

19–22 MAY 2022 PROGRAMME
WATFORDJAZZJUNCTION.COM



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FOREWORD

Excellence is at your doorstep!

Having spent so many years travelling internationally as a musician (at one point almost making a permanent migration over the pond), it's clear how much respect the world has for our music scene right here in England.

Now that I've settled just a little outside Watford, I see the constant flow of talent and industry between our famous London studios and venues and our own bustling Herts.

Could there be a better place to host a jazz festival outside London than here?

In our times, so cheered and strengthened by music and its community, I believe the very best in us emerges when we share live music together.

Jazz is the most generous of music; multicultural to the core, inventive, surprising, deeply grooving yet searching. It is a very broad umbrella word for an impassioned musical movement that continues to inspire countless vibrant young bands, as it did in the days of all those famous black and white photographs.

Celebrate the spring this year by enjoying YOUR local festival, and the freedom that we have to be part of something. After all as the legendary Dave Brubeck said, "*Jazz stands for freedom*".

Tim Garland
Kings Langley 2022



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WELCOME TO THE WATFORD JAZZ JUNCTION

Jazz and Watford may not be words you automatically associate with one another. But our fair town is home to an ever-growing number of talented jazz musicians and composers, both professional and amateur. That's why we're absolutely thrilled to present the **Watford Jazz Junction**, Hertfordshire's newest live jazz festival, bringing these artists and jazz lovers together for four absolutely jam-packed days and nights of music, just a stone's throw from the heart of London.

Watford has a proud and diverse musical history, from the vaudeville variety shows at the **Palace Theatre** in the Roaring Twenties, and Gilbert & Sullivan working on *The Mikado* at the **Grim's Dyke Hotel**, through the groovy mod scene of the 1960s at **The Trade** and **Oddfellows**, to becoming the birthplace of rock and pop legends like **Elton John**, **George Michael** and **Andrew Ridgeley** of Wham!, **Geri Halliwell** of the Spice Girls, and legendary drum 'n' bass DJ and producer **LTJ Bukem**. Music, it seems, flows down the River Colne and through Watford's very veins.

And, like Watford, jazz itself is a gumbo of sensibilities, both influence and influencer to everything from American blues and rock and hip-hop to European classical and klezmer to Asian raga and Afrobeat. That's why the Watford Jazz Junction enthusiastically celebrates diversity, by taking a broad and inclusive approach to curating the very best of modern jazz. Our performers and special programmes and events are bringing the flavours of India, Italy, Soho, Harlem and New Orleans – all right here in Watford, right to your doorstep.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the **Arts Council England** and the **National Lottery**, as well as our advertisers and many other sponsors, funders, grant givers and benefactors for their unfailing enthusiasm and belief in our vision, as well as **Watford Council** for their support during this, their extraordinary Centenary Year.

And, of course, our very special thanks to *you*. We're pleased to share our joy and love of jazz with you, and we hope that you love what you hear and see as much as we do, and that the Watford Jazz Junction is as fun and memorable for you to attend as it has been for us to put together.

Chris Newstead
Festival Director



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A GALA SHOW LIKE NO OTHER

Opening night concert
19 May 2022, from 7.30pm
at the Watford Palace Theatre

Tonight we kick things off with a heady mix of accomplished early professional jazz musicians, seasoned professionals, and international stars – all coming together to share the same stage for the first time.

Watford has never hosted such an eclectic one-night jazz line-up before, with drum n bass, world music groove & funk masters,

a full big band playing Count Basie classics and beyond, and a straight-ahead original jazz trio – all on the same billing.

The joy of a festival is being able to do some things you might not ordinarily get to do or hear. That's what our opening night is all about – presenting you an eclectic feast of vibrant performers.



FIRST HALF

The Ilario Ferrari Trio featuring Ilario Ferrari (piano), Charlie Pyne (bass), and Katie Patterson (drums)

Local resident and Italian-born pianist Ilario Ferrari launched his first trio album, *Childhood Memories*, at the start of 2022, capturing a heady mix of Mediterranean vibe and straight-ahead jazz. We're thrilled that Ilario opens our concert and indeed our festival with three pieces chosen from this album, which was composed here in Watford.

Shri Sriram (electric bass, Indian flute, tabla) featuring Dennis Rollins (trombone) and Callum Rose (electronics, guitar & sonic manipulation)

Shri debuted his latest album *The Letter* in Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club on the eve of the global pandemic in early 2020. In 2021, he then reappeared in the Club for a lockdown special with long-time friend and collaborator, trombonist Dennis Rollins MBE, and a new musical venture was cemented – reimagining tracks from *The Letter* as well as mixing in a range of new pieces and styles.

Shri's music always excites with an accessible mix of ambient hard grooves and atmospheric improvisation. And with Dennis's energetic style and Callum Rose's electro ambient beats and textures, we're promised a feelgood factor like no other.

Our hosts tonight are Ruth Fisher, Chris Philips, and, Orphy Robinson OBE.

SECOND HALF

The National Youth Jazz Orchestra directed by Mark Armstrong featuring Tim Garland

Tonight, the National Youth Jazz Orchestra (NYJO) perform their highly anticipated 2022 project, *Basie & Beyond*.

William James Basie's impact on the jazz canon cannot be overstated. He formed the Count Basie Orchestra in 1935 and led the ensemble for over 50 years. Against a backdrop of anti-Black violence and oppression, he brought joy and innovation to the art of Big Band. As jazz transitioned from the dance floor to the concert platform, Basie kept the spirit of swing alive, transforming the music for the Atomic era, but keeping true to the soul of its roots.

In this programme, the NYJO explore the impact on popular music made by Basie and 20th-century Black American artists that followed: Frank Foster, Dizzy Gillespie, Tadd Dameron, Oliver Nelson, Quincy Jones and Thad Jones.

Guest-star Tim Garland needs little introduction in jazz circles, having been sideman to the late Chick Corea across the last 2 decades, picking up global acclaim and a Grammy Award en route. A relatively recent south Herts resident and long-time supporter of the NYJO, we're thrilled that he's playing alongside the orchestra tonight.

NYJO will also be playing a premiere arrangement of *Playground* by Ilario Ferrari.

Our concert grand piano tonight has been kindly supplied by Yamaha UK.

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MORE ABOUT THE ARTISTS

SHRI SRIRAM

Shri is a BASCA British Composer Award winning composer, musician and producer, who initially trained on tabla before developing a unique style of playing his self-made fretless bass. He is one of the pioneers of the Asian Underground scene with Outcaste Records, developing his ground-breaking electro-acoustic sound with Badmarsh&Shri.

Shri has composed and produced music for theatre, dance and feature film. His music has been placed within global advertising campaigns (such as BP & Pantene Pro-V) and on TV shows (including CSI & Top Gear). He has featured live at Glastonbury Festival, on *Later with Jools Holland*, at the Montreux & London Jazz Festivals, and has remixed tracks for De La Soul, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Kronos Quartet and Asha Bhosle, to name a few.

He composed the promo tune for Ang Lee's *Life of Pi* and his collaborations include a cutting-edge brass band, sitar, bass and drums project, *Just A Vibration*. His latest album, *The Letter*, for Jazzland Recordings, features Bugge Wesseltoft, Arild Andersen, the late Paolo Vinaccia, Tore Brunborg and Ben Castle.

DENNIS ROLLINS MBE

A passionate performer and educator, British trombone player Dennis Rollins has established a reputation as an artist of excellence. He has lent his unique and stylish talents to some of this country's, and indeed the world's, top jazz and pop personalities – such as Courtney Pine, Maceo Parker, Jamiroquai, US3, The Brand New Heavies, Blur, Monty Alexander, Pee Wee Ellis and Jean Toussaint. As a solo artist, he has

recorded five critically acclaimed albums: three with his award-winning band, Badbone & Co, and two with his progressive jazz organ-trio, Velocity Trio.

He's proud to be an exclusive endorsee of UK brass instrument maker, Michael Rath Trombones.

CALLUM ROSE

South London noisemaker Callum Rose (aka Sour Sync) is an emerging producer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist based in Croydon, whose music refreshingly marries natural instrumentation with quirky and current electronic production.

TIM GARLAND

Throughout an international career starting in the late 1980s, Tim Garland has become known as a unique polymath in the UK's music scene. His first break as saxophonist was joining Ronnie Scott's band at the age of 23. Later, he joined Chick Corea as a regular member of several globe-trotting projects over a seventeen-year period including *The Vigil*. Playing tenor and soprano saxes, bass clarinet and flute, he also won a Grammy for his symphonic orchestrations on Corea's *The New Crystal Silence* album from 2007.

He has fulfilled commissions from several of the world's top orchestras, including a double concerto from the LSO, a piano concerto for Gwilym Simcock from The Royal Northern Sinfonia, with whom he went on to record three CDs, a cello and sax concerto from the CBSO, and a sax concerto from the BBC Concert Orchestra.

His creative arranging skills have won much praise from such diverse artists as Jean Luc Ponty, John Patitucci, The Royal Holloway and Westminster Choirs, the

Catalan National Cobla Group, the LPO, the London Session Orchestra, the NYJO, and Chick Corea.

ILARIO FERRARI

Ilario was born in southern Italy in a small city called Terracina. Though his grandfather was a reputed song-writer, Ilario never had the chance to meet him and grew up in a 'non musical' family. He started formal music education as a teenager on guitar, whilst also teaching himself piano and composition.

During this period, Ilario composed a variety of music projects from orchestral works to pop/rock productions. Some of these pieces have been performed in various festivals and concerts throughout Europe.

After graduating from the Licino Refice Conservatory with a first-class degree in jazz piano, he won an EU scholarship and moved to London to work as pianist and composer at Quadra Recording Studios. Whilst there he arranged for a variety of ensembles, including for string players from the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

In 2016, as a band leader/composer, he released *Spread* – an album of songs for modern pop/funk ensemble. Over the past years his style has developed towards integrating classical oriented compositions, jazz improvisation and the philosophy and geometries of the Indian Yogic tradition. His piano quintet *Be Yourself 1* was released in 2019. Today, Ilario lives in Watford, and has recently released a debut album with his new jazz trio featuring Katie Patterson and Charlie Pyne called *Childhood Memories* (nominated one of the best jazz albums of 2021 by *Jazzists* magazine, and broadcasted in many countries including US, Germany, Brazil, and Japan).

NATIONAL YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA

The National Youth Jazz Orchestra (NYJO) is the gateway to the profession for many future stars of the UK jazz scene, and countless musical theatre and session musicians. NYJO's alumni include Guy Barker, Laura Jurd, Mark Nightingale and Amy Winehouse, as well as the leader of the Strictly Come Dancing band Dave Arch (and most of his band members), and music supervisor for the London 2012 Olympics Martin Koch.

The orchestra performs around 35 gigs each year, including the BBC Proms, the EFG London Jazz Festival, European tours with their German and Dutch counterparts BuJazzO and NJJO, and annual residencies at Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club.

TONIGHT'S PLAYERS

Alto Saxophones: James Romaine, Luke Chakrabarti

Tenor Saxophones: Asha Parkinson, Joe Pickering

Baritone Saxophone: George Garford

Trumpets: Ruby Barber (lead), Cameron Lockett, Ucheena Cohen-Shah, Dan Coulthurst

Trombones: Jasper Rose, James Wade-Sired, Matt Cooper, Stevie Williams (bass)

Guitar: Matt Hurley

Piano: Matt Jacobs

Bass: Myra Brownbridge

Drums: James Law

Vocals: Eliana Veinberga

Conductor & musical director: Mark Armstrong

A BRIEF HISTORY OF JAZZ FESTIVALS

by University of Hertfordshire music industry undergraduate Senem Pearson

Jazz festivals are a great opportunity to bring people together to celebrate and share in a style of music that was defined within, and by, the 20th century. More than 100 years after the first popular jazz recordings were made in the US, and now well into the 21st century, jazz remains relevant and appealing to ever-growing audiences throughout the world – with many discovering new acts through attending festivals.

Characterised by complex harmony, syncopated rhythms and improvisation, black musicians in New Orleans developed the jazz style across the first decades of the 20th century. In New Orleans, long considered one of the musical capitals of the US, now famous musicians like Jelly Roll Morton and Louis Armstrong improvised on blues and ragtime forms leading to a new genre of music. Jazz rapidly spread throughout the US, with New York City soon establishing itself as the jazz capital of both America and the world.

Jazz festivals have been a fundamental part of that spread, popping up in many countries with increasingly massive audiences, such as the world-renowned Newport Jazz Festival (US), the Java Jazz Festival (Jakarta), and The Festival International de Jazz de Montreal (Canada), which holds a 2004 Guinness World Record as the world's largest jazz festival for audience numbers – some 2 million people!

Although Newport may arguably be the oldest, and Java and Montreal arguably the biggest, the most inarguably *famous* festival runs in Montreux (Switzerland). Founded

in 1967, the event is held on the shoreline of Lake Geneva, and was originally held in a casino that burned down in 1971 – an incident immortalized in Deep Purple's classic rock song "Smoke on the Water", which details the spectacle of Frank Zappa's set being tumultuously interrupted and "*the gambling house burned down*". Fires and fury aside, the festival has not just hosted some of the world's greatest jazz musicians (Miles Davis, Dizzy Gillespie, Charles Mingus, Oscar Peterson, Ella Fitzgerald, *et al*) but over the years has also welcomed rock, blues and soul acts including Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, Prince and Etta James. Montreux is a true musical junction.

Back home in the UK, the EFG London Jazz Festival is the country's largest jazz festival, having presented legends over the years from Sonny Rollins to Herbie Hancock, and showcasing the freshest talent, recently Cassie Kinoshi, Cecile McLorin Salvant and Makaya McCraven. The festival, which turns 30 this year, emerged from the Camden Jazz Week, and now runs in multiple venues in the capital every November. I had the pleasure of volunteering with the festival last year (including taking the saxophone master Archie Shepp to an emergency dental appointment, as you do). I can't wait to see what the line-up will be this year – although I hope there'll be less call for dentists!

And whilst the Watford Jazz Junction might be a newcomer amongst these giant festivals of the global scene, we're certainly inspired by them, as we bring a new festival to life here in south Hertfordshire.

JOHN WATSON: PIANOMAN BUSKS – A FREE EVENT

20 May 2022, 11.30am–1.00pm, Queens Road beside the Artria Shopping Centre

Join acclaimed pianist John Watson as he brings jazz to the streets of Watford.

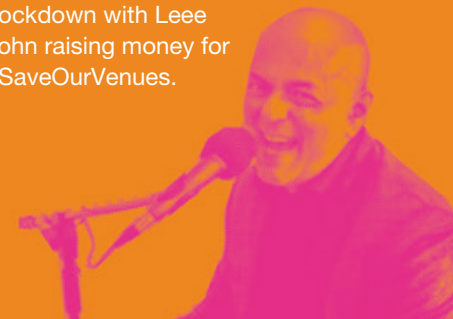
John Watson is a singer, pianist, keyboard player and songwriter. A graduate of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, John has performed worldwide at venues including: Four Seasons Hotel, The

Dorchester, Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club, Pizza Express Live, JVC Jazz Festival Paris, Grand-Hôtel Du Cap-Ferrat Music Festival, The St Regis New York, The Langham London, Park Hyatt Saigon and

guest artist on the Dave Koz Smooth Jazz Cruise.

Noted for his vast and varied repertoire, John is a respected accompanist, working with artists including Lee John, Mica Paris and Sister Sledge. John has recorded several albums and EPs, composed music for the BBC and was commissioned by international furniture company PGT-Reclaimed to compose their company song Reclaimed.

John was featured on the #64BigBandProject music video to raise funding for Médecins Sans Frontières and Woodbridge Festival 2020 Lockdown with Lee John raising money for #SaveOurVenues.



BEAT MAKERS: JAZZ DRUMMING WORKSHOP

20 May 2022, from 4.00pm, at the Purcell School for Young Musicians

Renowned jazz drummer George Double is taking local students and all those interested in jazz drumming through a journey to explore, understand and even better their own techniques.

Joined by star bass player Geoff Gascoyne, George will be exploring groove ideas, technique, soloing and rhythmic understanding, and there are opportunities for everyone to join in and have fun. No experience or instrument is necessary!

George's playing and recording credits include Dame Shirley Bassey, Grammy Award Winner Jack Jones, Marc Almond, Mica Paris, Ruthie Henshall and Kym Mazelle. His West End and touring theatre record includes stints on *Wicked*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Avenue Q*, *Sinatra* and *Anything Goes*.

He is active on the British jazz scene, and appears regularly at Ronnie Scott's club in London and elsewhere as a freelancer (with Art Themen, John Etheridge, Derek Nash, Chris Ingham and many others). He is also curator of Hadleigh, Southwold and Frinton Jazz Clubs and works as a senior drum kit consultant for Trinity College London.

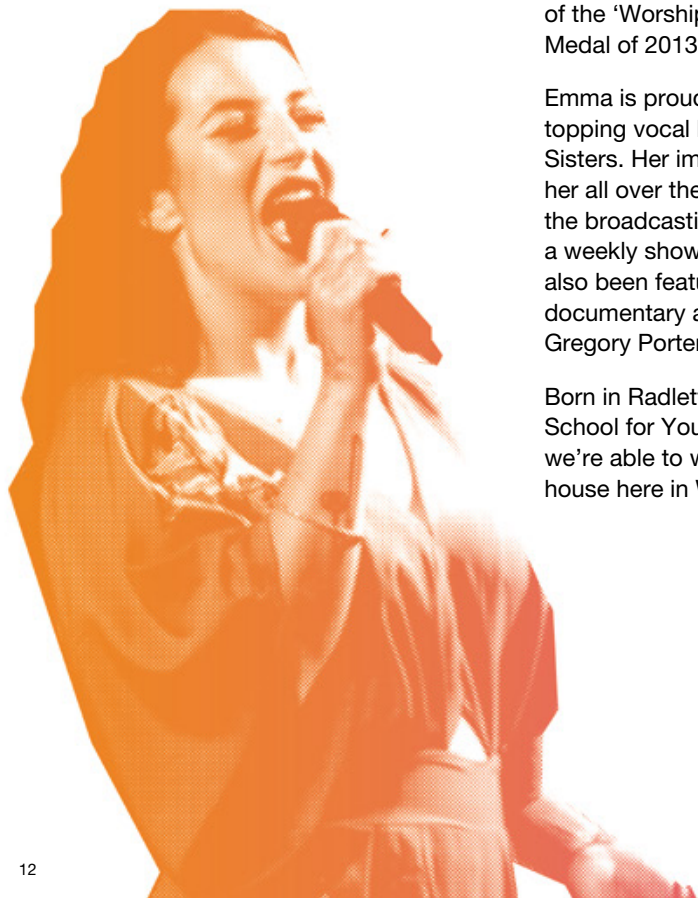


EMMA SMITH'S JAZZ HANG: A PORTRAIT OF ELLA FITZGERALD

20 May 2022, from 8.00pm, at the Blue Check Restaurant

An evening to remember in the company of the Emma Smith and the Jamie Safir Trio, performing their acclaimed show *A Portrait of Ella*.

Ella Fitzgerald is arguably the greatest song stylist and deserving of her titles as the First Lady of Song and the Queen of Jazz. Ella's impeccable diction, phrasing, timing, intonation, and scat-singing are all evoked by Emma through a carefully selected setlist of hit songs, including *Lady Be Good*, *Cheek to Cheek*, *How High the Moon*, and *A-Tisket-A Tasket*.



MORE ABOUT EMMA

Emma Smith is recognised as one of the most exciting voices of her generation, spanning many genres, scenes and stages, and performing from the O2 Arena to the Graham Norton Show, from Ronnie Scott's to the top jazz clubs of NYC.

She has performed and recorded with some of the biggest artists in the world (Michael Buble, Robbie Williams, Georgie Fame and Seal) and has been collecting awards in her own name along the way – the 'London Music Awards rising star of 2015' and winner of the 'Worshipful Company of Musicians Medal of 2013'.

Emma is proudly one-third of the chart-topping vocal harmony group, The Puppini Sisters. Her immersion in music has taken her all over the world and more recently into the broadcasting house, where she hosts a weekly show on BBC Radio 3. She has also been featured in a four-part BBC TV documentary about vocalists, hosted by Gregory Porter.

Born in Radlett and a pupil at the Purcell School for Young Musicians, it's great that we're able to welcome Emma home to a full house here in Watford.

RUTH FISHER'S JAZZ HANGOVER: A PROSECCO BRUNCH FEATURING PETE AND IMMY CHURCHILL

21 May 2022, from 10.30am, at the Mercure Watford Hotel

Jazz FM presenter Ruth Fisher hosts a very special jazz brunch in the beautiful Watford Mercure Hotel Function Room: acclaimed jazz musician Pete Churchill will be joined by his daughter and musical sensation Immy Churchill, alongside stellar British jazz legend Dave Whitford on bass.

Together they will be paying tribute to the **Music of Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald**, with a select repertoire of songs from the classic albums Louis and Ella recorded together. We can't think of a better way to start your Saturday.

We are also promised a guest appearance from the award-winning British jazz pianist and composer Nikki Iles, who together with Pete and Immy will be interviewed by Ruth before the music begins.

ABOUT PETE AND IMMY

Currently Head of Jazz Composition at the Royal Academy of Music (RAM) and Head of Jazz Voice at The Brussels Royal Conservatoire, **Pete Churchill** has also had a long and distinguished career as a performer. This includes a few years as a West End Musical Director, a decade and a half as Mark Murphy's accompanist, conductor of Kenny Wheeler's big band and tours with Sheila Jordan. Pete was also Founder/Director of the award-winning London Vocal Project, and this has led to vocal collaborations with Bobby McFerrin, Johnny Dankworth, Norma Winstone, Kenny Wheeler, Mica Paris and, most recently, the late, great Jon Hendricks.

Immy Churchill, now in her second year at the prestigious Royal Academy of Music, is fast becoming one to watch on the London jazz scene. We're delighted that she's appearing here in Watford for the first time. We very much hope to see much more of her in the future!



THE REBIRTH OF COOL

THE COOL

You can find the Cool anywhere, you know. Miles Davis found it sitting on a stoop, snapping its fingers, amidst the concrete canyons of Uptown Manhattan. Chet Baker found it lounging next to a sun-dappled pool on Mulholland Drive, overlooking the deep blue Pacific, sipping a martini and chatting up a starlet whose face you almost recognize. Louis Armstrong stumbled upon the Cool, stuffing its face with beignets and cafe au lait, down where the Mississippi turns the Louisiana mud into gumbo.

The Cool is a traveller; it goes where it pleases, no passport needed. It pops up in Lagos, in Fela Kuti's New Afrika Shrine, swaying to melodic basslines and staccato guitar and sinuous horns; it lingers in the back room of a late-night Tokyo club, looking out on the endless neon; it lurches out of Ronnie Scott's into a mythical, mystic Soho of Burton suits and perfect hair and garters tight as Jimmy Cobb's snare drum. The Cool is everywhere, all the time, if you just know where to look, what alleyways to slip down. Rap gently on the right door and say the magic word and you will be admitted to the presence of the Cool.

THE COOL IS IN WATFORD

Oh, you might not think so, but it's true. The Cool has always been here, sneaking up the railway from Euston on its way North. It lingers in the churchyard of St. Mary's, soothing the ghosts there. It drifts down Market Street and inhales the smell of garam masala and Italian fennel and Polish anise. It lies in wait behind a hundred doors in a hundred terrace houses. The Cool possessed the fingers and tongues of wartime lads and lasses who played Dixieland against the dark and the sound of the bombs, almost a

century ago, and these days it caresses the 808 drum machines and USB microphones of the kids who make music in the back upstairs bedroom, looking out on the garden. It steals your Jerusalem artichokes from your patch up the allotment and feeds them back to you sauteéd in sensuous sound.

The world changes, and the Cool changes with it. The Cool knows that sometimes, in order to survive, seeds must be transplanted once the soil has grown too saturated, and that fertile ground can be found in the most unlikely of places. In fact, that's where the Cool always does best.

The Cool has always been in Watford. And the Cool is here to stay.

Words by Josh Ellis.

Photograph of Tony Kofi – Paul Staples.

All other photographs courtesy of Watford Museum, with many thanks to Christine Orchard (archivist) and Sarah Priestley: watfordmuseum.org.uk

Below: Tony Kofi plays for the Watford Jazz Junction at the Pump House, February 2022. **Opposite Top:** Hosier & Dickenson Watford Band performance in The Broadway, Queens Road, 1993. **Middle:** Arthur Forrester Band at Watford Town Hall, before 1950. **Bottom Left:** R & R Accordion Band, 1940s. **Bottom Right:** Billy Crush and his band, 1939



CONNECT WITH SOMETHING NEW CONCERT: THE WATFORD JAZZ JUNCTION PRESENTS ARCHIPELAGO, JELLY CLEAVER AND SAMUEL SHARP

21 May 2022, from 2.30pm, at the Watford Pump House Theatre

A relaxed drop-in concert showcasing three of the finest original jazz acts in the UK.

Headlining the concert are **Archipelago** (Jazz FM Nominated Act of the Year 2021), alongside a stand-alone show from singer/songwriter **Jelly Cleaver**, and completed by a sonorous performance from saxophone pioneer **Samuel Sharp**.

You can come and go as you wish, as the three sets will be performed across the afternoon between 2.30 and 5pm, with hot food and a full bar available.

This is a very special concert offering an audience the chance to hear from some of the most innovative and ground-breaking jazz musicians working on the UK scene.



ABOUT THE ACTS

ARCHIPELAGO

Archipelago are a genre-defying trio of adventurous musicians, formed out of the North East of England's creative musical underground.

Fronted by multi-instrumentalist and composer Faye MacCalman, their sound is a dreamlike collision of otherworldly atmospheres, heartfelt song-writing and energetic off-kilter rhythms. John Pope plays bass and vocals, with Christian Alderson on drums.

Moving between instruments and effects to create the illusion of a much larger ensemble, before peeling back to their raw, improvisational trio form, Archipelago's uncompromising refusal to fit in one genre makes for a fully charged musical experience.

JELLY CLEAVER

Jelly Cleaver is a guitarist, producer and singer-songwriter based in South London, and has been called 'one to watch for sure' by BBC 6 Music's Gilles Peterson. She's received the Steve Reid Innovation Award, is a Serious Take Five artist, and was nominated for an Ivors Composer Award.

With an eclectic taste in music, Jelly is heavily involved in both the jazz and DIY/post-punk scenes in London. She's also an activist, and a strain of political dissent runs through her music. Alongside her solo project, she also leads disco/jazz seven-piece All Day Breakfast Cafe and spiritual jazz ensemble The Forever Presence.

SAMUEL SHARP

Samuel Sharp is a composer, saxophonist and producer based in London. His recent CV reflects an eclectic mix of work: as a touring musician he has performed

with the likes of Hackney Colliery Band, Augustines, Hollie McNish, Introducing Live (performing DJ Shadow's classic trip-hop record *Endroducing...*) and Stephen Crowe. As a session musician and producer, his collaboration and remix portfolio includes artists as diverse as Phil Selway (Radiohead), Uno Helmersson (The Bridge), Roska, Laura Mvula, Bawrut, Nick Luscombe's Musicity, Beverley Knight and Ben Taylor.

The bulk of his work to date is under the artist name Lossy, and a switch to using his real name represents a new chapter in his career. His latest works reflect a fresh shift in his output as a live performer and composer, using his saxophone and other acoustic instruments alongside live electronic manipulation to create innovative soundscapes that blur the lines between minimalist classical, jazz and electronic music.

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TOMORROW'S WARRIORS TAKEOVER: PRESENTING THE SULTAN STEVENSON TRIO

21 May 2022, from 9.00pm,
at Steinbeck & Shaw

Pianist **Sultan Stevenson** is one of the fastest emerging young artists on the London jazz scene. His trio is already established as an outfit to catch when billed to play live, and is being tipped for success on national and international stages.

Aged only 20, Sultan is an alum of the famed Tomorrow's Warriors jazz artist development programme, and now a member of its Music Leader Faculty. His music combines elements of the African-American jazz tradition as well as his own Caribbean cultural experience.

His approach to composition and playing has already been compared to that of McCoy Tyner and Esbjörn Svensson and, over the past year, his Trio has played standout gigs at Jazz Re:refreshed, the Vortex and the Jazz Café, where the band opened for the great Billy Cobham. Their Pizza Express gig during the 2021 EFG London Jazz Festival was a sell out.

Joining Sultan as a very special guest for our show tonight is a fellow Warriors alum, trumpeter **Mark Kavuma**. Over the last decade Mark has established himself as a key player in London's rapidly expanding jazz scene – firmly rooted in the hard bop tradition, Mark infuses this indelible musical movement with the energy, attitude and swagger of a new generation of creators.

As a bandleader, he has released three albums: *Kavuma* (2018), voted among the best albums of the year by Downbeat magazine, *The Banger Factory* (2019) and *Arashi No Oto* (2021).

A gifted educator and inspirational creative enabler, Mark is an associate Music Leader for the Tomorrow's Warriors programme, and is involved in their professional performance ensembles, including the acclaimed Nu Civilisation Orchestra and Jazz Jamaica All Stars.

Jelly Cleaver will be our host DJ for the evening with a whole lot of jazz groove to keep us dancing into the night.

BAND LINE-UP

Sultan Stevenson – piano
Jacob Gryn – double bass
Joel Waters – drums
Special guest Mark Kavuma – trumpet

MORE ABOUT TOMORROW'S WARRIORS

Tomorrow's Warriors is a pioneering talent development organisation, creative producer, learning and training provider, charity and consultancy specialising in jazz. Founded in 1991 by Queen's Medal for Music recipient **Gary Crosby OBE** and **Janine Irons MBE**, Tomorrow's Warriors helps aspiring young artists from diverse backgrounds discover their magic and achieve creative ambitions.

By nurturing nascent talent and building engaged, culturally diverse audiences, Tomorrow's Warriors has been recognised both nationally and internationally, receiving over fifty awards, including the 2021 **Impact Award** from **Jazz FM**.

Their award-winning alumni include: Moses Boyd, Nubya Garcia, Sheila Maurice-Grey, Cassie Kinoshi and Nerija, Femi Koleoso and Ezra Collective, Binker Golding, Shabaka Hutchings and Sons of Kemet, ESKA, Denys Baptiste, Soweto Kinch, Ben Burrell, Zara McFarlane, Camilla George, CHERISE, Nathaniel Facey and Empirical, Peter Edwards... the list goes on and on.

"Tomorrow's Warriors have changed the musical landscape of Britain. It's as simple as that." **Cerys Matthews, Artist & Broadcaster**

Find out more at tomorrowswarriors.org



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JOHN ETHERIDGE'S BLUE SPIRITS TRIO THE HEART WANTS TOUR WITH JO HARROP

Closing night show 22 May 2022, 8.00pm, at the Rifle Volunteer Pub

When we were planning the Watford Jazz Junction, we wanted to support the venues that helped us when our ideas were just in their infancy – and this includes our very first venue partner, **The Rifle Volunteer Pub** in Oxhey Village. Across the last five years, they've proudly hosted New Orleans street bands, trad bands, and different modern jazz combos, and tonight we're thrilled to bring in some heavy jazz hitters to deliver an extra special night of jazz and blues to really top off our first festival with a bang.

Opening the show, we're delighted to feature **Jo Harrop and her band**, who'll just be completing a national tour of her new album, *The Heart Wants*. Described as "A voice that would give a goosebump goosebumps" (*The Mirror*), "Remarkable" (*Jazzwise*), "An extraordinary talent" (Jo Whiley) and "A very fine jazz singer" (Iggy Pop), a set from Jo and her band will be deep, soulful and full of melodies.

John Etheridge's 'Blue Spirits Trio' features Pete Whittaker (organ) and George Double (drums), celebrating John's love of combining electric guitar and organ. It showcases the bluesier intense side of John's playing. But there are plenty of swing elements augmented by soulful ballads and fiery funk outings. The aim is to groove and move!

JOHN ETHERIDGE

John enjoys a glowing reputation throughout the jazz world and beyond, and has been described by Pat Metheny as, quite simply, "one of the best guitarists". He is a prodigiously gifted and creative player whose approach to music is eclectic as he cheerfully refuses to accommodate – or even acknowledge – artificial musical boundaries.

His range is well illustrated by his years of touring and recording with the iconic Stephane Grappelli, as well as with the legendary jazz-fusion group, The Soft Machine. John is equally at home on acoustic and electric guitar and his willingness to engage with so many styles is matched by his ability to excel in any of them. He has played with John Williams, Yehudi Menuhin, Dizzie Gillespie, Herb Ellis, Mundell Lowe, Nigel Kennedy, Pat Metheny, Birelli Lagrene, Barney Kessel, Vic Juris and countless others.

JO HARROP

Jo was raised on a heady musical diet of Nina Simone, Billie Holiday and Aretha Franklin, and cut her teeth as a session singer working with a host of iconic artists including Neil Diamond, Rod Stewart and Gloria Gaynor.

After moving to London, she quickly established herself as one of the most unmistakable voices in British jazz. Having signed to London-based jazz label Lateralize Records, she recently received a raft of rapturous reviews for *Weathering The Storm*, her debut with guitarist Jamie McCredie. *The Guardian* dubbed it "a little gem of an album: simple, modest and perfect". Beyond the mellifluous perfection of her chocolate and cream voice, there is always a beautifully bruised intimacy at the very heart of Jo Harrop's music. It's almost as if she's staring directly into your soul when she sings.

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JAZZ STEPS AROUND OXHEY VILLAGE

22 May 2022, from 1.00pm, across Oxhey Village

An all-day, family-friendly musical amble around Oxhey Village, reached immediately from Bushey mainline train station. We have more than a dozen free gigs running across the Village, at The Rifle Volunteer, The Villiers Arms, The Load of Hay, The Royal Oak, and The Railway Arms. You and your family can stroll from pub to pub, try different drinks and food, and hear music flowing through the air like never before!

We will also be on Watford Heath outside the Royal Oak and Load of Hay pubs, and – fair weather prevailing – a fantastic classic Corvette car exhibition and of course ice-cream!

LINE-UP

Our acts include: Georgina Jackson, David Gordon, The John Watson Trio, The 10 Bells Rag Band, The St Albans Modern Jazz Quartet featuring Simon Spillett and Anthony Kerr, The Dollis Brook Potato Slappers, Noah Chiari Quintet, Mara Ashton with Ilario Ferrari, Alexander Williams, Ozge Iskit, Brassbound, Neil C Young Trio, Skylark Trio, and The Out of Handers.

FIRST AID, LOST CHILDREN, AND STAYING SAFE

St John's Ambulance will be present on Watford Heath alongside the Watford Jazz Junction Information Point, which is also our Lost Children Point. If you do get separated from any loved ones, please speak with a member of pub staff or any of our stewards and marshals and we'll look to reconnect you as soon as possible.

We've got some lovely marshals and stewards helping us today – please listen to any guidance or advice they might share. And if you see anything out of place or suspicious do let one of them know.

MERCHANDISE

If you're on the lookout for a Watford Jazz Junction T-shirt, hoodie, baseball cap or pen, then look no further than our Information Point on Watford Heath, selling a range of our branded jazz goods.

VENUE AND GIG GUIDE

Correct at time of going to print. Exact times might vary slightly.

THE RAILWAY ARMS

1.00pm Dollis Brook Potato Slappers (bluegrass and street blues)

3.00pm Brassbound (funky ska street party jazz)

4.30pm Skylark Trio (gypsy jazz jam)

THE RIFLE VOLUNTEER

1.15pm St Albans Modern Jazz Quartet featuring Simon Spillett and Anthony Kerr (modern jazz)

3.30pm The Out of Handers (modern jazz and swing with vocals)

8pm John Etheridge and Jo Harrop. *Ticketed event only. SOLD OUT.*

THE VILLIERS ARMS

1.00pm Alexander Williams (modern jazz & blues vocals)

2.15pm Mara Aston and Ilario Ferrari (vocal classic jazz)

4.15pm Georgina Jackson with David Gordon, plus Ozge Iskit (modern jazz and swing)

THE LOAD OF HAY

1.30pm Skylark Trio (gypsy jazz)

3.15pm Bistro Jazz Trio and friends (bebop and modern jazz)

5.00pm Neil C Young Trio (guitar led fusion jazz rock)

ROYAL OAK

1.00pm The Noah Chiari Quintet (bebop and modern jazz)

3.00pm The John Watson Trio (classic and modern jazz)

4.45pm The Ten Bells Rag Band (New Orleans street *heath* music!)

WATFORD HEATH

Classic car display and ice cream (both fair weather dependent)



FULL FESTIVAL LISTINGS

THURSDAY 19 MAY

7.30pm Gala Concert featuring Shri, NYJO and Ilario Ferrari at the Watford Palace Theatre

FRIDAY 20 MAY

11.30am Piano Man – John Watson – buses just off Watford High Street (beside the Atria on Queen Road), kindly supported by the Watford Business Improvement District

4.00pm Beat Makers Rhythm Workshop at Purcell School of Music with George Double

8.00pm Emma's Smith's Jazz Hang – A Portrait of Ella – at the Blue Check Restaurant, Bushey

SATURDAY 21 MAY

10.30am Ruth Fisher's Jazz Hangover featuring Pete and Immy Churchill with Nikki Iles at the Mercure Watford Hotel

THANK YOU

To the Watford Jazz Junction Advisory Committee: Alex Brooks, Alex Murray, Chris Philips, Jill Farnsworth, Junior Nyeko, Laura Jay, Lewis Butler, Orphy Robinson OBE, and Ruth Fisher.

To: Peter Taylor and Kathryn Robson (Watford Council), to all our venue partners, Cerys Matthews, Steve Abbott, Pelin Opcin, and to everyone who has provided advice and support.

To: all our sound technicians (including Miles Ashton, Eddie Stephens, and Lauren Domville) and our volunteers (including Senem Pearson, Kieran Field, and

Megan Krohn from the University of Hertfordshire).

And, above all, a huge thank you to our wonderful musicians.

FUNDERS

The Arts Council England
The National Lottery Community Fund
Watford Council
Local Giving Community Grant

Watford Business Improvement District
Herts Cllr Tim Williams Community Grant

SATURDAY 21 MAY (CONTINUED)

2.30pm Connect with Something New – the Watford Jazz Junction presents Archipelago, Jelly Cleaver and Samuel Sharp at the Watford Pump House Theatre

9.00pm Tomorrow's Warriors Takeover with Sultan Stevenson Trio featuring Mark Kavuma at Steinbeck and Shaw. With special guest DJ Jelly Cleaver.

SUNDAY 22 MAY

1–6pm Jazz Steps Around Oxhey Village at the Railway, Rifle Volunteer, Villiers Arms, Load of Hay and Royal Oak pubs. With vintage cars & ice cream (weather permitting) on Watford Heath.

8.00pm John Etheridge's Blue Spirits Trio and Jo Harrop, at the Rifle Volunteer Pub, Oxhey Village

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CREDITS

Programme writer: Josh Ellis
Programme editor: Dr Giles Newton
Festival graphic design: Bret Syfert

See you in 2023!



CLASSIC MOTOR EVENTS

Our 2022 season kicks off on Sunday 1st May - we are really looking forward to seeing many familiar faces from last year, and lots of new ones too! Advance exhibitor booking preferred - limited pay on the day tickets, subject to availability.

2022 Event Calendar

SUNDAY 1st MAY

Motorfest

CHETWYND DEER PARK, SHROPSHIRE



SUNDAY 26th JUNE

Classic & Retro Show

THE LAWN, ESSEX



SUNDAY 10th JULY

Classic Motor Show

WALSALL ARBORETUM, WEST MIDLANDS



SUNDAY 24th JULY

Nostalgia Show

BEAUMANOR HALL, LEICESTERSHIRE



SUNDAY 14th AUGUST

Classic Motor Show

BREAMORE HOUSE, HAMPSHIRE



SUN 28th & MON 29th AUG

Classic Motor Show

KNEBWORTH HOUSE, HERTFORDSHIRE



SUNDAY 4th SEPTEMBER

Classic & Retro Show

HIMLEY HALL, STAFFORDSHIRE



SUNDAY 15th MAY

Classic Motor Show

RAGLEY HALL, WARWICKSHIRE



SUNDAY 12th JUNE

Classic Motor Show

TURVEY HOUSE, BEDFORDSHIRE



SUNDAY 18th SEPTEMBER

Classic & Retro Show

BEALE PARK, BERKSHIRE



Online booking now open at www.classicmotorevents.com



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