

## **Media Release: 15 May 2019 – for Immediate Release** **Perth's hottest Jazz Festival returns to heat up the City, 4-6 July**

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### **457 World Jazz**

457 is the ultimate Mauritian Jazz Band, bringing the groove of the Islands of the Seven Seas while mixing the sound of Classical Music, Funk and RnB to their original compositions. Succumb to the infectious music of the band and experience something unique.

### **Anea Duratovic Quintet**

Anea Duratovic has established herself as one of Perth's premier jazz vocalists. With a warm and sultry vocal tone, Anea effortlessly delivers beautiful melodies, and intricate stories. A musical talent to be reckoned with, join Anea's quintet for a thoroughly unique approach to vocal jazz.

### **Ardent**

Ardent is an original jazz trio consisting of Tristan Wills on the piano, Ryan Daunt on the drums and Nick Abbey on the bass. This trio is heavily influenced by artists such as Avishai Cohen, Tigran Hamasyan, Ambrose Akinmusire, E.S.T & Phronesis. This highly interactive trio value the idea of pushing compositional boundaries with exciting, intricate rhythms blended into a vast harmonic scape.

### **Bill and Ben**

William Chiew and Ben Griffith make a formidable duo, Will on the drums and Ben on guitar. Bill and Ben have been playing regularly together since 2018, forming a growing chemistry and dialect they can call their own. With soloing skills to die for and a keen ear for rhythmic play, Bill and Ben will kick off the festival in fine style.

### **Bunbury SHS Jazz Ensemble**

In recent years, WAYJO have toured extensively through WA's South West, and we've loved the talent we've seen down there. In the spirit of Corner Pocket featuring emerging young musicians, WAYJO is proud to present the Bunbury SHS Jazz Ensemble. The band is made up of students in years 9-11 who love the experience of performing, their enthusiasm for jazz infectious and joyous.

### **Dan Garner and the 4 Piece Combo**

Guitarist Dan Garner credits a wide range of influences colouring his composition style; from folk greats Neil Young and Bob Dylan to the more modern and eclectic sounds of artists like Nate Smith, Christian Scott and Ben Monder. Unashamed of his past and excited for the present, Dan Garner presents original music with his new band The 4 Piece Combo.

### **Demon Days**

Perth's Demon Days are the exciting five member Jazz Funk/Neo Soul collective set to captivate audiences and "transform any group of 20-somethings into an appreciative audience of jazz cats" (thefunk.com.au). The group garner influences from Hip Hop, Soul, Funk, Jazz, Fusion, and everything in between. With an eclectic mix of styles and influences, Demon Days have flourished into something greater than the sum of it's parts, with a high-energy live set with dexterity and the chops to show it.

### **DSUS Afro-Peruvian Group presents "Soul of Black Peru"**

Featuring 2018 WAM award-winning drummer/percussionist Daniel Susnjar, the DSUS Afro-Peruvian Group is internationally recognised for its unique approach in combining musical elements from Afro-Peruvian and contemporary jazz. This special concert pays tribute to the ground-breaking album "Soul of Black Peru" compiled by David Byrne (Talking Heads) – which helped to catapult Peruvian artists Susanna Baca and Eva Ayllon to international recognition and success. Expect high-energy, infectious grooves and classic Peruvian melodies from this multi award-winning Western Australian ensemble – joined by special guest vocalist Nico Bahamonde.

### **Five Pillars of Salt**

Made up of recent WAAPA graduates Wayan Dana's (Bass), Thomas Freeman (Guitar) and Matthew Salt (Alto Saxophone), Five Pillars of Salt bring the sound of the modern New York Jazz scene to the foreground, with inspiration from the music of Christian McBride, Jonathan Kreisberg and Will Vinson.

### **Gemma Farrell Quintet**

The Gemma Farrell Quintet plays the original music of saxophonist Gemma Farrell. Nominated for WAM Best Jazz Act 2018, their 2018 debut album "Organised Chaos" was one of WAYJO's favourite releases for the year. Touring and performing to critical acclaim, the Gemma Farrell Quintet is one of WA's secret gems, destined for great things in the future.

### **Greig-Kelly Quintet, The**

A new voice on the jazz scene, The Greig-Kelly Quintet gives some of Perth's finest performers the opportunity to explore and extend their musicianship in an engaging and diverse programme.

### **Hanna Kim Trio**

Keyboardist Hanna Kim was born in South Korea and started studying the piano at the age of six. Since arriving in Perth, Kim has worked with a variety of musicians and presents a concert of her own compositions in an intimate performance.

### **Helium**

Fresh from a standout performance at the 2019 Perth International Arts Festival, Helium presents a sound combining elements of contemporary jazz, Latin American rhythms and minimalist music. A dynamic instrumental trio featuring standout Western Australian musicians Harry Mitchell, Jeremy Thomson and Daniel Susnjar, Helium is pushing the organ trio into exciting and uncharted musical territories – an event not to be missed!

### **Holli Scott and Ben Matthews**

This performance of carefully curated original music and arranged jazz standards celebrates many years of musical collaboration and friendship between vocalist Holli Scott and pianist Ben Matthews. Holli draws inspiration from and is influenced by artists such as Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughan, and Nina Simone, and produces a deep, rich, soulful tone while Ben performs in a unique style that blends genres drawing influence from jazz legends like Herbie Hancock and Oscar Peterson, and from soundtrack titans like John Williams and Joe Hisaishi (Studio Ghibli).

### **Holli Scott and the Rush Hour Circus**

Inspired by the small flickers of magic hidden in everyday life, Holli Scott and the Rush Hour Circus spin the dark, the soulful, and the magically eclectic into a captivating performance of jazz standards and original music. Predominantly composed and arranged by Perth vocalist and front woman Holli Scott, the music finds its roots firmly in the jazz genre. Drawing from the work of artists such as Tom Waits, Nick Cave, Billie Holiday, and Nina Simone, Scott's deep and soulful tone brings a commanding presence to the stage. Made up of some of Perth's finest jazz musicians, allow Holli Scott and the Rush Hour Circus to transport you to another age and another place.

### **Imogen Thomson/Austin Salisbury "Mejadra"**

The Mejadra Project is the result of a year-long collaboration between percussionist Imogen Thomson and pianist Austin Salisbury. Their original compositions bring together their unique musical backgrounds in a melting pot of modern Jazz and Afro-Cuban inspired grooves.

### **Island Trio, The**

The Island Trio is an explosive group playing the great American song book in ways you've never heard before. It is rhythm, it is harmony and it is fun. Normally found at The Island Elizabeth Quay they will move indoors and bring the atmosphere with them.

### **James Sewell Quintet**

The James Sewell Quintet is a group of talented up-and-coming musicians from the Perth jazz scene, performing original instrumental music. Inspired by Jazz greats Kenny Garrett and Ben Wendel, amongst others, their music blends complexity with melodicism and expression, and stretches the definitions of what jazz can be.

### **Jessica Fiocco Sextet**

Perth has stolen the next great trumpet player from Melbourne. Jessica Fiocco was nominated for Young Australian Jazz Artist of the Year at the Bell Awards in 2015, and featured in the Melbourne International Women's Jazz Festival and the Wangaratta Jazz Festival. Fiocco's new sextet will present her tunes, old and new, inspired by the rock influence in Jim Black's AlasNoAxis, as well as the calming music of ECM artists Jakob Bro and Bill Frisell. One of the most exciting new voices to arrive in Perth's jazz scene in many years.

### **Joshua Cusack 4tet**

Bassist Joshua Cusack presents a performance featuring a suite of his own compositions, including originals and arrangements of jazz standards written and arranged in an Avant-guard modern jazz context. His compositions feature odd time signatures, ostinatos with quick exciting melodies. Influenced by artists including Avishai Cohen, Tom Harrell, and Eric Revis, this music is flexible fun and full of heart.

### **Joshua Nicholls Plus Seven**

Joshua started playing the guitar at the age of 7 and hasn't put it down since. Joshua Nicholls Plus Seven presents original jazz large ensemble tunes in Joshua's unique compositional style: an eclectic blend of his early heroes Dream Theater and Led Zeppelin, jazz influences Bill Evans, Ari Hoernig and Marty Paich, along with a dash of unexplained craziness. Musical styles vary wildly throughout his catalogue, with funk, prog, Afro-Cuban, free jazz and cool-school elements present within his music. The one common thread: an infectious groove.

### **Ko-Ko**

Ko-Ko! An a cappella group of five, bringing lush harmonies and soulful renditions of our favourite music to Perth and beyond. Meet Reece, Laura, Nicole, Jean and Jason, five singer friends who are delivering the marvel and excitement of a cappella music through powerhouse vocals and intimate improvisations.

### **Kohesia Ensemble**

Led by double bassist Kate Pass, the Kohesia Ensemble serves as a platform for Kate's original compositions, which are influenced by her passion for both jazz and Persian music. Kohesia Ensemble explores unusual time structures and microtonal melodies, combining the sounds of Persian flute (ney), percussion (daf) lute (saz) and oud with jazz instruments for a truly unique listening experience. Having released their debut album "Kohesia" in June 2018, Kohesia Ensemble was nominated for 2018 WAM Best Album, Best Jazz Act and Best World Act.

### **Kristian Borring Trio**

Kristian Borring, Danish jazz guitarist and composer, has been praised for his sense of tasteful melody and colourful harmony delivered in a cool playground of rhythm. Kristian's music is engaging and provides the listener with exciting twists and turns. Expect hard swing to no nonsense grooves and contemplative melodies to intricate musical interplay.

### **Libby Hammer**

Libby Hammer is one of Perth's premier jazz vocalists. With a background in musical theatre, acting and circus, Libby has developed a reputation in Western Australia for delivering fun, sophisticated, world class jazz music. The Libby Hammer Quintet is in high demand across Perth, regularly playing to packed houses. This could be the most fun you'll have at the Festival as Libby delivers her signature vocal stylings, wit and pizzazz.

### **Localz2000**

Get the party started as Riffz2000 go local. Live instant remixes of some of your favourite Perth songs. Made up beats and improv meet the sounds of Perth songwriters. Riffz2000 takes samples from local artists and processes them on the spot, creating new sounds and mashups. A smash hit at Corner Pocket 2018, this unique group returns for the most fun you'll have at a jazz festival.

### **Love Rats, The**

An ensemble of musicians that have all grown up together, The Love Rats have a deep musical connection that spans over 10 years, allowing for a unique, creative experience. The performance will feature original music written by each member, inspired by disparate styles of jazz ranging in influences all the way from blues to modern jazz, as well as fun arrangements of classic tunes.

### **Marc Osborne Quartet**

Marc Osborne has been on the jazz scene for over 10 years, playing as a sideman and musical director in many of Western Australia's most acclaimed ensembles. His debut album 'People' is his first official documentation as a band leader with his quartet. With the birth of his first son, Marc composed a collection of musical reflections on the people that have shaped him over the course of the last 10 years and continue to influence and inspire him, personally and musically.

### **Matt Smith presents Driftwood**

Matt Smith presents all-new, all-original music in his new project, Matt Smith presents: Driftwood. Inspired by the rich history of the South West surfing town of Margaret River, Matt has written music based upon different surf spots and historical landmarks. Think modern jazz meets surf-rock and punk.

### **Max Wickham Quintet**

Saxophonist and composer Maximilian Wickham aims to create music full of passion, emotion and intensity. Drawing inspiration from Australian jazz artists such as Barney McAll, Julien Wilson, Tal Cohen and Andrea Keller, Max seeks to blur the lines between the composed and the improvised. He considers his compositions to be a framework for his band members to bring their own personality to his music.

### **MELVE plays Blue Note**

Perth based quintet MELVE pays homage to their Blue Note heroes. Featuring special guest Matt Smith on trumpet, MELVE brings to life the best of Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers, Wayne Shorter, John Coltrane, Herbie Hancock, Cedar Walton, Freddie Hubbard, Sonny Rollins and more. Releasing their debut album in 2018, MELVE are sure to be the next big things in Perth's jazz scene.

### **Nueva Salsa Orchestra**

The Nueva Salsa Orchestra are an energetic band that specialises in Cuban, Columbian and New York salsas, mambos and cha-chas. Comprised of some of Perth's most sought after musicians, Nueva Salsa Orchestra has accompanied world class international touring artists and been regularly performing to sell out crowds at festivals since their inception in 2011. When you see the NSO in action, you don't just see and hear it... you really FEEL it!

### **Oz Big Band**

The Oz Big Band are dedicated to recreating the music and energy of the great big bands of the 30's, 40's and 50's. Formed in 1985, this 18-piece outfit has become popular amongst the Lindy Hop and Swing Dance scenes around Australia for its authenticity and high energy. Touring regularly around Australia, the Oz Big Band plays the music of Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Tommy Dorsey, Jimmie Lunceford, Benny Goodman, Fletcher Henderson, Ella Fitzgerald, Peggy Lee and many more. The Oz Big Band knows how to "wind it up, and let it go!"

### **Penny King Quartet**

One of Western Australia's leading jazz vocalists, Penny King has been a firm favourite of jazz audiences for over 20 years. Well known for her engaging stage presence, and a sound ranging from rich swinging tones through to haunting and fragile melodies, Penny brings grace, refinement and signature sounds developed over years of music making.

### **Perth Cabaret Collective**

Perth's hottest jazz cabaret act storms back to Corner Pocket. Fresh off huge 2019 FringeWorld seasons, PCC will have audiences hooting with joy as they close out the festival. Brassy, energetic, and good old cheeky fun.

### **Perth, Wind, and Fire**

Perth, Wind, and Fire is Western Australia's very own trumpet supergroup. Modelled after the band Chase, the group showcases five of Perth's finest jazz and commercial trumpeters, on original arrangements by Western Australian writers, alongside a stellar rhythm section and some guy on saxophone. Never taking themselves too seriously, Perth, Wind, and Fire have been entertaining Perth audiences since 2015 and always provide an exciting, and irreverent, evening of musical delights.

### **Phoebus Cartel**

Phoebus Cartel are a newly formed neo-jazz, experimental, groove group comprised of some of Perth's established and emerging jazz musicians. With an emphasis on bringing women's voices to the fore of the scene they deliver a mix of original music, arrangements of obscure jazz tunes and iterations of popular modern groove music. Drawing inspiration from Jameszoo, Terrace Martin and Yussef Kamaal this band ain't to be missed!

### **Reece Clark & Friends**

Reece Clark & Friends is an up & coming miniature big band run by singer and arranger Reece Clark, specialising in the reimagination of classic jazz and pop tunes. With tunes from the likes of Frank Sinatra to The Killers, there's sure to be something to please every ear. The band boasts a killer 5-piece horn section and is guaranteed to get toes tapping and hips moving.

### **Ricki Malet Quartet**

WAM Award winner and WAYJO Monday Night Orchestra Music Director Ricki Malet debuts a brand new line-up in his virtuosic quartet. The Ricki Malet Quartet will be performing a number of Ricki's originals and derangements of standards that he has done over the last couple of years featuring a mix of styles, from trad jazz to contemporary jazz, that reflects Ricki's eclectic taste in music.

### **Russell Holmes Trio**

Led by the multi-award winning jazz pianist, The Russell Holmes Trio explore the art and essence of the piano trio with their own well defined flavour and personality. The group possesses a deep groove and stands alone with its own treatment and inimitable expression. Russell's sensitive style is supported by Karl Florison (double bass) and Mike Perkins (drums), creating an interactive, unique and inspiring ensemble whose overall essence is one pure and authentic voice. With an increasing number of original compositions the Russell Holmes Trio promise a unique and soulful music experience.

### **Sarah Ramsey Trio**

Whether fronting an 18-piece big band or accompanied by just a pianist, Perth vocalist, Sarah Ramsey commands the stage with a warm and inviting presence. Her beautiful, rich vocal approach draws influence from Ella Fitzgerald, Joni Mitchell and Sarah Vaughan and is best experienced through her own compositions and her heartfelt interpretations of jazz standards. Join Sarah Ramsey, Ricki Malet and Jeremy Thomson as they present a stripped-back set of original compositions and arrangements of jazz standards.

### **Sassafras Trio plus special guest Steve Searle**

Formed in mid 2015, Sassafras has quickly established a reputation as one of Perth's premier gypsy jazz groups. Their trio repertoire features gypsy jazz classics from Django Reinhardt alongside music from modern masters such as Birelli Lagrene, Gonzalo Bergara, Les Doigts Des L'Homme and others. The band also has a varied selection of re-worked jazz standards, a few original compositions, and some slightly obscure modern works as well. Joining Sassafras Trio for this special concert is multi-instrumentalist Steve Searle. Steve's high energy playing and versatile musicianship fits neatly with Sassafras Trio, affording fans a different take on the band's familiar repertoire.

### **Singer-Songwriters of Jazz, The**

Obsessing over the art of singer songwriters, WAYJO favourite Annie Mitchell pulls together a performance exhibiting her favourite performers from now and yester-year. With her own arrangements and popular standards of artists as diverse as Esperanza Spaulding, Joni Mitchell and Billie Holiday, Annie will be backed by a sensational line-up of Perth's next generation of jazz superstars. Revisit the power of story-telling through music in this lusciously smooth vocal performance.

### **Split Kick**

Featuring four of Perth's most super hip jazz musicians Split Kick play the funkier organ jazz grooves that you've ever heard. Think Freddie Hubbard, Shirley Scott, Madeski Martin and Wood. Jazz to dance to in the form of standards, classic hardbop charts and even some originals. Debuting in 2019, have already graced the stages at the Duke of George, the Moon Cafe and Rodney's Bait and Tackle, and has big plans for the future.

### **Sylvia Comes Duo**

Formed in 2018, Sylvia Comes Duo offers the remarkable talent of jazz vocalist Sylvia Comes and jazz guitarist Thomas Freeman. Sylvia's vocals encompass "a warm smokey delivery with a sultry tone that belies her youth, continuing in the style of a Billie Holiday or Nancy Wilson". This combined with Freeman's 'angular yet ethereal' guitar playing adds a creative and modern touch to jazz standards.

### **Synken**

'Synken' is the Danish word for immersion. In a world where music is so often a tool for nostalgia, Tim Newhouse aims to immerse his audience in music that pushes forward and doesn't come close to being put in a genre-box. He plays whatever instrument takes his fancy at the time, meticulously crafts each piece and showcases the world-class creativity of his co-collaborators. Clap whenever, but sink back in your chair and always prepare to be surprised.

### **Trio Trio**

The Trio Trio, featuring Harry Mitchell, Ben Vanderwal and Karl Florisson, will be launching their second standards record for the corner pocket festival. Featuring some gospel, blues, and classic piano trio standards, this exciting launch shouldn't be missed. Come see them before they fly to Indonesia to play at the Ubud Village jazz festival! Collectively these musicians have performed/recorded with the likes of John Scofield, Charlie Haden, Hank Marvin, Tim Minchin, Luke Kennedy, Charlie Watts, James Morrison, Chris Potter, George Garzone, Kate Ceberano and Aaron Goldberg.

### **TRISK**

TRISK is one of Western Australia's premier instrumental groups. Taking influence from genres as diverse as hip-hop, jazz, R&B, pop, and world music – and fuelled by their fiery musical rapport – TRISK presents high-energy performances featuring original compositions laced with infectious grooves. Featuring multi award-winning musicians Daniel Susnjar, Chris Foster and Nick Abbey, TRISK is a not-to-be-missed live music event for all ages.

### **TVQ**

Led by accomplished Perth pianist Tim Voutas, TVQ's sound is energetic and new, with intricate melodies and rhythms that keep you guessing. Their debut album "Introducing TVQ" was released in April this year with influences spanning Bill Evan's harmonic lushness, Art Blakey's fire, Hiromi Uehara's flare and Keith Jarrett's emotion. Fun and cheeky at times, TVQ will take you on a journey through a wave of emotions.

### **Vib3**

Vib3 began with the idea of bringing more organ trios to Perth. Norberto Flamenco (Hammond Organ), Francisco Munoz (Drums), and Steve Vacca (Guitar) pay homage to greats such as Jimmy McGriff, Jack Mcduff, and modern players such as Soulive, plus Medeski, Martin & Wood. Feel the vibe come alive.

### **William Chiew Quartet**

William Chiew is a drumset magician, performing his works throughout a selection of venues in Perth. With an intimate and creative band, Chiew will share his musical tales in a stylish conjuring of new melodies, stirring a celebration of the human condition. Drawing influence from people and places, memories and aspirations, Will's music is intended as a form of meditation and reflection.

**WAYJO Monday Night Orchestra present *We're Not in Kansas Anymore***

As part of the annual program An American Jazz Story, WAYJO's Monday Night Orchestra travel to Kansas City, with a program chock full of big band Basie goodness. See what made the sounds of Kansas so fresh in the 1920s and beyond, featuring music by Count Basie, Quincy Jones, Duke Ellington and WC Handy.

**WAYJO Tuesday Night Orchestra present *Jazz with a Touch of Motown***

Jazz and Motown were wedded from the beginning and Detroit's famed Blue Bird Inn played home to jazz greats Miles Davis, Charlie Parker and Elvin Jones. WAYJO's Tuesday Night Orchestra brings these influences together in a night of Motown soul and jazz.

**WAYJO Wednesday Night Orchestra present *The Debut Collection***

WAYJO presents The Debut Collection, a suite of compositions commissioned by WAYJO as part of our ongoing Composer-in-Residence program. Join the Wednesday Night Orchestra as they premiere a series of works composed by Composer-in-Residence Scott van Gemert and Associate Composer-in-Residence Joshua Nicholls for some of the most exciting new big band music in the country.