

Nicosia, 4 July 2018

European Music Nights Jazz Workshop & Jam Session 2018

The European Commission, as part of the European Music Nights, will support a Jazz Workshop and Jam Session in collaboration with Jazz Education Abroad on Friday, 6 July in Nicosia. The workshop will be open to music teachers, students and musicians of all ages, for all instruments and for all levels. The workshop will be followed by a jam session from 20:30 – 22.00 where the jazz masters and participants to the workshop will give a jazz concert. The jazz jam session will take place at HASDER, Selimiye Square, Nicosia.

The Jazz workshop will take place at Ledra Art Music & Fine Arts Studio from 14:00 to 19:30 where jazz masters Dr. Gene Aitken (Music Education & Director), Paolo Orlandi (Drums), Cahit Kutrafalı & Damian Erskine (Bass), Mike Dana (Guitar), Jeremy Siskind (Piano), Rob Thomas (Violin), Dave Glenn (Trombone), Dr. J Kyle Gregory (Trumpet), Mariano Abello (Saxophone), Jimmy Lee (Flute and Clarinet), and Julie Rey Dana (Vocals) will run parallel workshops. Participation in the workshop is free and interested individuals can reserve their place by contacting EU Infopoint on info@abbilgi.eu or 228 2577.

Music is one of the most popular forms of art, widely consumed, and a vibrant expression of Europe's cultural diversity. Strengthening this sector contributes to the promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue, culture as a catalyst for creativity. In its efforts to promote further creativity, diversity and innovation in Europe's music sector, the Commission works with all concerned stakeholders. As part of the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community a series of activities and projects to raise awareness about arts, music and cultural heritage were supported.

Jazz Education Abroad Jazz Masters:

Mariano Abello is a versatile player in the jazz and classical idioms in saxophone, flute, clarinet, and oboe. **Dr. J Kyle Gregory** from 1992 to 1997 was a professor of classical trumpet and jazz at Bradley University in Illinois and taught most recently as professor of jazz trumpet at the Trento Conservatory in Northern Italy.

Dave Glenn spent 11 years as a professional trombonist in New York City and played for ten years with the Gerry Mulligan Concert Jazz Band and toured extensively with Bill Watrous' Manhattan Wildlife Refuge, Diana Ross and Lou Rawls. **Jeremy Siskind**, the chair of the Piano Department at Western Michigan University, is the winner of the 2012 Nottingham International Jazz Piano Competition and the second place winner of the 2011 Montreux Solo Piano Competition. Nicosia-born bass player, composer and arranger **Cahit Kutrafalı** is one of the first call session players in Cyprus and best known for



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his versatility and unique style of soloing on electric bass where he combines bebop elements with a modern approach. **Damian Erskine** has performed with Peter Erskine, The Jaco Pastorius Big Band, Les McCann, Javon Jackson, Jeff Lorber and many others. He is featured on the GospelChops.com "Shed Sessionz Vol. 1" DVD.

Since 1990, **Mike Dana** has been the Director of Jazz Studies at Fresno City College. He studied with jazz guitar legend Joe Pass, and at the Berklee College of Music. Drummer/Educator **Paolo Orlandi** has performed with some of the most influential jazz musicians on the scene, taught university-level courses on the history and aesthetic of African-American music.

Since 1999, **Julie Reyes Dana** has been the director of the Fresno City College Choral and Voice Program, where she co-directs the vocal jazz group "Jazz Extension", the City Singers and College Choir. **Rob Thomas** is a highly regarded jazz multi-instrumentalist, fluent on violin, cello and bass. Since 2001, Thomas has held the violin chair in the String Trio of New York, being the fifth in a series of notable violinists, whose presence on the scene spans nearly four decades.

Jimmy Lee is a classical and jazz saxophonist. Mr. Lee leads the Onyx Jazz Quartet and won 2st Prize in the *Chrysler & ICRT Jazz Competition* in 2005, and the *Creative Award* in the Land Music Awards in 2006. Grammy-nominated **Dr. Gene Aitken** is considered one of the most exciting and energetic jazz clinicians today, and is recognized as a visionary in both jazz education and computer technology.

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