Their image, style and performance was wonderful and you really did buy into the prohibition era feel of their set....wonderful sounds!'

The band's debut album *Cotton Mouth* was released in February 2013 on both CD and 10" vinyl format to critical acclaim. Its success led to them signing a recording contract with Lake Records - recording their new album *Next Stop!* as part of their Vintage Recording Project.

THE JAZZ BUDDIES

A new band, but every man a seasoned and respected Midlands musician. Committed to bringing new life to the Dixieland and traditional jazz classics of Louis Armstrong, Jack Teagarden, Jelly Roll Morton et al, this band has the firepower to do just that. Fronted by trumpet player Arthur Brown, The Jazz Buddies field reedman Matt Palmer, trombonist Mike Owen, Brian Mellor on banjo and guitar, Dennis Mowatt on double bass and drummer Tim Jones.

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PROPAGANDA

By Peter Arnott

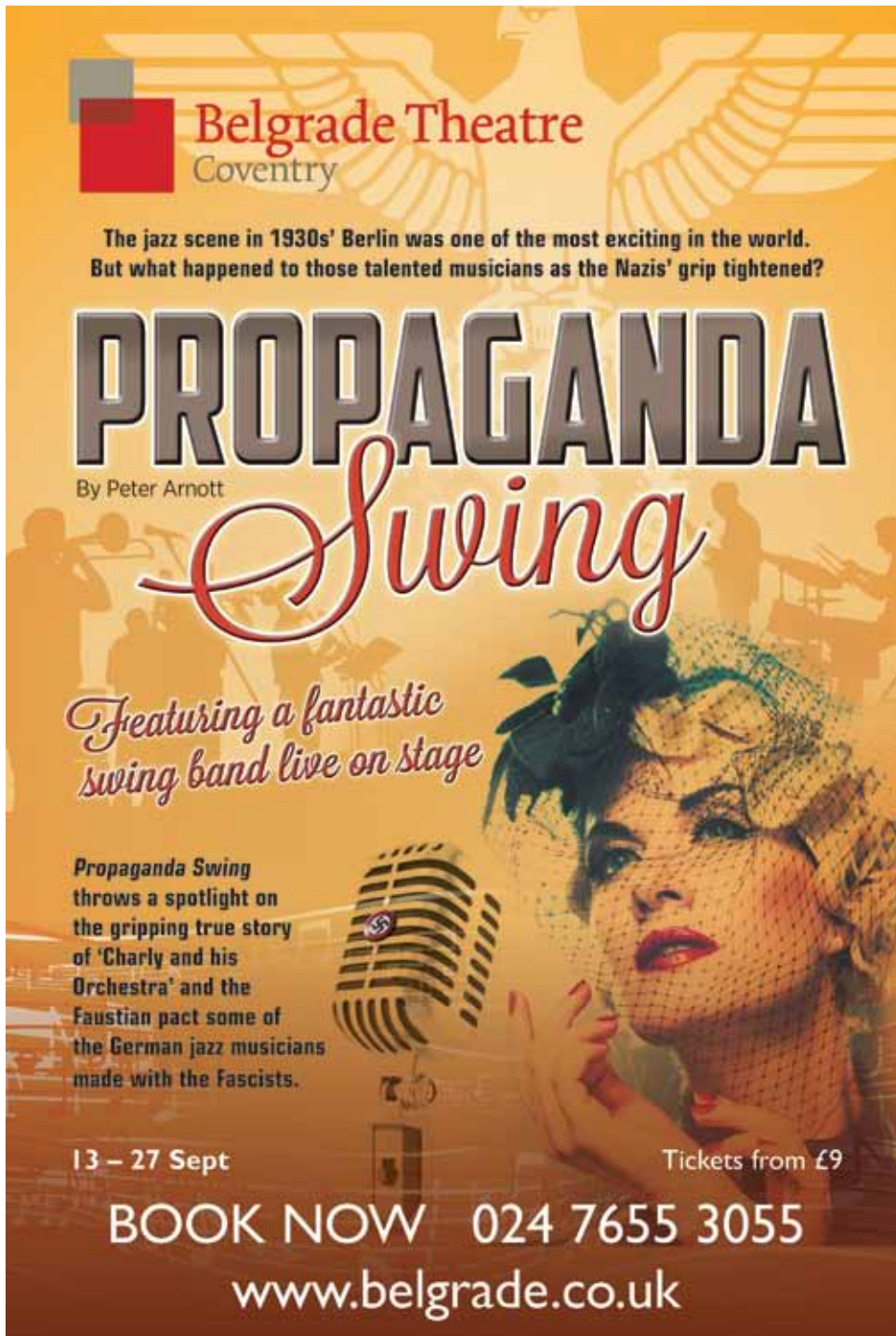
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Jazzband Velke Losiny

Photo by Merlin Daleman

THE JAZZ RAMBLERS

Banjo/guitar player Brian Mellor gathers a group of like-minded musicians for a programme of good time jazz, loosely based on the music of the 1930s and 1940s, with the emphasis on variety and entertainment.

JAZZBAND VELKE LOSINY [CZECH REPUBLIC]

Velke Losiny is the town in the Czech Republic where it all began for the Teens Jazzband (as they were then known) in 2002. Now, still full of youthful exuberance, the band has the experience of 12 years of brilliant success. Many top Czech musicians, including Petra Ernyei, well known to Birmingham festival audiences, have guested with the band which made a huge impact at the 2011 and 2012 Birmingham festivals.

THE JIVEOHOLICS

Wales's finest 6 piece Jump Jive band, The Jiveoholics take the tunes of the 1940's jump jive era and the early 1950's rock'n'roll scene and give them a little twist of fun and pzazz. Classics like *There ain't nobody here but us chickens* and *Flip, Flop and Fly* snuggle comfortably alongside the revivalist hits *Stray Cat Strut* and *Mr Pinstripe Suit*. Fronted by the fabulous Kitty L'Etoile, the band performs a humorous and energetic show perfect for dancers, festival goers and all those in search of a good time.

JOHN HEMMING AND THE SISTERS OF JAZZ

Having played for MPs, peers, and the national and regional media at their debut gig at the Liberal Democrat Conference, John Hemming and the Sisters of Jazz have also featured on ITV.

Having a sitting Member



John Hemming & The Sisters Of Jazz

Photo by Merlin Daleman

of Parliament on piano makes the band unusual and the professionalism of the sax players who also perform as the Giocosox Sax Quartet (yes, there are five!) makes for a very tight and interestingly harmonic front line.

JOHN PATRICK

John Patrick's piano playing has graced the performances of many American stars who have visited the country since the



John Patrick Trio with Bruce Adams

Photo by Merlin Daleman

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1960s. For many years John fronted his own big band, but he is at his best in a small group playing hard-swinging modern jazz.

KANSAS SMITTY'S BIG FOUR

Smitty's Big Four is the feisty little brother of the London-based Kansas Smitty's House Band. While the House Band draws its main inspiration from Count Basie and Kansas City, the Big Four is interested in the music of Sidney Bechet and the upbeat swing of New Orleans. The Big Four's unique combination of trumpet, soprano sax/clarinet, guitar and bass, separates the group from traditional Dixieland groups. Smitty's Big Four have performed at many London venues and were recently featured on BBC Radio 2.

KING PLEASURE & THE BISCUIT BOYS

'To those who say that Swing is a musical form best left to Americans, prepare to be proven wrong. This British combo is bulletproof!'
- Atomic Magazine, New York City

The all-time festival favourites at Birmingham, King Pleasure and the Biscuit Boys make it a regular stopping point on the international round of jazz and blues festivals.



Lewis Floyd Henry

The band's driving force since its inception way back when, King Pleasure is one of the great jazz and swing performers. His ebullient, joyful singing has long been the band's great trademark, his fine tenor and baritone playing an integral part of that roaring King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys ensemble sound that is guaranteed to swing anyone into bad health.

'Behind the fun and rollicking good times lies an outfit skilled enough to get the horns to come on with the bite and precision of the Basie band.' - The Guardian

LEE JONES TRIO

Highly respected guitarist Lee Jones graduated from Birmingham Conservatoire's jazz course with Honours,

studying with Phil Robson from The Partisans. He has become a feature on the UK jazz scene, appeared as a special guest of Martin Taylor and is the winner of Jazz FM's Best New Instrumentalist award. He's currently working on his third solo album. He is accompanied by Dane Cranenburg on bass and Ian Russell on drums.

LEWIS FLOYD HENRY

Returning to the Birmingham Jazz Festival, rock'n'roll whirlwind Lewis Floyd Henry is a one-man band with plenty of soul and licks that Clapton would happily claim as his own. In hipster London Lewis is known as the Balladeer of Brick Lane, the Hendrix of Hackney or the Dylan of Dalston!

Little Jo & the Misfits



'The unlikely hit of the Big Chill, Henry sets up in fields, armed with a guitar played with his teeth and tiny drum kit played with his feet. A one-man band Jimi Hendrix Experience. Possibly quite mad, but brilliant.' – Dave Simpson, The Guardian

LITTLE JO & THE MISFITS

Little Jo & the Misfits are a six piece band from Runcorn. They are quickly gaining a reputation for themselves as the band to have at festivals and venues, as they bring a fresh sound and variety of material rarely seen in the UK today.

Formed in early 2012, Little Jo & the Misfits draw influence from a wide spectrum of artists such as Louis Jordan, Imelda May, Little Walter, T Bone Walker and Billie Holliday... it's a long list.

gamut of musical styles from southwest Louisiana: Cajun, Creole, dancehall favourites, and front porch ballads. Because of their many rhythmic styles they are loved by dancers, who marvel at the variety of fun grooves they play.

They each switch from one instrument to another during their shows, with accordion, fiddles and guitars to the fore. A musical evening with Magnolia Sisters is a fun and enriching experience as they explain the meanings of the songs, move between accordion two-steps, twin fiddle tunes, heavy bass Creole hits, dancehall standards and a cappella ballads. Their CD *Stripped Down* (Arhoolie Records) was nominated for a Grammy in 2010.

THE MAGNOLIA SISTERS (U.S.A.)

"These ladies are not only gifted musicians but trusted folklorists who are keeping their traditions alive."
-Billboard Magazine

The Magnolia Sisters is a band of four women who can play the whole

The Magnolia Sisters



New Orleans Jump Band



Photo by Merlin Daleman

MAYSA (U.S.A.)

On a rare European tour, Baltimore-born Maysa is pleased to be in Birmingham for the 30th International Jazz & Blues Festival. Maysa first appeared in the UK in the early 'Nineties as the lead singer of the Jazz-funk band Incognito (*Don't you Worry 'bout a Thing*) appearing on over nine Incognito recordings in her time with them.

Releasing her own self-titled debut album in 1995, Maysa has recorded ten more solo albums since. Three of these, *Metamorphosis* (2008), *A Woman In Love* (2010), and *Motions In Love* (2011), have reached No 1 in the Billboard Contemporary Jazz Charts.

MIKE SANCHEZ

British singer, piano player and guitarist, Mike Sanchez is one of the most exciting and charismatic performers of rhythm & blues and rock

'n' roll in the world today. Notoriety first came to Mike with the Big Town Playboys, the band he formed in the 'eighties with Andy Silvester & Andy Fairweather-Low. He then became a full-time member of Bill Wyman's Rhythm Kings, fronting the band alongside Georgie Fame, Beverly Skeete, Albert Lee, Andy Fairweather-Low and Eddie Floyd on their annual world tours. Mike is currently involved in a number of touring line-ups, most notably his 6-piece outfit which continuously receives fabulous reviews throughout the blues scene across the UK and Europe.

MATT PALMER'S MILLENNIUM EAGLE JAZZ BAND

The Midlands-based Millennium Eagle Jazz Band emerged as a direct result of the demise in 2005 of the very popular Eagle Jazz Band, formed by Ken Ingram and Bob Smith in 1951. Matt Palmer had recently folded his Millennium Jazz Band to join the Eagles, so it was thought appropriate to include 'Millennium' in the name of the new band. The band's wide repertoire includes popular songs and classic jazz compositions of the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s.

NEW ORLEANS HOTSHOTS

Trombonist Dave Harmer brings the Hotshots back for their fourth Birmingham festival. The six-piece from the East Midlands play everything from New Orleans to Dixieland, with a good measure of ballads, blues and rags.

NEW ORLEANS JUMP BAND (SPAIN)

Banjo and Harmonica player Mike Izatt has lived in Spain

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Lithuanian jazz quartet

GIERDRE KILCIAUSKIENE AND JAZZ MINIATURES



Pacifico Blues

for 30 years, forming the New Orleans Jump Band in 1990. The band is multi-national with musicians from Sweden, UK, Germany and Argentina and has become a favourite at Birmingham with its robust brand of Dixieland jazz.

PACIFICO BLUES

Pacifico Blues is a contemporary London blues outfit, house band of the Gibson City Blues Jam and the Hard Rock Cafe. Guitarist Chris Newland and harmonica player Paul Pacifico started playing blues together as a fun side-project in about 2005 having met and worked together through The AllStars Collective of Europe's top session musicians.

PAUL CARRACK

The former vocalist of Mike and The Mechanics and the voice behind world-wide hits

such as *How Long* by Ace, Squeeze's *Tempted* and, of course, the timeless classic *The Living Years*. Carrack is now firmly established as a solo performer.

In a successful career that spans 40 years, including guest appearances on over 60 albums, as well as writing for The Eagles, Diana Ross, Tom Jones, Michael McDonald and Jools Holland among others, Paul Carrack



Potato Head Jazz Band



Pepper and the Jellies

has always had the ability to combine the contemporary with the timeless classic effortlessly.

PEPPER AND THE JELLIES (ITALY)

Predicted as one of the big hits of Birmingham 2014, Pepper and the Jellies are fronted by Ilenia Appicciafuoco who specialises in singing early jazz and blues: the presence



Precious Penny Pluckers

of Fats Waller and Annette Hanshaw clips on her Facebook page suggests her range of influences. In 2010 she met the piano player Paolo Fornara and the guitarist Floriano Andolfo and together they founded the Vaudeville Stomp Revue and recorded the album *Low Down Mama*. She's a permanent presence in Rome Cotton Club's calendar and in 2012 she published a greatest hits album called *Ilenia Appicciafuoco and the Sticky Bones Live at The Cotton Club*. In 2013, she founded The Pepper and the Jellies with Marco Galiffa (drummer) and Emiliano Macrini (double-bass player).

POTATO HEAD JAZZ BAND (SPAIN)

The Potato Head Jazz Band from Granada was one of the hits of Birmingham 2013. The sextet comprises musicians from around the globe and has performed at



Rachel Hutchings

of traditional language, their live shows are full of energy, enthusiasm and imagination.

PRECIOUS PENNY PLUCKERS

Stirling-based Americana Swing band, the Precious Penny Pluckers are a trio with a story to tell. Jazz guitar influences, evocative double bass and powerful vocals make for the contagious jivey swing you'd imagine comes from the 1940's US Mid-West. Think songs of sorrow, hardship and all the other miseries that make for a good story - with just the right amount of upbeat swing.

RACHEL HUTCHINGS

From Whitstable on the south-east coast of England comes Rachel Hutchings

Photo by Merlin Daleman



Ricky Cool & the In Crowd

with her authentic and stylish vocal delivery of jazz standards. With a voice that has been compared to Billie Holiday, she simply has to be listened to. There is nothing pastiche about Rachel's approach to well-turned jazz songs, however. Her style is alluring and distinctive, her tone melodic and mellow with a dash of pepper and salt. Her natural phrasing, clear diction and rhythmic swing pump new life into the old familiar.

THE RASCALS OF RHYTHM

The Rascals of Rhythm are a jazz band with a very distinctive sound which once heard becomes immediately recognisable. The band provides a refreshing visit to an era of carefree, swinging jazz as exemplified by the small groups of the 1930s, with a varied and unusual repertoire, from the classics of Morton and Armstrong, through Waller and Ellington,

to the wonderful tunesmiths whose work makes up the Great American Songbook.

REMI HARRIS TRIO

"At twenty five Harris is now acknowledged as one of the finest gypsy jazz guitarists in the country." - The Jazz Man

2014 looks like being the year that the jazz world sits up and takes notice of the exceptional talent of 25 year old guitar genius Remi Harris. Remi has played the guitar since he was six, formed his first rock band at 12, quit at 15 to learn to play jazz guitar properly. His trio play gypsy jazz like no one else. Their style is looser, swings differently to the traditional Reinhardt stylists and is clearly influenced by Remi's fascination with Wes Montgomery. His debut album *Ninick* on Big Bear Records is widely 5 Star reviewed and critically acclaimed.

'... a recorded debut which places Remi Harris securely in the front line of the world's finest jazz guitarists.' - The Jazz Rag

RICKY COOL & THE IN CROWD

Ricky first hit the headlines with The Icebergs, only to reform as The Realtos where he came to the attention of ex-Led Zeppelin star Robert Plant who recruited him into his Honeydrippers.

Working with The Big Town Playboys began his long-term partnership with Andy Silvester of Savoy Brown and Chicken Shack. One of the hottest frontmen in the business, Ricky moved on to the unstoppable Hoola Boola Boys who toured with such greats as the legendary Jerry Lee Lewis. Now, with his new line up, Ricky Cool & The In Crowd, Ricky presents a musical mix of original numbers, ska, bluebeat, rock 'n' roll and rhythm 'n' blues, plus entertainment in the inimitable Ricky Cool style.

ROY FORBES

Roy Forbes is known to Birmingham festival audiences as a dynamic and exciting singer who has built a great reputation in the city over some years as well as

Photo by Merlin Daleman



Simon Spillett

Saxitude



appearing (and recording at) London's Jazz Cafe and the Stables, Wavendon, and taking in other festivals as distant as Milan and St. Lucia, scoring a big success at the Limoges Jazz Festival ('an exceptional concert', according to *Le Populaire du Centre*). The *Birmingham Mail* wrote about Roy's performance in the 2011 Jazzfest, 'Is there a better male jazz singer in this country? Probably not. Roy Forbes is a master of his trade.'

RUDIE AND THE REVOLVERS

Recently voted the No.1 Ska and Soul tribute band around the UK, Rudie and The Revolvers have been together for some three years, playing all around the country and headlining at the Cavern in Liverpool in June, 2012, following a tour round the country supporting Bruce Foxton's From The Jam and Dexys Bootleg Runners.

THE RUMBLESTRUTTERS

The Rumblestrutters are a four-piece jug band based in south Wales, playing an irreverent hodgepodge of Memphis jazz, hokum blues and ragtime. The band have quickly established themselves as one of the best roots bands around. Started in the summer of 2013 when Jon Toft (mandolin and vocals) found an old ink jug in a back cupboard, the band also features the virtuoso guitar playing of Jonathan Nicholas, Liam Ward (vocals, jug and harmonica) and Gregg Stockdale on washboard, thimbles, cans and anything that bangs. Feel-good folk music at its authentic best!

SAXITUDE (LUXEMBOURG)

The band Saxitude is a saxophone quartet that was founded in 2003 and has come up with a unique sound. Original compositions of jazz and improvised music are included in their repertory. The current

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members of the group are Pierre Cocq-Amann (soprano and alto sax), Remi Fox (alto sax), Robi Arend (tenor sax), and Thomas Diemert (baritone sax).

Since 2003 the band has played many concerts in Germany, Luxembourg, France, Switzerland and also in Slovenia, Czech Republic, Thailand and China.

SIMON KEMP RHYTHM & BLUES ORCHESTRA

The Simon Kemp Rhythm and Blues Orchestra is an eighteen piece band playing the best in soul, blues and big fat grooves. With a five piece rhythm section, loads of horns, four backing singers and guest vocalists, expect to sing, dance and get soaked in the good vibes this band puts out.

SIMON SPILLETT

'A formidable musician and composer playing and writing

We would like to thank **CZECH DREAMS** for their support in enabling the fine Czech Republic band **JAZZBAND VELKE LOSINY** to return to Birmingham

in an uncompromising hard bop style.' – Jazz Review.

Simon Spillett has established himself in recent years as one of the most distinctive and dynamic tenor saxophonists around. His mentor was the celebrated clarinettist and tenor saxist Vic Ash, but his playing recalls another star of 1950s bebop. His driving and energised style has often been compared with that of the late Tubby Hayes and his approach shares a similar love of dare-devil tempos and all-out intensity.

STEVE AJAO

Steve Ajao has been a much respected figure on the Birmingham music scene for over 30 years. Starting as a drummer, he was working as a blues guitarist in various bands by his late teens. Later he reinvented himself as a bebop saxophonist, appearing in many London clubs and memorably sharing the bandstand with ex-Charlie Parker trumpeter Red Rodney. Both sides of Steve's musical personality are featured in the festival, with appearances by the Steve Ajao Quartet and his Blues Giants.

STEVEN SEAGAL'S BLUES BAND (U.S.A)

Featuring Big Bill Morganfield, Ernest Tibbs, The Fitzmaurice Twins, Marty Grebb, Redd Valkaert, Shad Cobb & Tom Hambridge

Steven Seagal is a bona fide Hollywood action legend, his films having grossed billions of dollars since the late 80's to the present day. However what is sometime forgotten is that Steven has been an accomplished musician for many years now. He has honed his craft over the years sharing his love for the blues and



Suzi Woods



jamming with many of the greatest blues legends.

Critically acclaimed as one of the best blues albums released of 2007, his second CD *Mojo Priest* captured the essence of not only Steven's smooth yet gritty guitar style, but also the essence of Blues greats such as Muddy Waters and BB King.

STRUMPIT

The Hot Club-style trio Strumpit was formed in 2008 and the line-up of Andy

PHOTOGRAPHER-AT-LARGE

Birmingham International Jazz and Blues Festival's regular photographer-at-large Merlin Daleman returns for the 2014 festival, in addition to being represented by an exhibition in the Blue Piano. Merlin lives in North Brabant in the Netherlands where his success as a photographer has led to his winning the Silver Camera Award for Best Documentary Photographer on two occasions: 2006 and 2008. A graduate of the Royal Academy of the Arts in The Hague, he is a regular contributor to NRC Handelsblad and NRC Next.

Bucknall, Madi Stimpson and Michaël Lacoult is now well established. The main aim of the trio is to perform gypsy jazz and roots and folk music and to add a new twist with original compositions and arrangement of famous tunes.

STUART BARKER DUO

A classic jazz piano/double bass combination, the Stuart Barker Duo plays gems from the Great American Songbook.

SUZI WOODS

Well versed in the Great American Songbook and an established singer/songwriter herself, Suzi Woods sang with Jools Holland's Swing Band in the 1990s. In recent years she has proved a hit with celebrities both fictional and real-life, singing both at Chardonnay and Kyle's wedding in *Footballers' Wives* and at the chastening of David and Victoria Beckham's two sons.

TIPITINA

Tipitina – with Debbie Jones' powerful gospel-tinged vocals and Justin Randall's mighty two-handed piano - deliver their own unique take on the blues, barrelhouse, boogie and gospel of New Orleans, in the footsteps of Professor Longhair, Dr. John, James Booker, Fats Domino and Allen Toussaint.

Tipitina's second CD for Big Bear, *Taking Care of Business*, recorded at 2011's Birmingham International Jazz & Blues Festival supported by Colmore BID, was greeted by uniformly enthusiastic reviews:

"A wonderful CD, it superbly captures how this incredible band sound au naturelle... phenomenal 10/10 [Blues In Britain]."

"A joyous ride through up-

Tipitina



Photo by Merlin Daleman

tempo feel-good rockers, gospel-tinged ballads and crowd-pleasing sing-alongs. They're a barnstorming live act, few do this with such conviction. [Rock 'N' Reel]

TOM ARMITAGE

Tom Armitage trained at the Birmingham Conservatoire and is now resident pianist at the Blue Piano where his beautiful improvisational style never fails to impress.

THE TREVOR BURTON BAND

Trevor Burton was a founder member of the sixties chart topping band The Move, stayed with the band from 1966 to 1969, and since then has always been at the centre of the rock music scene, from forming Balls with Steve Gibbons, Denny Laine and Allen White to working with Raymond

ensemble featuring Jazz Studies students and faculty from the University of South Florida School of Music. The USF JAZZTET is led by USF Professors Jack Wilkins and Tom Brantley. The group performs a variety of jazz music – from classic jazz to modern originals written by members of the group. The fast-paced show is sure to delight audiences with the variety of music offered and the talent of the musicians on stage.

VAL WISEMAN

Though best known for her highly successful Billie Holiday tribute, *Lady Sings the Blues*, Val Wiseman has much more on her CV, including two British Jazz Awards as Best Singer – in 2008 and 2011. She first gained national attention singing with the Monty Sunshine band and in

Froggatt, the Steve Gibbons Band, the Big Town Playboys and Dexy's Midnight Runners. Now he leads one of the most exciting live bands on the scene.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA JAZZTET [USA]

The USF Jazztet is an exciting performance



Val Wiseman



recent years has taken part in many different song programmes in addition to *Lady Sings the Blues: Jazz Goes to the Movies* with Digby Fairweather and *Sophisticated Lady* with Martin Litton, among others. In recent years she has developed and recorded her own musical tribute to the Brontes, *Keeping the Flame Alive* which she wrote with music by Brian Dee.

THE WHISKY BROTHERS

The Whisky Brothers featuring Richard Heath, on vocals and mandolin, and Gerry Smith, on piano, perform old style acoustic blues with songs from

the great American blues tradition as well as their own material. In the mid 1990s, Richard and Gerry formed the Splinter Blues Band which apart from performing at venues like Ronnie Scott's, also hosted a popular weekly blues club at the Hare and Hounds in south Birmingham for many years. In 2012 they reunited to form the Whisky Brothers returning to their favourite style of music and the songs they most love to play.

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JAZZ ON THE HERITAGE TRAIL

The Birmingham International Jazz and Blues Festival is always on the look-out for different and interesting venues in which to showcase the music. Increasingly in recent years this has included historic and cultural sites. This year four of Birmingham's major heritage sites figure on the festival programme, with events every weekend lunch-time. First up is the city's Museum and Art Gallery on Saturday 19th, with the Precious Penny Pluckers providing the music. The following lunch-time it's the turn of Blakesley Hall, the 16th century manor house in Yardley, with the Arthur Brown Jazz Band. In the second weekend the museum on Saturday is the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter, with Festival Patron Digby Fairweather, and the historic building on Sunday is Sarehole Mill, the 18th century watermill in Hall Green, which hosts the Chase Jazzmen.

Another gallery which is now a very welcome regular in the festival programme, the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, turns its regular Friday lunch-time music programme over to jazz for two weeks in July. This year the Bruce Adams Quartet (18th) is followed by the Budapest Ragtime Band (25th).

5498 PERFORMANCES SINCE 1985

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AND OF COURSE A BIG THANK YOU IS DUE TO: AMERICAN AIRLINES, BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, BRITISH AIRWAYS, BT, CARLSBERG, CENTRO, CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER, CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, COOPERS & LYBRAND, CROSBY HOMES, CZECH AIRLINES, DAILY TELEGRAPH, EDGE & ELLISON, GLOAG'S GIN, HMV, HUNGARIAN INTERNATIONAL BANK, KIEHL'S, KODAK PROFESSIONAL, LLOYDS BANK, MARKS & SPENCER, MARSTON'S, MITCHELLS & BUTLERS, NANJING AUTOMOBILE CORPORATION, THE NATIONAL LOTTERY, NISSAN, POLISH CULTURAL INSTITUTE, THE POST OFFICE, RBS, THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA, SMIRNOFF, SOUTHERN COMFORT, STARBUCKS, TENNENTS, TESCO, TRAVEL WEST MIDLANDS, YAMAHA AND THOSE DOZENS OF OTHER COMPANIES WHOSE INVALUABLE SUPPORT HAS ENABLED THE FESTIVAL TO REACH THIS MILESTONE.

WHILE VERY SPECIAL RECOGNITION IS DUE TO TIM JENNINGS, YUE YANG AND RUSSELL FLETCHER, WHO HAVE BETWEEN THEM CLOCKED UP SOME 45 YEARS, AND TO RON SIMPSON WHO HAS BEEN HERE FOR THE DURATION.

BUT MOST OF ALL, IT IS THANK YOU TO THE 2.4 MILLION ATTENDERS WHO HAVE MADE THE FESTIVAL WHAT IT IS OVER THESE JAZZ AND BLUES-PACKED YEARS

BACKWORD

Thirty Years. It's been quite a journey. In some ways it feels an entire working life for some of us.

In the summer of 1984, in Cannon Hill Park, as the dust settled on The M&B Jam Session which featured 12 of Britain's leading jazzmen, there was widespread agreement that this was too good to let go. First of all there was the album: the Jam Session had been recorded on Richard Branson's Virgin Mobile and was released on Birmingham's Big Bear Records, going on to be named *Sunday Times* Jazz Album of the Year.

But what of the future? Humphrey Lyttelton, Benny Green, Malcolm Powell and I considered the possibilities. Humph and Benny were for a repeat performance the following year, but Malcolm, the Special Projects Manager at Mitchells & Butlers would have none of it, insisting that nothing less than a full-blown Festival would satisfy him. Of course, Malcolm had his way, he usually did. Thanks to Malcolm, M&B supported the Festival for the first five years. Malcolm was as loyal as he was inspirational, remaining the closest of friends until his untimely passing.

There have been many other friendships and far too many

FOUNDING DIRECTOR JIM SIMPSON

losses, certainly too many to recount, but they are all remembered with affection and the afterglow that great music and good humour can bring. The indefatigable Humphrey Lyttelton, for many years our Patron, who brought so much to Birmingham and his favourite Jazz Festival; British jazz's other landmark trumpeter, Kenny Baker, whose re-formed Dozen graced the Festival; the sagacity and unfailing humour of Benny Green; the genius and humility of Nat Pierce whose support went way beyond the call of duty; Duncan Swift the last of the line of great Harlem Stride Piano players; Gene 'The Mighty Flea' Connors from Birmingham Alabama, briefly domiciled in Brum when he had jumped ship from The Johnny Otis Show; one of the greatest tenormen of all time, Teddy Edwards who not only played beautifully here, but also freely contributed songs and arrangements; Claude 'Fiddler' Williams, a veteran of the 1936 Count Basie Band [on guitar] who loved Birmingham so much that he stayed over a month after filming *Fiddlers Three* at the Festival.

Equally significant are the numbers of musicians who have been part of the Festival throughout its 30 years. Remarkably Digby Fairweather, Len Skeat, Roy

Williams and John Patrick featured in the 1985 Festival and, having been here for pretty much every one since, are again part of the 2014 bill.

By the time festival events were shooting past the 200 mark (in the third year) King Pleasure and the Biscuit Boys had debuted as Some Like it Hot and a one-off performance at the Adrian Boulton Hall of *Lady Sings the Blues*, Val Wiseman's tribute to Billie Holiday, had launched a phenomenon that returns to the Festival this year.

But Birmingham is also about new names, youngsters who play real jazz and blues, developing and drawing on an often surprising variety of influences, playing with an enthusiasm and clear understanding of the music often with show-stopping musical ability. There are a lot of them around in this year's Festival. Have a listen to a band that you have never heard of and be prepared to be surprised.

And don't forget to buy the trumpet player a drink!

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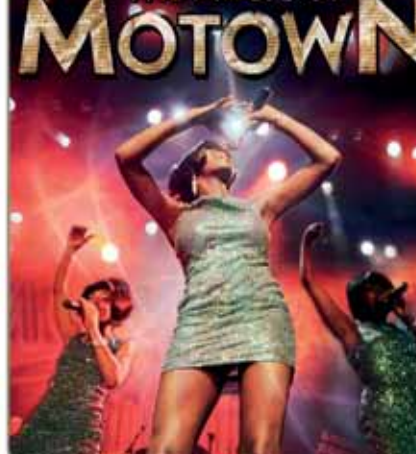
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