

# SAJE NEWS

## Newsletter of the South African Association for Jazz Education

Number 41, September 2017    EDITOR: Diane Rossi    CONTACT: [sajejazz@gmail.com](mailto:sajejazz@gmail.com)



The Mission of the **South African Association for Jazz Education** is to assure the growth of jazz in South Africa and the development of jazz and jazz education in urban and rural areas. SAJE is also dedicated to building the jazz arts community by advancing education, promoting skills development, performance and research, developing new audiences, archiving and preserving our great jazz heritage .



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# MESSAGE FROM THE SAJE PRESIDENT

15 September 2017

Dear SAJE Friends and Family,

Greetings! As we reach the end of this year, sooner for those in the music education sector, I realise this is a very busy time for everybody! Many of you are still very deep in the trenches, working in multiple capacities, as jazz educators, students, performers, composers, researchers, administrators and in community development. While we gradually wind down the year, I encourage you to look to 2018 with optimism for the future of jazz and jazz education. We look forward to hearing about your plans and learning about your initiatives for next year.

I wish to congratulate and thank Diane Rossi and the SAJE team for the hard work and dedication in hosting a successful SAJE Festival. The 5<sup>th</sup> SAJE Jazz Festival was held on 28-30 April 2017 at the Reeler Music Centre, Rondebosch, Cape Town and coincided with International Jazz Day celebrations. The Festival brought together the SAJE community for workshops, masterclasses and concerts. I would also like to thank our sponsors who made the event possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend the first UP Jazz Symposium on 6 October 2017 at the University of Pretoria, Main Campus, Hatfield, Pretoria. The theme of the symposium is *Freedom in Jazz*. The event brings together researchers and practitioners from the United States of America, Canada, Zimbabwe and across South Africa. Presenters include Professor Lenora Helm Hammonds (North Carolina Central University), Prof Sundar Viswanathan (York University, Toronto), Prof Mike Campbell (UCT), Prof Marc Duby (Unisa), Prof Karendera Devroop (Unisa), Prof Brett Pyper (Wits), Prof Chats Devroop (UKZN), Prof Salim Washington (UKZN), Dr Nisa Palekar (UP), Ms Phuti Sepuru (UP) and Mr Nduduzo Makhatini (Fort Hare/Stellenbosch). The Symposium concludes with concerts by the SA-International Jazz Ensemble, The Tshwane School of Music and Committed Artists for Cultural Advancement (CAFCA).

In this newsletter you will enjoy reading about the wonderful activities of the SAJE family. We are encouraged in the knowledge that our members continue to advance jazz education across the country and beyond our borders. Well done on all your achievements!

I wish the best with all with your endeavours and I look forward to the SAJE Conference in 2018.

Yours in Jazz!



Mageshen Naidoo  
SAJE President

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## 2016-2018 SAJE Executive Board

President: Mageshen Naidoo (UP)  
Vice President: Neil Gonsalves (UKZN)  
Secretary: Ann Barr (CTBBJF)  
Treasurer: Diane Rossi  
International Rep: Moreira Chonguiça (Morejazz)

## Board Members (2016-2018)

Mike Campbell (UCT)  
Marc Duby (UNISA)  
Mike Rossi (UCT)  
Paul Sedres  
John Edwards (NMMU)  
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Ronel Nagfaal (Groote Schuur High)  
David Bass  
Carlo Mombelli (Wits)  
Alan Webster NYJF (ex-officio)  
Darius Brubeck (ex-officio)

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## SAJE NEWS

SAJE celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year! Please visit the website for information on how SAJE started in 1992 and what we have accomplished! [www.saje.org.za](http://www.saje.org.za)

The 5<sup>th</sup> SAJE Jazz Festival took place from **28 to 30 April 2017** at the **Reeler Theatre and Music Centre at Rondebosch Boys' High School, Rondebosch, Cape Town**. This is the first time in 25 years that we have broken with tradition and held an SAJE event "off campus". We also celebrated **International Jazz Day** on Sunday 30 April.

**MUSICIANS and WORKSHOP FACILITATORS:** Gordon Vernick (USA), Roberto Zechini (Italy), Guilherme Ribeiro (Brazil), Carlo Mombelli, Kyle Shepherd, Bokani Dyer Trio, Amanda Tiffin, Dave Ledbetter, UCT Jazz Voices, UCT BIG BAND, Alvin Dyers, Mageshen Naidoo Quintet, Nicky Schrire, Andrew Lilley, Roland Moses, Alistair Andrews, Mike Rossi and the RBHS Big Band.

**SPONSORS:** The 5th SAJE Jazz Festival was funded/partnered by the **SAMRO Foundation**, the **National Lotteries Commission, Business and Arts SA (BASA)**, the **Italian Institute for Culture (IIC)**, **Brazilian Consulate Cape Town** and **Paul Bothner Music**

**SAJE WEBSITE:** [www.saje.org.za](http://www.saje.org.za)

**FESTIVAL website:** <http://sajejazzfestival2017.weebly.com/>



### SAJE-AJF 2017 student-teacher cultural exchange project

This is the sixth year of the **SAJE International Student-Teacher Cultural Exchange Project** in conjunction with the **Arcevia Jazz Feast (Italy)** and **UCT (South Africa)** - an initiative of **Professor Mike Rossi** from the SA College of Music at UCT and SAJE President (2012-2016).

Italian jazz guitarist/composer/educator **Roberto Zechini** conducted workshops and performed in Cape Town from 18 to 30 April and also participated in the **5<sup>th</sup> SAJE Jazz Festival**. His trip to South Africa was sponsored by the **IIC - Italian Institute for Culture** in Pretoria.

Saxophonist **Federico Zoppi**, guitarist **Thomas Lasca** and vocalist **Marta**

**Guilioni** from Italy spent 2 weeks in Cape Town at the end of April – studying at UCT, performing and participating in the **5<sup>th</sup> SAJE Jazz Festival**.

The UCT student recipients of the **2017 SAJE – AJF cultural exchange bursary** to Italy were **Marco Maritz** (trumpet) and **Sean Sanby** (bass). They spent two weeks in Italy at the **ARCEVIA JAZZ FEAST** along with Prof **Mike Rossi** during August.

**\*EDITOR:** Please visit the **SAJE** website [www.saje.org.za](http://www.saje.org.za) and the **Arcevia Jazz Feast** website [www.arceviajazzfeast.it](http://www.arceviajazzfeast.it) for more information



### SAJE - OUTREACH workshops project 2017



Thanks to a grant from the **National Lotteries Commission**, SAJE has been able to continue its "*Education through Workshops*" project during 2017.

Workshop facilitators include: William Haubrich (brass-UCT), Mike Rossi (woodwinds – UCT), Nat Adderley Jnr (USA), Gordon Vernick (brass-USA), Guilherme Ribeiro (Brazil), Bokani Dyer (piano-SA), Roberto Zechini (guitar – Italy), Pat Harbison (brass – USA), Jamaal Baptiste (piano-USA), Nicky Schrire (voice – UCT), McCoy Mrubata (saxophone- SA), Bongani Sotshononda (SA)



Gordon Vernick



Bokani Dyer



William Haubrich and Mike Rossi

## CONCERTS SA School Circuit 2017

SAJE has been involved with the **CONCERTS SA School Circuit** since 2015. SAJE focuses on live music performances for communities on the Cape West Coast. Cape Town future afro band **TheCITY** performed and conducted workshops at schools on the Cape West Coast, as well as the **Mike Rossi Quartet** featuring **Nomfundo Xaluva**, and **JITSENIC (duo and quartet)** during 2015 and 2016. The **Lana Crowster Band** has performed numerous concerts for the Cape West Coast communities during 2017.



Eugene, Lana, Ludwe and Keagan



\***Concerts SA** is a joint South African/Norwegian live music development project which aims to support the growth of the live music sector in South Africa. It also aims to develop an interest in and appreciation of live music by showcasing music performances and conducting workshops at schools.

Please visit [www.concertssa.co.za](http://www.concertssa.co.za) for more information.



Ludwe Danxa - Weston High School, Vredenburg

## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2018



2018 is going to be an amazing year as the **Cape Town Big Band Jazz Festival** celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> year.

Please diarise: Wednesday 30 May, Thursday 31 May, Friday 1 June and Saturday 2 June 2018 at the Baxter Concert Hall in Cape Town!

Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think we would have reached this milestone. The CTBBJ Festival started off in 1999 as a one night fundraiser for a community project, not ever thinking we would get encouragement from the participating schools and the public to make it an annual event.

SACS High School - Andrea Rutter, Bishops - Shannon Mowday, Beau Soleil - Frank Mallows and the SA College of Music with Mike Campbell, set the ball rolling. For the first few years the Festival was showcased on one night only, but over the years due to the number of schools initiating big bands in their music department and wanting to be involved in the Festival we increased from two, three and now four nights.

Over the years many, many musicians have taken to the stage at the Festival and have followed their dream to attend the College of Music and then have gone on to achieve amazing music careers nationally and internationally. Too many to mention! If you have participated in the Festival during the past 20 years, please get in touch and let me know what you are up to now.

To all the schools, clinicians, musicians, guest artists who have participated in the Festival during this time, a BIG THANK you for your support and encouragement to "keep going". It has been a great pleasure for me to organize this annual Festival and I have made many great friends along the way.

Dennis thanks you for leaving us this legacy.  
Here's to the next 20 years!

Ann Barr

Email: [ctbigbandjazzfest@gmail.com](mailto:ctbigbandjazzfest@gmail.com)

# MUIZENBERG JAZZ FESTIVAL 2017



**The first ever Muizenberg Jazz Festival is taking place on the 13th and 14th October 2017 at the Masque Theatre in Muizenberg, Cape Town.**

Tucked in between iconic Surfers Corner and Muizenberg mountain peak, the Masque Theatre's proximity to main roads, highways, and public transport makes world-class entertainment easily accessible to all people coming from anywhere and by any means.

This year's lineup will feature 10 Jazz acts, each performing an hour long set over the course of the two evenings, as well as a photographic exhibition in the foyer of the theatre.

The festival offers diverse jazz genres such as Classic Jazz, Contemporary Jazz, Afro Jazz, Cape Jazz and World Jazz as well as a Big Band performance.

The incredible lineup includes performances by award winner Bokani Dyer and McCoy Mrubata as well as the Ella Fitzgerald Tribute Show A' LA ELLA! headed by US Singer Yvette Norwood-Tiger.

The Masque Theatre comfortably seats an audience of 165 and is built and equipped to provide a high-fidelity, uninterrupted listening and viewing experience, making Muizenberg Jazz Festival a delightful festival for listeners, musicians and spectators alike.

The Festival vision lies in three main criteria: to provide a place for the artist and art form to thrive, to thoroughly entertain our audience, and to leave the surrounding community and audience enlightened, engaged and enriched.

**\*Workshops organized by SAJE (South African Association for Jazz Education) will take place on Saturday 14th October at the Masque Theatre. Free admission. Bring your instrument!  
11h00: Bongani Sotshononda, 12h00: Bokani Dyer, 13h00 LUNCH, and 14h00 McCoy Mrubata**



## PROGRAM

### Friday 13 October

16h30 Opening of Gregory Franz Photography Exhibition

18h30 Muriel Marco – ND Project. *World Jazz*

20h00 Bokani Dyer Solo Piano. *Contemporary Jazz*

21h30 Hanepoot Big Band. *Big Band / indigenous compositions*

23h00 Bongani Sotshononda and the United Nations of Africa. *Afro Jazz*

### Saturday 14 October

17h00 MSMF. *Contemporary Jazz*

18h30 McCoy Mrubata Band. *Afro Jazz*

20h00 Yvette Norwood-Tiger. A' LA ELLA! Ella Fitzgerald 100 Years Tribute show

21h30 Buddy Wells Quartet. *Contemporary Jazz*

23h00 Ramon Alexander Band. *Cape Jazz / Contemporary Jazz*

## BUY TICKETS

Tickets can be purchased via WEBTICKET

<https://www.webtickets.co.za/event.aspx?itemid=1473625563>

## LINKS

Website: [www.muizenbergjazzfestival.com](http://www.muizenbergjazzfestival.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/muizenbergjazzfestival>

Twitter: @MuizJazzFest

Instagram: @muizenbergjazzfestival

## PARTNERS

Muizenberg Festival, Paul Bothner Music (providing the backline for the event), The Masque Theatre, X Music Entertainment, SAJE – South African Association for Jazz Education, Ian-Burgess Simpson Pianos

## CONTACT:

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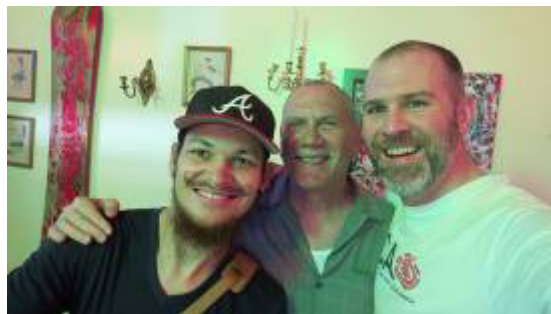


## NEWS FROM CAPE TOWN



The **UCT BIG BAND** directed by Mike Rossi has had a busy and exciting year thusfar. Some performance highlights include: **5<sup>th</sup> SAJE Jazz Festival** (April), **Baxter Concert Hall** (April), **Jazz at the Nassau** and **The CRYPT** (May), **Cape Town Big Band Jazz Festival** (June) and **BAXTER THEATRE** (Morning Melodies Concert with the *UCT Jazz Voices*), the **National Youth Jazz Festival** in Grahamstown (July) – tribute to Dizzy Gillespie, **SAMRO Concert at The BAXTER Concert Hall** with the *UCT Jazz Voices* (August) and **The CRYPT** (August) plus there are various other performances scheduled during September, October and November in Cape Town. Please visit their facebook page for more info: <https://www.facebook.com/UCTBigBand/>

**DAN SHOUT:** In July 2017 I travelled to Atlanta, Georgia for one week to visit friend, jazz historian, trumpeter and co-ordinator of Jazz Studies at Georgia State University, Dr. Gordon Vernick. I was very lucky to have consultations with his piano lecturer, Kevin Bales, sax teacher, Mace Hibbard and travel to Kennesaw State University for a lesson with saxophonist, Sam Skelton who are all master players and wonderful people. I also met up with Capetonian, Darren English, who graduated his Masters Degree in jazz studies from Georgia State a little more than a year ago and who is playing better than ever and enjoying life in Atlanta. I was fortunate enough to attend several jam sessions and concerts whilst in Atlanta and it was a pleasure and a privilege to meet, hear and jam with some of the top musicians in Atlanta. I'd like to thank Dr. Gordon Vernick for hosting me and showing me the wonderful jazz scene in Atlanta! [www.DanShout.co.za](http://www.DanShout.co.za)



**Ramon Alexander:** Sunday 24 September Heritage Day, kwaSec, Gugulethu

**Tutu Puoane Quartet:** Sunday 8 October, Khayelitsha Isivivana Centre

**Nomfundo Xaluva:** Sunday 22 October, Guga Sthebe, Langa

**Mandla Mlangeni and the TRC:** Sunday 26 November, kwaSec, Gugulethu

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/nativeyards/>



## TUTU PUOANE QUARTET

Tutu Puoane – voice, Ewout Pierreux – piano, Nic Thys – bass  
Dre Pallemmaerts – drums

**Thursday 5 October & Friday 6 October: 8pm**

SABC Auditorium, Beach Road, Sea Point, Cape Town

Presented by SoulFactory Records

**Sunday 8 October: 4pm**

Isivivana Centre, Khayelitsha, Cape Town

Presented by Jazz in the Native Yards



## ROBERTO GATTO TRIO

<http://www.robortogatto.com/>

**Drum Masterclass: Wednesday 11 October 2017**  
**SA College of Music, UCT**

## Learning to Teach - Teaching to Learn - Nicky Schrire



I started teaching when I was a student at the SA College of Music. I was an aural tutor and appreciated getting to play “teacher teacher” and earn some extra income. Towards the end of my degree, I was hired as a part-time saxophone teacher at Wynberg Girls’ High School. Out of my depth (and out of love with the instrument), I’d drag my feet into the school to teach beginner saxophonists, trying desperately to remember a time when I didn’t know how to fit the reed into the ligature, or I had to think twice about which finger action resulted in a “G” note. After I’d moved to New York to embark on an intensely steep learning curve, I experienced a newfound confidence when I returned to South Africa. Suddenly, due to good fortune, I’d experienced things and learnt lessons that I could share with students back home. I had something to offer. I felt empowered and my confidence as a teacher grew. I could lead eighty Rustenburg High students in a circle-singing workshop, or give a master class to jazz students at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. But, perhaps, the biggest teaching lesson came in the form of a single phrase delivered during graduate

school. Chris Rosenberg, my pedagogy lecturer at the Manhattan School of Music, was an avuncular, engaging, and infinitely wise man (and also a sublime jazz guitarist). Midst drawing up imaginary course curricula and lesson plans, he gave us this nugget of gold: Teach the student, not the subject.

I’ve been a part-time lecturer at the SA College of Music for nearly two years now. I love working with university-level students, and specifically those interested in studying jazz. I don’t consider myself a jazz musician anymore, but I have a newfound appreciation for why jazz is an invaluable foundation-not just for other musical genres, but for life. Can you think on your toes if something goes awry? Can you adapt quickly and successfully? Can you work with others? Can you put your own stamp on something you didn’t necessarily create? I’m aware that I don’t have an education degree-both my undergrad and Masters were performance degrees. So, every lesson and student that I teach is an invaluable opportunity for me to learn more about teaching. Here are some aspects of the work that have encouraged, challenged and surprised me (likely not news to more experienced teachers! But, perhaps, useful for newer teachers like myself):

-Don’t forget to teach an approach or practising methodology to the student before teaching the subject. This has been particularly true when teaching improvisation, especially for singers. Many students never learnt how to practise. They don’t know the power of repetition; how to break up longer phrases into smaller, bite-sized pieces for efficient practice; or how struggling through written transcription will halve the time it takes to learn a solo. It’s also worth remembering that in teaching the student, not all students learn the same way. Some pupils are theoretically minded while others run a mile at the mention of chordal analysis and tritone substitutions. Find a system that works for the student, e.g. working intervallically; working aurally; in-class repetition; relating concepts back to theory.

-The psychology of learning an instrument is fascinating. I can see a student shut down mentally when they don’t understand a concept. Some students become visibly frustrated and angry, while others retreat and mentally check out of the lesson, though they remain physically in the classroom. How do you coax someone back into engagement when all they want to do is escape frustration and confusion? It’s different for every person, but I’ve learnt not to push students to grasp concepts immediately. My own experience has taught me that most of what I learnt at university only made sense years after graduation. Maybe it’s the great aggravation and joy that hindsight delivers. It’s only with the benefit of time spent away from a subject that we are able to sift through information and finally absorb it.

-I love being a student. My past teachers are the most revered figures in my life, even decades after learning with many of them. And my singing teachers were particularly influential in offering support and guidance as I was discovering how to be a musician, and how to be and sound like myself. Each lesson had therapeutic effects and benefits and I’ve sorely missed having a teacher figure in my life. I recently started having lessons with a wonderful teacher in Cape Town. Her methodology combines Alexander Technique, eurythmy and classical techniques. It is difficult for me to understand and to practise, but it’s precisely because it is challenging and foreign to me that I return, week after week. But I’ve also realised that learning again is expanding my offerings as an educator. When I identify a student’s vocal challenges but feel stumped as to what a possible antidote may be, I discuss the issue with my teacher. Not only does she offer exercises to correct the niggles, but I walk away understanding the anatomical cause of the problem. It is my version of teacher-training.

Mostly what I’ve realised is that if I’m not learning from another teacher, from an experience, or from the students themselves, then I’m a teacher with limited abilities.

# Mentorship and training opportunities for radio journalists (audio and writing) and studio presenters - Cape Town

All Jazz Radio has an internet radio studio in Claremont, Cape Town, for those wanting to develop such functional skills as:

- ❖ how to use a radio software for broadcasting,
- ❖ how to conduct interviews with artist live in the studio,
- ❖ how to make pre-recorded interviews;
- ❖ how to develop the website and update playlists for effective communication.

This internet radio station broadcasts “live” on the net around the clock, 24/7, and mostly supports South African and African music in the jazz and blues genres while honouring the wealth of jazz talents from the Global Village.

For other informational exchanges about South African and African Jazz, Blues, Latin and World Jazz, AJR hosts several blogs to reach wider audiences. For those wanting to hone their journalism and critique skills, AJR can facilitate:

- ❖ writing up reviews about newly released and older albums,
- ❖ reporting about live gigs in and around South Africa and beyond,
- ❖ attending and reporting about venues hosting jazz concerts, some pairing with other social events,
- ❖ reporting about any music and food festivals that support the world of jazz.

An exciting component in AJR’s repertoire is **interviewing artists**, both local and international, as they gig through our shores. See [www.alljazzradio.co.za](http://www.alljazzradio.co.za) for these sections.

The vision of All Jazz Radio is to be South Africa, Africa and the World’s pre-eminent Internet Jazz Social Lifestyle Radio Station and an essential broadcaster of good jazz music in all its various forms with Blues, Latin and World Jazz being an integral part of the broadcast mix, enriching the social, cultural, educational and community experience of the listening audience.

Audience development as well as artist promotion is key, and the above opportunities would boost jazz education immensely for those wishing to join the AJR digital community. To discuss further any ‘hands-on’ work with AJR, please contact the AJR administrators: Eric Alan, a long-time jazz radio presenter on various South African terrestrial radio stations, or Carol Martin, a long-time member of SAJE (former Board member), AJR blogger/writer, and music enthusiast. Any work with AJR is strictly voluntary, unless suitable funds are found to sustain further growth of the station.

Eric Alan: 082 456 2195 Email: [eric@alljazzradio.co.za](mailto:eric@alljazzradio.co.za)  
Carol Martin: 082 740 2829 or 021 434 7237 Email: [seawave@iafrica.com](mailto:seawave@iafrica.com)

Download and listen to All Jazz Radio online via any of the following;

Online Radio Box at <http://onlineradiobox.com/za/alljazzra/?cs=za.alljazzra>

TuneIn at <http://tunein.com/radio/All-Jazz-Radio-s185300/>

Streema at [http://streema.com/radios/All\\_Jazz\\_Radio\\_2](http://streema.com/radios/All_Jazz_Radio_2)

All Jazz Radio/NetDynamix at <http://alljazzradio.ndstream.net/flashplayer.htm>

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/AllJazzRadio](http://www.facebook.com/AllJazzRadio)

Twitter - [@AllJazzRadioSA](https://twitter.com/AllJazzRadioSA)

Website - <http://www.alljazzradio.co.za> Also on the ‘TuneIn Radio’ app



An opportunity exists to cover the **Muizenberg Jazz Festival** in mid-October on behalf of **All Jazz Radio**, working with Carol Martin doing interviews and reporting, and/or with Eric at the radio controls broadcasting and/or preparing programs. Please contact either Carol or Eric if you are interested.

**\*See page 5 of this newsletter for more details**



# Standard Bank Jazz Festival, Grahamstown 2017

(Incorporating the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival)

## Support funding from:

Concerts South Africa  
ProHelvetia Johannesburg  
Swedish Arts Council

Music Norway  
Royal Netherlands Embassy  
Swiss Arts Council

østnorsk  
SAMRO

Paul Bothner Music  
Spedidam



350 students, 45 teachers and 80 musicians descended upon the small university town of Grahamstown to attend the annual SBNYJF which took place concurrent with the National Arts Festival, from 3 – 8 July 2017 at the Music School of the Diocesan School for Girls (DSG). This festival sits at the forefront of every jazz student's mind and is undoubtedly the place to be if one is going to take jazz seriously as a career. The friendships that are formed and the networking opportunities for both students and musicians alike are of the most positive aspects to come out of the festival. The quality of the jazz is a given.

Every day, each course participant was able to rehearse in a big band or vocal group and chose to attend an array of workshops and electives on jazz topics such as improvisation, jazz history, music technology, instrumental clinics, composition or jazz harmony. These were led by a collection of some of the best professional jazz players and educators in the country as well as visiting foreign teachers and performers.



## NATIONAL BANDS

Two national bands were chosen at the Festival: the STANDARD BANK NATIONAL SCHOOLS' JAZZ BAND (age limit 18 on 1/1/2017, and attending high school) and the STANDARD BANK NATIONAL YOUTH JAZZ BAND (age limit 26 on 1/1/2017). The SBNSBB was conducted by **Kelly Bell** and the SBNYJB by **Buddy Wells**.

## The Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band 2017



Back: L-R Daniel van der Walt (Vocals), Muneeb Hermans (Trumpet), Nicholas Pitman (Guitar), Godfrey Mntambo (Alto), Dalisu Ndlazi (Bass)

Front: L-R Tshiamo Nkoane (Drums), Buddy Wells (Conductor), Zibusiso Makhathini (Piano), Thami Mahlangu (Tenor)

The Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band 2017 will be performing at the **Standard Bank Joy of Jazz Festival** at the Sandton Convention Centre on Friday, 29 September.

## The Standard Bank National Schools' Big Band 2017



Back: L-R Iain Hutcheson (Bass), Jason le Roux (Alto), Chris Cloete (Piano), Michael Hoyle (Tenor), Bradley Mulligan (Trumpet)

Middle: L-R Jason Winde (Drums), Luke Borain (Alto), Fabian Pludderman (Trumpet), Lukas Urban (Trombone), Sabelo Hlatshwayo (Trombone), Moses Sebola (Tenor), Krischan Mumbi (Trumpet), Nthato Padi (Vocals)

Front: L-R Eldene Bruiners (Trumpet), Imke Muhr (Trombone), Chrischea Buys (Vocals), Kelly Bell (Conductor), Lise Siebert (Baritone), Emily Webster (Bass Trombone), Uviwe Caso (Guitar)

### **DATES for 2018**

- National Arts Festival runs from 28 June – 8 July 2018.
- Standard Bank Jazz Festival, Grahamstown runs from 28 June – 7 July 2018.
- Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival, Grahamstown runs from 27 June – 02 July 2018.
- Applications for 2018 will only be made available in mid-February 2018.

## Some highlights from 2017



Tumi Mogorosi



Kyle Shepherd



Shannon Mowday, Shane Cooper



Anton Goudsmit (NL)



Deborah Tanguy (FR) & Amanda Tiffin



Zoë Modiga



The Kiffness feat. Matthew Gold



Bombshelter Beast



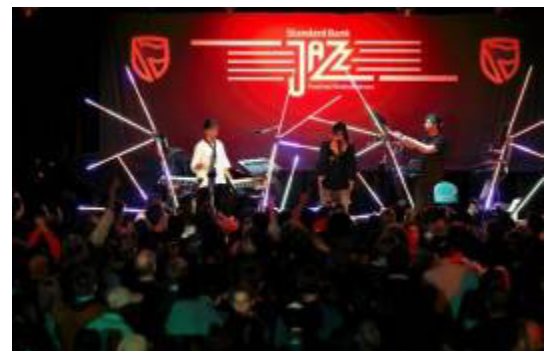
Reza Khota



Michael Pipoquinha & Mestrinho (BR)



Zenzi Makeba Lee & Afrika Mkhize



Goodluck



Multi-Instrumentalist, James Morrison (Australia)



Benjamin Jephta – Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz 2017

# JAZZ NEWS from NMMU - by John Edwards

## 1. Jazz Jam Sessions at The Bird Street Music Campus

Earlier this year, NMU jazz studies lecturer John Edwards initiated a regular jazz session on Wednesday evenings in the intimate concert venue at the NMU Bird Street Music Campus in Central. For each session there has been a different house band led by a local jazz player and the support for the sessions is growing amongst students, professional musicians and the jazz-loving public. The most recent jam session took place on 30 August and the local jazz multi-instrumentalist Kora X led the house band.

## 2. Jazz at the South Campus Auditorium

The Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University Music Department was proud to host **The Mike Rossi Project** – in association with **Concerts SA** - in the South Campus auditorium on Thursday 11 May. The sextet features a stellar lineup of Cape own-based musicians, namely, Mike Rossi (woodwinds), William Haubrich (trombone), Lee Thomson (trumpet/flugelhorn), Andrew Ford (piano), Charles Lazar (acoustic bass) and Kevin Gibson (drums). The band also sat in on a rehearsal with the **NMMU Big Band** which proved to be a lively and enriching session for all concerned.



**Concerts SA** also enabled a concert by two pianists in a unique collaboration titled *Where Worlds Collide* which took place on 12 June. Kathleen Tagg and Andre Petersen combined classical music, jazz improvisation and indigenous music from southern Africa to explore the diverse realms of sound that can be created with two pianos. Kathleen and Andre also conducted an interactive workshop in the afternoon before the concert for a group of eager and appreciative students.

## 3. Jazz Scholarship Competition

The Nelson Mandela University Department of Music's annual Jazz Scholarship Concert will be taking place on 14 September 2017 at 19:30 in the South Campus Auditorium. Auditions were held for all jazz students on 1 September 2017 where the following finalists were chosen: Bevin Maschaka (drums), Timon Oosthuizen (drums), Tiago Vital (bass), Asemahle Tsholoba (vocals), Hezron Armoed (guitar) and Luvuyo Plum (guitar). The finalists' performances will reflect the best of what the Music Department's jazz programme has to offer. It is the collective responsibility of the finalists to produce and present the concert with regards to the pieces they will play and the musicians with whom they will work.



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## News from UNISA - by Karendera Devroop



**The Unisa Music Foundation** completed a successful national voice competition that included both classical and jazz voice categories. The winner of the jazz voice category was Tshepo Tshabala and runner-up was Daniella Hart both from Gauteng. Both winners gain automatic entry into the **Unisa International Voice Competition** that will take place in January/February 2018. The international voice competition will bring 30 of the world's best jazz and classical vocalists to compete at Unisa. Jury for the national voice competition included Debbi Mari, Prof



Mageshen Naidoo, Nthabiseng Motsepe, Amanda Tiffin and Nicky Schrire with Karen Devroop as jury chairperson for both the jazz and classical juries.



Addison Frei (USA) winner of the **Unisa International Jazz Piano competition** recently completed a national tour (which was a part of his prize) with concerts in Pretoria, Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town. Addison, a graduate of the University of North Texas and former pianist with the One O' Clock Lab Band also won the Montreux International Jazz Piano Competition in July of this year. Jury for the international jazz piano competition included Kevin Harris (USA – Berklee College of Music), Andrea Vicari (UK – Trinity College), Peter Beets (Netherlands – Amsterdam Conservatory), Denny Euprasert (Thailand – Rangsit Conservatory) and Melvin Peters (South Africa).

Unisa in partnership with the **SAMRO Foundation** and **Joy of Jazz Festival** completed a successful Jazz Cultural Exchange to the Netherlands. A jazz ensemble comprised of Karen Devroop (saxophone), McCoy Mrubata (saxophone), Mageshen Naidoo (guitar), Roland Moses (piano) Lindiwe Maxolo (voice), Mandla Mlangeni (trumpet), Concord Nkabinde (electric bass), Marc Duby (upright bass) and Kevin Gibson (drums) performed four concerts at the Amersfoort Jazz Festival including the festivals opening concert. In exchange, a Dutch ensemble of 11 musicians led by Alexander Beets travelled to South Africa for concerts at Unisa, Joy of Jazz Festival and the Orbit.



Karen Devroop presented the second of his South African Jazz Songbook concerts with the **Sanremo Symphony Orchestra** in Italy. The SA Jazz Songbook is a project in which he arranged 14 historical South African jazz compositions for saxophone, rhythm section and full orchestra. The sold out concert was a tremendous success with additional concerts scheduled with orchestras in Italy, Germany and the USA in 2018.

**New York Round Midnight** which is a jazz theatre production combining a nine piece jazz ensemble, video and narration was put together by Karen Devroop a stellar group of musicians. The production takes audiences on a journey into 42<sup>nd</sup> Street around midnight in the 1940's by visiting jazz clubs, learning about the legendary jazz artists that performed at the clubs and performing arrangements of their music. **New York Round Midnight** was produced by Alexander Beets and sold out over 400 theatres in the Netherlands. **NYRM South Africa** was the first time the production was performed in South Africa and included Karen Devroop (saxophone), Ntsikelelo Ncwabe (trumpet), Lethabo Kgoadi (trombone), Nolo Ntsoko (tenor saxophone), Mageshen Naidoo (guitar/vocals), Nthabiseng Motsepe (vocals), Marc Duby (bass), Roland Moses (piano) and Rob Watson (drums).



Unisa in collaboration with Oberlin Conservatory conducted a series of jazz workshops and concerts in Pretoria, Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town. The ensemble comprised of Bobby Ferrazza (guitar), head of jazz studies at Oberlin Conservatory, Karen Devroop (saxophone), Michael Ode (drums -Oberlin Conservatory), Roland Moses (piano - TUT), and Max Weiner (bass - Oberlin Conservatory) focused on developmental programmes and universities across the country.



The collaboration between Unisa and Oberlin will continue this year when one of Unisa's tutors Tshepiso Ledwaba heads to Oberlin Conservatory for 3 years to train to become a Steinway trained and certified piano technician. Unisa is also working with Yamaha SA to train two of their tutors to become Yamaha trained and certified brass and woodwind repair technicians.

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## NEWS from TUT - Tshwane University of Technology

**2017 UNISA National Vocal competition (Jazz):** Daniella Hart (2nd) and Tshepo Tshabala (1st)

**SAMRO overseas scholarship piano competition (Jazz):** Ntando Ngcapu (winner, Teboho Kobedi (Anton De Waal prize)

## NEWS from UKZN and DURBAN

**UKZN** was well represented at the recent UNISA National Voice Competition. Keorapetse Kolwane (Advanced Diploma in Music) and Kwena Ramahuta (BMus graduate) were selected to take part in the competition, with Kwena singing his way into the semi-finals and also winning the Shadow Jury prize. Jazz voice lecturer, Debbie Mari was a member of the 2017 Panel. Debbie also joins the panel of a new international online competition for emerging and professional Jazz musicians called *7 Virtual Jazz Club* ([www.7virtualjazzclub.net](http://www.7virtualjazzclub.net)).

The **UKZN Big Band** has presented several outreach concerts and workshops at local primary and high schools in Durban in collaboration with the UKUSA Arts Programme – pictured here are learners from Mdepha High School in KwaXimba who were treated to the new arrangements of local House music tracks arranged by Burton Naidoo and the big band members.



In collaboration with EtheKwini Jazz Appreciation Society and Jazz Xpression, UKZN also celebrated **International Jazz Day** in April by presenting several events across the city which included performances by UKZN Music students, young performers from local high schools and professional jazz musicians. Concerts took place at the Centre for Jazz and Popular Music, the Denis Hurley Centre, the Jazzy Rainbow and the Old Beer Hall in the Rivertown precinct. CJPM hosted local high school bands and soloists from various schools including Hilton College, Durban Music School and Crawford College during the weekend celebration and UKZN Jazz Voice students paid tribute to Ella Fitzgerald, in a show which celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her birthdate.

-Debbie Mari

### Heels over Head - Essence Festival, New Orleans

On invite by EThekwini Municipality, Department of Arts & Living Cultures and Essence Festival, the Durban based all-female jazz band **Heels over Head** presented a stunning performance at the Festival in New Orleans on Friday 30 June 2017. John Legend and Diana Ross, Solange and Mary J. Blige, were just some of the performers that were performing alongside Heels over Head at this prestigious festival.

“The girls”, as they are affectionately known, presented a set of their African influenced easy breezy pop jazz, as their signature sound is referred to. They got the audience on their feet and dancing to their rhythmic bass lines and cheerful melodies. The band presented themselves with a sparkling stage presence, looking classy and stylish with an African touch - Thulile Zama (lead vocals), Rebekah Pillay (drums), Lindi Ngonelo (piano), Tebogo Sedumedi (bass) and Chillie Stent (guitar).

The Essence Festival, is an annual music festival which started in 1995, and is the largest event celebrating African-American culture and music in the United States.



Pianist and composer Sibusiso “Mash” Mashiloane’s debut album, *Amanz’ Olwandle* (released in 2016) received 2 awards at the first ever **Mzantsi Jazz Awards**. The Awards aim to recognize excellence in jazz music in South Africa. The award ceremony took place on 11 August 2017 at the Yamaha Theatre in Johannesburg. Mash received the award for Best Jazz Album, that was voted for by the public and Best Contemporary Jazz Album that was decided by a jury. Other nominees in his category included Nduduzo Makhathini, Dumza Maswana, Africa Plus and Bongani Radebe.

“Mash” released his second album *“Rotha – A Tribute to Mama”* on Sunday 27 August 2017 followed by a short tour. He lectures at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and at the Durban Music School. His focus is to teach and organize live music performances with his students focusing on South African composers and in line with this development Mashiloane is currently busy with his PhD focusing on South African music.



**Skokiana's** highly anticipated self-titled album launched at two events on the 26 March and 29 March 2017 in Durban. **Skokiana** performed songs from the album, composed and arranged by Sazi Dlamini, recorded in Durban in 2011. The CD is available online at iTunes, Google Play and other online streaming services like Deezer and Spotify.

**Skokiana** led by UKZN Music Lecturer Dr Sazi Dlamini was founded in 1991 as a quartet, playing in the jazz-influenced township tradition. The original members were Sazi Dlamini on guitar, the late Leonard Rachabane on tenor saxophone, Bongani Sokhela on bass and Jabu Dube on drums. At the time they were all music students at the then University of Natal, Durban. Over more than two decades Skokiana's line-up has included outstanding musicians.

Since 1996 Skokiana has fielded variably-sized groups (from trios up to 17-piece big-band). The sessions (June 2011) released in this volume involved the following line-up of musicians: Sazi Dlamini (composition, voice, guitar, kalimba, isigubhu, percussion), Sithembiso Ntuli (tenor saxophone), Sakhile Simani (trumpet, fluegelhorn), Sibusiso 'Bernard' Mndaweni (bass) and Kgosietsile 'Paki' Peloele (drums, congas)

In April **The Sankofa Band** launched their cd at The Centre for Jazz & Popular Music (CJPM), UKZN, Durban.

Drawing its inspiration from the Sankofa bird, a Ghanaian symbol of the return of diasporic Africans to the motherland, the Sankofa band is a true representation of moving forward whilst looking back. With matured sounds honouring the traditions of jazz and sounds of today that tell stories of modern day life, this collective of South Africa's great jazz musicians are led by Professor Salim Washington.

Neil Gonsalves (piano), Sbu Zondi (drums), Dalisu Ndlazi (bass), Siyanda Zulu (trumpet), Phumlani Mtiti (alto and tenor saxophone) and Salim Washington (tenor saxophone, flute, bass clarinet and oboe). On some selections the CD features a four piece vocal choir of students from UKZN.



## NEWS from Darius Brubeck

Internationally, jazz is increasingly considered an important and revelatory area of cultural study, rich in both glamour and hidden histories that feed into many research fields and disciplines. I've included the **Rhythm Changes** website address so you can see what I'm talking about. <http://www.rhythmchanges.net> This year's **Rhythm Changes Conference** in Amsterdam was an opportunity to present some personal reflections on jazz education; highlights, struggles and 'changes' since 1983 when I started as a lecturer at the then University of Natal.

I included a few minutes of American TV news in my presentation that featured Johnny Meko to whom I dedicated my paper, *Anything Goes – But Does It?*

It was my great pleasure to present in a session shared with Prof Chris Ballantine, former head of music at UKZN and participate in many other sessions on a range of jazz topics.

### Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music to Print Tugela Rail

ABRSM (Royal Schools) is adding a solo piano version of 'Tugela Rail' to the Grade VI Piano Syllabus. 'Tugela Rail' was Darius Brubeck's first recording in South Africa in 1984, with Barney Rachabane, alto sax, Sandile Shange, guitar, Marc DUBY, bass, Gabriel Thobajane, percussion and Nelson Magwaza, drums.

### Cathy and Darius Brubeck at STIAS

STIAS stands for Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study and the Brubecks have each been given fellowships to work at STIAS on their 'jazz life' book which covers the years 1983 to 2005. They have a large collection of documents, interviews and personal recordings which they plan to donate to Africa Open, a national archive located at Stellenbosch University.

They will be in Stellenbosch from mid-October through mid-December 2017.

**\*Editor:** The **Darius Brubeck Quartet** and the **Brubeck/Rossi Duo** will perform at various venues in and around Cape Town during December.

# SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR JAZZ EDUCATION



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Individual student ..... R250

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- Associate members will be listed in each newsletter (2-3 per year), on the SAJE website, and in our Festival and Conference programmes and also on our FACEBOOK info page.
- All members will receive notice of upcoming events and reduced rates for event

\*The application form can be downloaded from the SAJE website

\*Please note that membership rates will increase as of January 2018

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\***Honorary life members:** Dennis Tini, Darius Brubeck, Cathy Brubeck and Glynis Malcolm-Smith



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