



JAZZ
festival

Gŵy | 2020

SOUVENIR GUIDE



www.breconjazz.org/virtual

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RATIO : Studios



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Partners for music online/media production/jazz programming -

VIALMA (France/UK): Guillaume, Philippine, Tim, Yousouf and Pearl / **RATIO (Wales):** Emily & Gavin.

CONTRIBUTIONS: to programming: John Anderson, Matt Lush, Paul Dunleavy, Bronwen Roberts, Will Barnes, Huw Warren (Wales), Horacio Baldassarre, (Buenos Aires), Guillaume and Edgar, Accords Croisés (Paris), Sheila Lehman (NYC), Nate Rogers (UK); production: Ioan Wynne, Glen Manby, David McSparron (Wales); design: Ceri Legg, Stef Price, Lee Lloyd, Gena Davies (Wales); sound, music, video: Patrick Collier (London); Ian Poole, Dave Jones (Wales); Juan Galiardo (Granada), Scott Stevens (Washington), Joel Raphael (N Carolina), Eddie Aidoo (London).

BJF2020 PLANNING & DELIVERY TEAM: Sharon Gunde, John Anderson, Ian Cooper, Karin Mear, Rhys Phillips, James Hoskins, Heulwen Thomas, Nigel Annett, Jan Hughes and Rob Hughes, Sam Lee & BJF Volunteers.

MUSICIANS: huge thanks to all of the musicians who have contributed and taken part in this extraordinary year, whether in talks, interviews, chats or performance. Every one of you is special.

FUNDING & SUPPORT: Cllr. Christopher Walsh, Mayor of Brecon, Brecon Town Council, Brecon Town Clerk Fiona Williams / Friends of Brecon Jazz: Alan Leary, Ruth Dryden, Andrew Maclean / Dr. Greg Thomas, Powys County Council.

IN BRECON: Jenny Smart, Bobbins, Chris Randall, Bulwark House, Kathryn Roberts, Gate Glass, Carlyne Lloyd, Castle Hotel, Luke Walding, Brecon & Radnor Express, Christine & John Crockford Ty Helyg, Nigel Blackamore y Gaer, Shaun Patterson, Wellington Hotel, Mike & Pam Chappell, Jonathan Morgan, David Moore, Charlie Ward, Nigel Evans, Ruth Gibbs, The Muse. Brecon Jazz Club: Barrie Driver, Fiz Cowtan, Jamie Huish, Angus Kings.

JAZZ SUPPORTERS: your loyalty to Brecon Jazz Festival is much appreciated. Special thanks go to 'Mike', Sarah Caple, Robin of Bath, Betty Sheldrake, Hilary Hudson, Chrissy Camm. Very many thanks to all of you.

PROMOTION AND NETWORKS:

Association of Festival Organisers (AFO) and Steve Heap, Jazz Promotion Network and members, Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama: Paula Gardiner, Cardiff University School of Music: Daniel Bickerton, Simon Dutton and team, Sandringham Hotel / Café Jazz Cardiff, Hot Club Swing team (Juliet, Blanche, Ken, Heulwen) and members, Jazz Heritage Wales Swansea: Jen Wilson, Deb Checkland, Ian Mann: www.thejazzmann.com, Charlotte Evans, Andy Roberts, Mike Flynn and Ros McRae (Jazzwise), Pablo Janczur, Bob Meyrick, Broad Sheep and Buzz Magazine, Jazz Clubs & Festivals Wales: Trefor Owen & Maureen Hopkins (North Wales Jazz), Alice & Paul Stonhold (Aberjazz), Mike Skilton & Debs Hancock (Black Mountain Jazz), Alun Jones & Paul Dunleavy (Preservation Jazz Society), Swansea Jazz.

Lynne & Roger, BJF2020

Cover: painting produced by Karin Mear and visitors to her jazz art workshop BJF2019.

'Virtually Brecon Jazz' - Festival Online 2020

Friday 7th August

Welcome

Brecon Jazz Club, festival organisers, open the weekend with greetings and introduce Cllr. Christopher Walsh, Mayor of Brecon.



'Brecon Jazz Festival is very important to Brecon. In this 37th year, the Festival is going to take place online due to the Covid pandemic. But as they say, the 'show must go on' and Brecon Town Council is very pleased to support this initiative, and we pay tribute to the organisers, the Festival partners and supporters, and all of the musicians who are taking part. So I'm delighted to welcome everyone to 'Virtually Brecon Jazz' and hope to see you all next year, when the Festival returns to Brecon.'

Our 'VIRTUAL VENUES' for BJF2020



Friday 7th August

PERFORMANCE

BRYAN CORBETT QUARTET

Bryan Corbett - Trumpet / Al Gurr - Piano /

Ben Markland - Double Bass / Neil Bullock - Drums

A lineup of 'A' list performers led by highly-acclaimed trumpeter Bryan Corbett. These musicians are making a welcome and long overdue first appearance at BJF, playing some standout 'standards' and also an own composition, this wonderful jazz quartet opens the programme for us in this special year.

Performed and recorded from a home studio in Birmingham, with contributions from colleagues in London and the Midlands.



PERFORMANCE

VICTORIA KLEWIN & DENNY ILLETT

Victoria Klewin - Vocals / Denny Illett - Vocals & Guitar /

Chris Jones - Double Bass

Victoria Klewin and her regular associates on guitar, Denny Illett, and Chris Jones on double bass, have been turning heads at many clubs and festivals with distinctive jazz sets and very stylish vocals and arrangements. Here, they reprise some of the work of the late 'Blossom Dearie' with great sophistication. Based in Bristol but with international talent, the trio recorded in South Wales for BJF2020.



PERFORMANCE

MACIEK PYSZ

Maciek Pysz - Guitar

With a busy musical life, Maciek Pysz is a guitarist and composer of international standing who has appeared previously in Brecon's jazz club and festival, often in new collaborations. Now in 'lockdown', Maciek pauses to reflect and play, in a recording made especially for BJF2020, in Krakow, Poland.



Friday 7th August

PERFORMANCE

HOT CLUB GALLOIS

Richard Jones - Guitar & Vocals / Xenia Porteous - Violin /
Luke Archard - Guitar / Mike Morgan - Double Bass & Vocals

One of Wales most popular, enjoyable and musically skilled lineups who play 'manouche' style. They also have one of the most established lineups, with each member of the quartet a standout performer in their own right. And versatile too – as they say, 'we're Welsh, so even the bass player gets to sing!' The band recorded their set for BJJ2020 at Ratio Studio in South Wales.



PERFORMANCE & FUNDRAISER

BARB JUNGR with intro by Ian Shaw

Charity Fundraiser for '**Side by Side with Refugees**'
and **ONE Brecon**

Please donate:

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/sbsonebreconjazzfestival

Barb Jungr - Vocals /

Simon Wallace - Piano / Jamie Safir - Piano

Side by Side with Refugees are really pleased to have been invited to participate in Brecon Jazz Festival for a third year, and delighted that the wonderful musician, Barb Jungr, has agreed to perform a short set to help our fund raising efforts. Some of the proceeds will go to One Brecon, a local community volunteer group that has been, and continues in supporting, over 1,000 shielding, ill and vulnerable people, providing comfort, food and prescription delivery.

Musician, writer, composer, and lyricist Barb Jungr has been critically lauded for her insightful and passionate interpretive style, described as "revelatory" by the New York Times. Her deconstruction/reconstruction of popular songs and unusual and beautiful musical arrangements are characteristics that allow the listener new insights into familiar music. In recent years, Jungr has brought her singular talents to the songbooks of Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen, Nina Simone, Jacques Brel, and more, creating the genre of the New American Songbook. Barb's BJJ2020 concert set is supported 'remotely' by two outstanding accompanists - all recording from home (Barb 'live' from Stockport) - Simon Wallace and Jamie Safir.



Friday 7th August

SHOWCASE

THE SIGLO SECTION BIG BAND

Music Directors Matt Lush & Laurence Collier

Siobahn Waters - Vocals / Elijah Jeffery - Vocals

Joe Northwood - Alto Sax / Vicky Perrio - Alto Sax /
Josh Heaton - Tenor Sax / Sam Robertson - Tenor Sax /
Jessica Ruth Morris - Baritone Sax

Laurence Collier - Trumpet / Joe Bentley - Trumpet /
George Martin - Trumpet / Ted Smith - Trumpet

Peter Johnson - Trombone / Russell Evans - Trombone /
Ben Thorpe - Trombone / Peter Richards - Trombone

Matt Lush - Keyboards / John Close - Guitar / Will Davies - Bass /
Alex Burch - Drums / Matt Lush - Drums

This is Cardiff's newest Big Band, playing everything from swing through to contemporary! The name 'Siglo' is derived from 'Swing' in Welsh. Multi-Instrumentalist and arranger Matt Lush, leads the band along with co-director Laurence Collier, for this BJF2020 special performance. The Siglo Section has a fresh take on some of the best popular and swing music written, not to mention its own new and original compositions. Siglo puts its unique stamp on the great classics of Glenn Miller, Count Basie, Benny Goodman and many more. Matt currently works for Caerphilly Music Service. In this current time, he relished the challenge, with colleague Laurence Collier, of putting the big band into 'digital' mode. Their performance, recorded for BJF2020 with all parts played in separate remote settings, is a huge achievement for them all.



Friday 7th August

IN CONVERSATION

TONY KOFI & ALAN BARNES

Tony Kofi - Sax / Alan Barnes - Sax

Two of the most popular and in-demand front rank jazz saxophonists have also 'happened to know each other for 30 years'. So they meet for a chat. Recorded just for Brecon Jazz, both musicians can also be seen in concert lineups on Saturday (Barnes & Shimada) and Sunday (Kofi and Bzhezzhinska) - but only here in conversation are they 'together'.



PERFORMANCE

LENORE RAPHAEL TRIO

Lenore Raphael - Piano / Hilliard Greene - Double Bass /
Glen Manby - Alto Sax

Swinging pianist Lenore is currently 'locked down' in North Carolina, while her long-time bassist Hilliard Greene is in New York. Put this together with a guest role for leading Cardiff alto saxophonist Glen Manby, and...well you get something complex! Recorded in three locations and mixed for us into a perfect blend at RATIO in Wales, this was a first-time meeting for Lenore and Hill with Glen. Didn't they all do well!



CONVERSATIONS

DEELEE DUBÉ with Rhys Phillips

Deelee talks about her musical influences, the Sarah Vaughan award and working with Spanish musicians Juan Galiardo Trio. Deelee and her trio recorded in separate locations for their appearance.

LAVON HARDISON with Matt Lush & Laurence Collier

Three musicians from from different parts of the world discuss their experiences with 'remote' recordings and the challenge of using technologies in the jazz music-making process.



Jazz Heritage Wales, a virtual tour of How Jazz Came to Wales with Jen Wilson (JHW).

An important collection for Wales and internationally, which we are proud to collaborate with and support.

Friday 7th August

SHOWCASE

MOOD INDIGO EVENTS

with Janet McCunn, Terence Collie & Guests

Vocalist Janet McCunn and pianist Terence Collie have been curating and promoting top drawer jazz in and around West London for many years - and the pandemic has not curbed their enthusiasm. Clips of guests as well as presenters make up 'Mood Indigo' events. Like our Festival, Janet has strong links with Brecon, while their attractive programming, like Brecon Jazz, has a strong, growing and loyal following.



VIDEO

BRECON GREETINGS

with Friends of Brecon Jazz / Jazz Greetings

In this event, businesses and jazz supporters in Brecon record their greetings and thoughts about the Festival 2020. There are messages coming from further afield and the wider followers of Brecon Jazz, as previous performers and fellow promoters send their greetings. The long-established organisation, the 'Friends of Brecon Jazz', describes its role as a support body for the festival through fundraising via subscriptions - and invites you to come and join them too!

friendsofbreconjazz.com



TRIBUTES

**Held dear in our
memories**

Paul Jeffries

Roy Clark

'Ben' CS Benedict

Liz Maclean

Celia Mur

Paul Munnery

John Cumming

Saturday 8th August

PRESENTATION

PRESERVATION JAZZ Part 1

Organisers of the Preservation Jazz Society (PJS) -

Alun Jones and Paul Dunleavy introduce its work and origins.

Featured in Part 1: The Sandringham Six, Riverside Remembered,

New Orleans Hot Potatoes, Hot Strings Café.

Learn more about the history of the PJS on www.breconjazz.org/virtual



PERFORMANCE

RUTH BOWEN QUARTET

with Ruth Bowen - Vocals & Double Bass / Mike Chappell - Piano /

Pete Bowen - Sax / Phill O'Sullivan - Drums

Ruth Bowen is one of the outstanding performers on the Welsh jazz scene, in particular for her vocal musicianship. Pianist Mike Chappell plays a swinging style and is a much in-demand performer and someone who has organised many jazz events over the years. They are joined by student musician Pete Bowen on sax. Ruth's established lineup regularly includes husband Richard on drums; for this BJJ performance, another topline local musician is featured, Phill O'Sullivan.



PERFORMANCE

MANUSHAN – AÏDA NOSRAT & BABAK AMIR MOBASHER

Iranian Flamenco Jazz - Vocals, Violin, Guitar

Paris-based Aïda & Babak, who are originally from Iran, bring a love of Flamenco, Middle Eastern sounds and a deep attraction for jazz manouche, to create their unique musical performances. Their influences encompass music of Europe as well as classical Spanish and Brazilian rhythms, intertwined with Turkish and Bandari melodies. Hear this unique performance with the artists recorded in France especially for BJJ2020. *In association with and our thanks to Accords Croisés, Paris.*



Saturday 8th August

PERFORMANCE

DEELEE DUBÉ & JUAN GALIARDO TRIO

Deelee Dubé - Vocals / Juan Galiardo - Piano / Rafa Sibajas - Double Bass / José Luis Gómez - Drums

One of the most talented vocalists emerging from the London scene, Deelee has a deep love and respect for the jazz tradition, the more eclectic UK jazz sound, and a stellar South African musical lineage.

In combination, these produce 'her warm tone, genuine blues feeling and easy rhythmic authority' (Jazz Times). The BJF2020 performance creates an opportunity to work again with regular

Brecon Jazz musician Juan Galiardo, here with his impressive Trio from Spain. This unique two-way virtual concert has been created in the studios of Spain, London and Wales especially for the Brecon Jazz festival programme, and we look forward to welcoming them all to Brecon.



IN CONVERSATION & PERFORMANCE

XHOSA COLE interviews STEVE LEHMAN

Pre-concert interview with Steve Lehman - Solo Sax

Recorded on 28 July between Birmingham and California, Xhosa Cole, winner of the BBC Young Musician of the Year 2018, chats to leading alto saxophonist and composer Steve Lehman. They discuss influences, reflections on 'jazz', and share ideas about the lineage and cultural heritage of the music they both play.



Saturday 8th August

PERFORMANCE

STEVE LEHMAN

Steve Lehman - Solo Sax

Steve Lehman is a composer, performer, educator and scholar, working across a broad spectrum of experimental musical idioms. Originally from Brooklyn and now teaching and working in California where he holds a university professorship, this "quite extraordinary musician" (BBC) is widely regarded as "one of the transforming figures of early 21st-century jazz" (Guardian). We are delighted to welcome Steve to his first appearance at Brecon Jazz Festival. Hear a unique presentation of Steve's 'modernist' jazz, the artist recording at home in Los Angeles and communicating directly with his audience in Brecon.



PERFORMANCE

TANGO JAZZ QUARTET OF ARGENTINA

Gustavo Firmenich - Sax & Clarinet / Horacio Acosta - Piano /
Martin Rao deVita - Bass / Mauricio Pasculli - Drums
With thanks to Horacio Baldassarre

The Tango Jazz Quartet (TJQ) from Argentina, mixes melodic rhythmic patterns of Tango with the harmonies and improvisation of Jazz. The music of Tango Jazz Quartet goes from the traditional tango to the music of Astor Piazzola without ever abandoning the territory of jazz. The band have toured extensively in UK and Europe, but have created this concert just for BJF2020. A very special recording and message from Buenos Aires.



PERFORMANCE

RACHEL STARRITT TRIO

Rachel Starritt - Piano / Clement Saynor - Double Bass /
Alex Goodyear - Drums

From Bridgend, South Wales, pianist Rachel Starritt has trained and studied in particular with Alison Bowring at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama in Cardiff. Without sight from birth, this incredible musician is also studying now for an MMus. Rachel's lineup includes Clem & Alex, two highly-regarded colleagues, both alumni of RWCMD's Jazz Performance degree in Cardiff. Recorded from their homes just for BJF2020, this accomplished Trio greets us in the language of Wales - as well as that of 'jazz'.



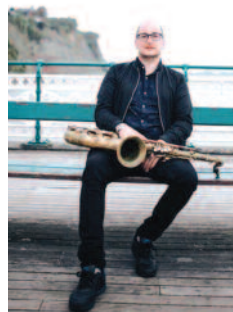
Saturday 8th August

PERFORMANCE

NURDLE: JOE NORTHWOOD

Joe Northwood - Tenor Sax / Tom Berge - Organ / Paolo Adamo - Drums

Cardiff-based Joe Northwood has led a number of successful small ensembles including his quartet tribute to John Coltrane. A driving and energetic improviser, Joe has been mentored by some of the UK's leading musicians. Also a busy educator, Joe is a promoter of Cardiff's jazz and creative music scene. Recorded just for BJF at Ratio Studio in Wales and performing original compositions, Joe is ably supported by the versatile and creative Tom Berge and Paolo Adamo.

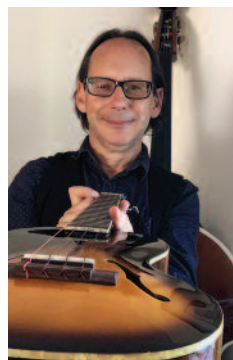


TALKS, DEMOS, ENSEMBLE

COMMUNITY JAZZ & UKES / JAZZ PIANO & JAM

Rachel & Ian Cooper - Ukuleles / Richard Michael - Piano / Jazz Jam

Ian is a jazz bassist and music teacher. He and Rachel have led a regular ukulele group in Brecon called 'Ukulele Jazz' for a number of years. This is now so popular that a complete orchestra has emerged, and Ian & Rachel discuss using 'jazz standards' to discover and explore music-making in a community atmosphere. This is followed by Richard Michael's entertaining and very informative feature, 'A Very Short History of Jazz Piano', and Brecon Jazz JAM.



PERFORMANCE

ALAN BARNES & ATSUKO SHIMADA TRIO

Alan Barnes - Sax / Atsuko Shimada - Piano / Rafa Sibajas - Double Bass / José Luis Gómez - Drums

Alan Barnes is a prolific international performer, composer, arranger, band leader and touring soloist. Best known for his work on clarinet, alto and baritone sax, Alan combines a formidable virtuosity with a musical expression and collaborative spirit that have few peers. Atsuko graduated from the renowned Berklee College of Music and cites her major influences as Wynton Kelly and Herbie Hancock. She impresses audiences with intriguing arrangements of classic standards and intricate reharmonizations. Originally from Northern Japan, Atsuko is now based in Spain, where she recorded her Trio for the Festival. A first collaboration together, Alan completed his part at home, and all blended together in Wales for BJF2020!



Saturday 8th August

PERFORMANCE

YURIE HU & HUW WARREN

Yurie Hu - Voice & Violin / Huw Warren - Piano

Welsh pianist and composer Huw Warren has achieved an international reputation for innovative and eclectic music-making over a long career. Equally at home crossing the worlds of Jazz, World and Contemporary music; he has a distinctive and personal voice. Yurie Hu is a Korean violinist and performance artist now resident in France. She collaborates widely in a range of innovative and post-modern musical and artistic ensembles. This special 'taster' presents the first thoughts and sounds in a developing musical exchange across distance and genre. Recorded in Rennes & Cardiff for BJF2020.



PERFORMANCE

TRANSATLANTIC HOT CLUB

Adrien Chevalier - Violin & Vocals /

Ben Creighton Griffiths - Jazz Harp / Philip Ambuel - Bass /

Sara Labriola - Guitar / Linus Wyrsh - Clarinet

The Transatlantic Hot Club was formed by Ben Creighton Griffiths and Adrien Chevalier in 2013 when they met at a harp festival in the French Caribbean. They took the music to Wales, and were often joined by other musicians, such as the acclaimed bassist Ashley John Long. A very successful tour of dates in Wales and London in 2019 led to plans to extend the schedule of performances into 2020, although the current situation has made this impossible. However, the duo invited more leading exponents of the 'hot club' style, bassist Philip Ambuel, who like Adrien, is based in New York, and colleagues Sara Labriola and Linus Wyrsh, to join them for this unique and very special BJF2020 'lockdown' performance.



TRIBUTE TO CAFÉ JAZZ

A much-loved local venue over many years and heir to the famous 'Four Bars' Inn on Castle Street, Cafe Jazz has been home and host to many clubs and groups, leading names, touring, as well as local bands. Musician Jane Williams reflects on Café Jazz for her, plus selection of music produced by Paul Dunleavy especially for BJF2020.



Sunday 9th August

PRESENTATION

PRESERVATION JAZZ Part 2

Organisers of the Preservation Jazz Society (PJS) - Alun Jones and Paul Dunleavy – introduce Part 2 of this feature, followed by a further selection of music and lineups from the regular PJS evenings at Cafe Jazz Cardiff. Five bands perform here: The Sopranos, Jazz Torque, The Old Malthouse Blues Band, Emily Bacon and Friends. Learn more about the history of the PJS on www.breconjazz.org/virtual



PERFORMANCE

BRUJAS: FLAMENCO TRIO

Josie Sinnadurai - Dance / Carmen Yruela - Vocals /
Eri González - Guitar / & guest Gerard Cousins - Guitar

Josie Sinnadurai is a Welsh flamenco and contemporary dancer based in Seville and Brecon. Following her studies and postgraduate work in contemporary dance, she has toured internationally, appearing at Flamenquines (Canadian flamenco tour) and Festival Flamenco de Montreal. Josie began her flamenco dance in Madrid and Seville and has since been performing and choreographing as a flamenco and flamenco-fusion artist. Brujas, is truly international, comprising members from Spain (vocalist) and Uruguay (guitarist). For a special BJF2020 collaboration, guitarist and composer Gérard Cousins joins them for a guest number. It was no easy feat, and the quartet 'played together' from locations in Seville, Reading, Montevideo, and Merthyr Tydfil! Following the concert set, Josie recorded a special talk about her 'Dancer's Journey' from Wales to Andalucia - see Sunday event 5)



IN CONVERSATION

ASHLEY J LONG Talks to Dave Jones

Ashley J Long - Double Bass, Vibes, Composition, Research

Ashley is a renowned jazz bassist and musician who has toured and recorded globally, performing with many international artists and leading UK names. A virtuoso improviser, Ashley has developed a unique approach to the instrument, creating innovative new performance techniques, including methods of preparing the bass. Over 20 composers have written new works for him, and he has had performances broadcast on television and radio across U.K and Europe. Fellow performer jazz pianist Dave Jones, who is also a writer, composer and teacher, joins Ashley to discuss creativity in the lockdown, jazz scholarship and musical composition. Dave also presents a special award of recognition to his friend, on behalf of the organisers of Brecon Jazz Club & Festival.



Sunday 9th August

PERFORMANCE

LAVON HARDISON & JIM BARBER TRIO

LaVon Hardison - Vocals / Jim Barber - Piano /
Bill Fletcher - Double Bass / Greg Evans - Drums

Jazz singer, collaborator, and inspirational performer, US Pacific Coast-based LaVon Hardison believes that nothing expresses emotion like a great jazz tune. She is the winner of the 2016 Seattle-Kobe Female Jazz Vocalist of the year, and for LaVon, authenticity and the ability to create a direct connection with her, audiences are the foundations of her performance. LaVon has three recent solo albums to her credit, collaborating with guitarist Vince Brown. Wales-based Jim Barber and his Trio are some of the most fluent and swinging performers around. In a number of lineups, they delight jazz audiences with their straightahead rhythms and casual but virtuoso soloing along the way. The collaboration for BJF2020 is a unique linkup, specially curated for the Festival audience, and intended to be given as a live concert. Instead, with help from our magical media people in Wales, Jim's genius, LaVon's super-creativity- and with a little help a her friend (husband Scott), the quartet combined to create something quite amazing. Only at Brecon Jazz. Be there.

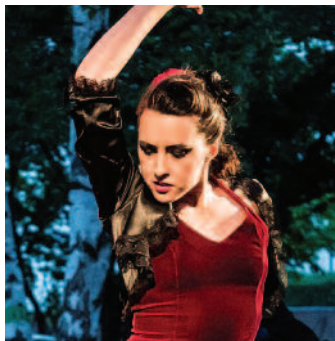


TALK

JOSIE SINNADURAI

'A Dancer's Journey' from Aberhonddu to Andalucia

Artist Josie Sinnadurai explains how her love of dance led her from the valleys and Beacons of her home in Wales (Aberhonddu - Brecon) to the culture and flamenco art of Andalucia in Spain. Through dance, she has travelled the world, including in Germany, Spain, Israel and Canada - and is known as 'la Galesa'. Listen to her fascinating talk, recorded back in Wales, to find out why - and what connects these landmarks in a 'dancer's journey'.



Sunday 9th August

PERFORMANCE

ALINA BZHEZHINSKA & TONY KOFI

Alina Bzhezhinska - Jazz Harp / Tony Kofi - Tenor Sax

Alina Bzhezhinska is one of the most exciting and dynamic harpists based in UK. Her imaginative programmes have established her reputation as a harpist of exceptional accomplishment. She has had the honour of playing at the European Parliament, at the Queen's 80th birthday celebrations at Balmoral Castle and for the King of Thailand's birthday celebrations in Bangkok.

Originally from Ukraine/Poland and now based in UK, Alina Bzhezhinska is internationally renowned and has performed with leading classical and jazz musicians including Shabaka Hutchings, Django Bates and Miguel Atwood-Ferguson, award-winning jazz vocalist Niki King, and has supported Gregory Porter.

Tony Kofi is a British Jazz multi-instrumentalist, a player of the alto, baritone, soprano, tenor saxophones and flute. Having cut his teeth in the "Jazz Warriors" of the early 90's, this award-winning saxophonist Tony Kofi has gone on to establish himself as a musician, teacher and composer of great authority. His fluent and fiery hard-bop style makes him constantly in demand. He currently leads his own Tony Kofi Quartet, Tony Kofi Sphinx Trio, Future Passed Trio and is also the co-founder with Jonathan Gee of the Monk Liberation Front. We are delighted to welcome Alina and Tony to Brecon Jazz Festival, where they recorded for us this duo set in North London.



PERFORMANCE

TRIBUTE TO GRANT GREEN: EDDIE ROBERTS QUARTET

Eddie Roberts - Guitar / Chris Spies - Hammond B3 /
Nate Edgar - Electric Bass / Jeff Franca - Drums

Eddie Roberts is probably best known as the guitarist and producer of UK group The New Mastersounds, a British four-piece jazz fusion and bluesy funk band from Leeds. Over the last 16 years, they have issued ten studio albums, two remix collections, and a compilation album.

Raised in Wales, Eddie moved to San Francisco in 2010 to further his musical career. He also took on the management of the band, as well as touring extensively with The New Mastersounds, in USA, Europe and Japan. His original training in Jazz gave him a love of the work of guitarist Grant Green, and Eddie brings his band 'virtually' back to his home in Wales, in order to perform this special tribute for BJF2020.



Sunday 9th August

TALK

ERIKA LYONS: MUSIC THERAPY

Erika Lyons - Double Bass

One of the best-known and busiest jazz double bass players around, and a great friend of Brecon and the Welsh jazz clubs scene, Erika has worked in London and New York, performing with some of the best-known names in British Jazz.

In the US, she studied with Buster Williams, Rufus Reid and Hal Galper and her career since has seen her perform with numerous artists in USA, UK and Europe. Some years ago, Erika trained as a Music Therapist at the University of West of England. She has since worked with many different clients and groups, but especially with children who are adopted or fostered. In this talk, she discusses using music therapy to help people who have suffered trauma, especially in their early lives. Unmissable. Recorded especially for BJF2020



IN CONVERSATION

TALKING GUITARS: WILL BARNES

Host Will Barnes talks to Andy MacKenzie, Deirdre Cartwright, Remi Harris, Dario Napoli, Wayne Wilkinson & Rob Williams

Welsh musician and acclaimed guitarist Will Barnes is a popular presence on the UK jazz clubs and festivals scene, as well as touring with his own lineups and supporting leading names. In this more laid-back setting (and of course working from home), we invited Will to host a series of conversations with other guitarists, where they could exchange thoughts and chords - and we could all listen in!



It became an eclectic and international lineup: Will reprises his BJF2015 appearance in the Guildhall with 'rock school' guitarist Deirdre Cartwright in their tribute to 'Wes and Emily' (Montgomery and Remler), a standout concert that can still be viewed online. Will also travels to meet colleague Andy Mackenzie in North Wales, a greatly sought-after musician, and Remi Harris just over the Welsh border, a person who needs little introduction and whose concerts and tours have brought a really wide following. These are guitarists who Will (now based in mid-Wales) knows well and has also performed alongside. New encounters include from Milan in Italy, Dario Napoli, an exponent of 'modern manouche' and someone who regularly visits UK and tours extensively in Europe, joins Will via Zoom, as does the very impressive American musician, Wayne Wilkinson (from Colorado, US), who like Dario, has played at Brecon Jazz club in recent years. He rounds off with a visit and chat to guitar maker Rob Williams. All in all, a thrilling, diverse and intriguing 'lineup'. We shall have to see whether it is they or their guitars that do 'the talking'.

Sunday 9th August

PERFORMANCE

ALTERNATE CAKE SWING QUARTET

Philippe Cann - Guitar & Vocals / Jean Guyomarc'h - Guitar /
Léa Ciechelski - Flute / Matthieu Torsat - Double Bass

A group of virtuoso musicians, they have developed from 'Major Swing', their earlier manouche-inspired band. Alternate Cake provides a crossover to other jazz idioms, folk, and popular music.. Highly creative and great fun, they have innovated and developed an authentic and unique repertoire, with original compositions played with mastery, style and fiery jazz improvisation.



IN CONVERSATION

HUW WARREN & PAULA GARDINER

Reflections on Brecon Jazz Festival & Music

Huw Warren - Piano / Paula Gardiner - Double Bass

Huw Warren is a Welsh pianist and composer with an international reputation; Paula Gardiner is renowned as a bassist and Head of Jazz Performance at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama. Both have attended and performed at Brecon Jazz since 'almost' the beginning. Here, both recording from home, they discuss the gigs, some tips and memories of what is an important cultural and musical legacy.



PERFORMANCE

ELAINA HOSS, DOMINIC NORCROSS, JOHN-PAUL GARD

Elaina Hoss - Vocals / Dominic Norcross - Sax / John-Paul Gard - Organ

Many will recognise Dominic from his colourful swing band, 'The Numbers Racket' that has amazed Brecon Jazz for the last few years. John-Paul Gard, from Bristol, enjoys a fine reputation as one of the most accomplished jazz and blues organ players around. They are joined by Elaina Hoss, a much-loved jazz vocalist who has performed extensively in concerts and clubs across Wales, the UK and internationally. **This top trio bring BJF2020 to a rousing close.**





BJF2020 CONCERTS and PERFORMERS

BJF events are available online

- from 12 noon UK time each day - can be accessed until 30 August 2020

FRIDAY 7th AUGUST

Preview in English & Welsh: Heulwen Thomas, Nigel Annett

- 1. Festival Opening & Mayor's Welcome
- 2. Bryan Corbett Quartet: with Al Gurr, Ben Markland, Neil Bullock
- 3. Victoria Klewin & Denny Ilett, with Chris Jones
- 4. Talk: A Musician's Life, Maciek Pysz, guitar
- 5. Hot Club Gallois: Richard Jones, Xenia Porteous, Luke Archard, Mike Morgan
- 6. Barb Jung: with Simon Wallace, Jamie Safir
Fundraiser for Side by Side with Refugees and One Brecon
- 7. The Siglo Section Big Band Dir. Matt Lush & Laurence Collier
- 8. Conversation: Tony Kofi & Alan Barnes
- 9. Lenore Raphael & Hilliard Greene, Glen Manby
- 10. Jazz Interviews / Jazz Heritage Wales virtual tour
- 11. Talk: Mood Indigo Events: with Janet McCunn & Terence Collie
- 12. Video: Brecon Greetings / Jazz Clubs Wales / Friends of Brecon Jazz

*Siglo Big Band: Siobhan Waters, Elijah Jeffery, Joe Northwood, Vicky Perrio, Josh Heaton, Sam Robertson, Jessica Ruth Morris, Laurence Collier, Joe Bentley, George Martin, Ted Smith, Peter Johnson, Russell Evans, Ben Thorpe, Peter Richards, Matt Lush, John Close, Will Davies, Alex Burch.

SATURDAY 8th AUGUST

Preview in English & Welsh: Heulwen Thomas, Nigel Annett

- 1. Preservation Jazz 1: Intro. Alun Jones & Paul Dunleavy
- 2. Ruth Bowen Quartet, with Mike Chappell, Pete Bowen, Phill O'Sullivan
- 3. Manushan: Aida Nosrat & Babak Amir Mobasher
+ in association with Accords Croisés, Paris.
- 4. Deelee Dubé & Juan Galiardo Trio: with Rafa Sibajas, José Luis Gómez
- 5. Steve Lehman Solo incl. pre-concert interview with Xhosa Cole
- 6. Tango Jazz Quartet: Gustavo Firmenich, Horacio Acosta, Martin Rao deVita, Mauricio Pasculli
- 7. Rachel Starritt Trio: with Clement Saynor, Alex Goodyear
- 8. Nurdle: Joe Northwood: with Tom Berge, Paolo Adamo
- 9. Community Jazz & Ukes, Ian & Rachel Cooper
Richard Michael, Jazz Jam
- 10. Alan Barnes & Atsuko Shimada Trio: with Rafa Sibajas, José Luis Gómez
- 11. Yurie Hu and Huw Warren
- 12. Transatlantic Hot Club: Adrien Chevalier, Philip Ambuel, Ben Creighton Griffiths, Sara Labriola, Linus Wyrsh
Followed by Tribute to Café Jazz

SUNDAY 9th AUGUST

Preview in English & Welsh: Heulwen Thomas, Nigel Annett

- 1. Preservation Jazz 2: with Intro. Alun Jones & Paul Dunleavy
- 2. Brujas: Josie Sinnadurai, Carmen Yruela, Eri González, with Gerard Cousins
- 3. Conversation: Ashley J Long (bassist, composer), talks to Dave Jones
- 4. LaVon Hardison & Jim Barber Trio: with Bill Fletcher, Greg Evans
- 5. Talk: A Dancer's Journey, Aberhonddu to Andalucia - Josie Sinnadurai
- 6. Alina Bzhezinskina & Tony Kofi
- 7. Eddie Roberts Quartet: with Chris Spies, Nate Edgar, Jeff Franca
- 8. Talk: Music Therapy, Erika Lyons
- 9. Will Barnes & Guests 'Talking Guitars': Andy MacKenzie, Deirdre Cartwright, Remi Harris, Dario Napoli, Wayne Wilkinson
- 10. Alternate Cake: Philippe Cann, Jean Guyomarc'h, Léa Ciechelski, Matthieu Torsat
- 11. Talk: Reflections on Brecon Jazz: Huw Warren & Paula Gardiner
- 12. Elaina Hoss, Dominic Norcross and John-Paul Gard

With a little help from our friends:

a big programme, a dedicated team, a small budget

Organising BJF2020 is big and responsible work. In this year, the time of the virus and Covid-19 pandemic across the world, it has involved super-human efforts from many people, especially the musicians and festival team. Thanks to a highly talented group of people who were working 'just in time', 'somehow together' and with energy and shared vision, our programme was been re-imagined into a series of 'digital treasures' that can be looked over and enjoyed again and again, and by many more people. So BJF2020 is online and not quite 'live' but it comes from the hearts of the people who have joined us to play (often separated from their bands), and in the skills of those who have captured this music for it's virtual presentation. It is a gift from Wales, 'made in Brecon and UK', for the wider world. So there is something positive emerging here. These collaborations, friendships, co-working and new partnerships create alliances and possibilities for the future. We will need them, especially in the creative and cultural sector - and 'jazz' is always a bit under the radar. But in a sense, this is our 'working stock', the assets, of innovation, creativity, adapting, sharing, learning and experiment, and the work of bringing jazz and its performers to people's attention. As organisers, we have been sure of our purpose, but it is also risky. So BJF is without tickets this year. Instead, we ask you our audience and supporters, to put some 'ticket money' into a donation, and thank you to everyone who has already done so. The 'concerts' this year are made by the people who would have performed here on stage; the quality is amazing. They are shorter, but priceless, we think you will agree - and there are talks and more to view and watch along with too. All made 'just for us' - and you. So for this 'stay at home' festival, its 37th edition, we send greetings to everyone out there, a wider world of followers and well-wishers, and hope that you will enjoy 'Virtually Brecon Jazz' 2020, which will be available, unlike 'traditional' Brecon Jazz, for the whole month! And maybe much longer....

BJF2020 – 'Virtually Brecon Jazz' - Online

info@breconjazzclub.org

www.breconjazz.org/virtual

