Lagavulin

Islay Jazz Festival 2018

20th Edition 14-16 September 2018

Presented by Jazz Scotland and Islay Arts Association
Welcome

This year is the 20th edition of the Lagavulin Islay Jazz Festival.

Born out of a conviction that a beautiful Hebridean island would be the perfect inspiration to jazz musicians and an ideal environment to experience great music and music-making; we had no idea that Lagavulin Islay Jazz Festival could become the heart of the Scottish jazz scene, producing countless new music projects and special artistic moments; and offering such an intense and immersive creative and social environment for Scottish musicians and audiences.

We are proud of our on-going relationship with some of Scotland’s and the world’s finest jazz musicians – and this year’s programme features some of those great artists who have been central to the Festival over the years – Mario Caribé, Brian Palmer and Colin Steele, for example – as well as a host of first timers including Soweto Kinch, and The Tenement Jazz Band.

We look forward to welcoming old and new friends to our 20th edition.

Fiona Alexander, Jazz Scotland
Stuart Todd, Islay Arts Association
1. Georgia Cécile
Malt Mill, Lagavulin Distillery, 6-7pm, £12
The classy singer hits the spot when it comes to Broadway songs, beautiful ballads, swinging jazz, and a host of modern pop tunes she and pianist, Euan Stevenson have re-invented for their intimate jazz setting.

2. Islay Jazz Trio with Guest + Graeme Stephen & Joe Williamson Duo
Bruichladdich Hall, 7-8.30pm, £10. BYOB
We salute Brian Palmer. The Islay drummer is the only musician to have played all 20 Islay Jazz Festivals. He fronts the Islay Jazz Trio with Craig Weatherhogg (piano) and Niall Anderson (bass) playing popular jazz tunes. The two leading jazz guitarists, Stephen and Williamson open the concert playing together for the first time. A very intriguing prospect.

3. Laura MacDonald Swings
The American Songbook with Special Guest: Luca Manning
Iona Chalum Chille Ile, Bowmore, 8-10pm, £15
Saxophonist and vocalist, MacDonald has developed a show that started with Cole Porter, added Harold Arlen and now features all the great American show tune writers. Her brilliant Quartet is supplemented with the extraordinary young vocalist, Luca Manning.

4. Soweto Kinch Trio
Malt Mill, Lagavulin Distillery, 8.45-10.15pm, £18
Scalding hot hard bop grooves underpin fiery and impassioned soloing by the alto saxophonist, as fierce and incisive as Charlie Parker, but 100% in the moment, alive to hip-hop, rap, electronica. A MOBO winner and Mercury Prize nominee, Kinch is at the forefront of the very hot English jazz scene – “a real tour de force” (The Guardian).

5. Brass Gumbo + AKU!
Bruichladdich Hall, 10.30pm-Midnight, £13. BYOB
Brass Gumbo are a brass band melting pot of New Orleans flavoured funk and jazz playing music that’s always uplifting and joyous, steeped in the traditions, but totally contemporary. AKU! are an explosive sax-trombone-drums trio inspired by musicians like Shabaka Hutchings and Roller Trio and featuring some of Glasgow’s most exciting young talent!
SATURDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

6. Strata
Malt Mill, Lagavulin Distillery, noon-1.30pm, £12.50
Drummer, Graham Costello’s band plays original music at the intersect of jazz, rock, and classical minimalism with energy and conviction. Harry Weir (saxes), Liam Shortall (trombone), Joe Williamson (guitar), Fergus McCreadie (keys), Mark Hendry (bass), Costello (drums).

7. Tenement Jazz Band with Special Guest Alison Affleck
Rhinns Hall, Portnahaven, noon-2pm, £12.50. Light Lunchees Available
Toe-tapping traditional jazz from top level, young Edinburgh band - exciting arrangements of well-loved standards from Jelly Roll Morton, Kid Ory or Louis Armstrong, plus some lesser-heard gems. They are joined by the classy American singer: Alison Affleck.

8. Luca Manning & Joe Williamson
Laphroaig Distillery, 2.30-3.30pm, £10
Innocent, vulnerable, fragile, yet assured, composed, and, yes, beautiful. Chet Baker’s singing stood apart amongst jazz vocalists, until Luca Manning came along. The young Glaswegian is fast establishing himself as the leading male jazz vocalist on the jazz scene. Here he is with another young tyro, guitarist, Joe Williamson.

9. Affleck, Steele, Stephen
Islay House Hotel, Bridgend, 3-4pm, £12.50
Alison Affleck is one of the busiest singers on the jazz scene. She’s an old fashioned classic jazz singer, with deep roots in the styles of Billie Holiday and Ella Fitzgerald. Here she is in a special “chamber jazz” format, with trumpeter, Colin Steele, and guitarist, Graeme Stephen.

10. Kershaw, Stephen, Dick
Outback Gallery, Sanagmore, 5.30-6.30pm, £12.50
Alto saxophonist and clarinetist, Martin Kershaw, is one of the senior statesmen of the Scottish jazz scene: an intelligent and impassioned musician, who is comfortable across all jazz styles, but likes the challenge of making something new – when he gets the chance. And here it is. A longstanding wish to play in Trio with guitarist, Graeme Stephen, and drummer, Corrie Dick.

11. Queens of the Blues
Ballygrant Hall, 8-9.30pm, £12.50. BYOB
Joyously celebrating the trials, tribulations and fortunes of the best female singers of the blues genre, Queens of the Blues tells the story of Mamie Smith and Big Mama Thornton; Bonnie Raitt and Susan Tedeschi - an irrepressible, anecdotal anthology, fronted by the acclaimed singer, Nicole Smit.

12. Anthony Strong
Malt Mill, Lagavulin Distillery, 8.30-10pm, £20
He’s a hip-swinging, finger-snapping cool cat from London who sings and plays piano in a way that makes swinging jazz the sexiest music on earth. He delivers feel-good swinging tunes from Wynton Kelly to Stevie Wonder; Nat Cole to Mel Torme.

13. Mario Caribé New Mambo
Bruichladdich Hall, 10.30-midnight, £15. BYOB
Mario formed this new supergroup to play mambo and latin jazz, a personal passion. Featuring Stu Brown on drums and Sandro Ciancio on percussion it also includes two young stars of the Scottish scene: Michael Butcher (tenor sax) and Liam Shorthall (trombone) as well as Pete Johnstone on piano and Mario himself on bass. It will be hot and full of ‘sabor’, stay still if you can!
SUNDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

14. Davis Rogan and Friends
Ardbeg Distillery, noon-2pm, £13. Light Lunches Available
New Orleans is full of big musical personalities, playing their wares in jazz bars and cafés like the Spotted Cat, The Creole Gardens and Buffa’s Bar. Few make it across the Atlantic, so a special welcome to one of New Orleans’ finest pianists and vocalists, playing with a special band of Scottish friends, including Martin Kershaw, Mario Caribe and St Brown, with Ali Affleck guesting on vocals. Downhome N’Orleans music.

15. Fergus McCreadie Trio + Alan Benzie solo
RSPB Centre, Loch Gruinart, noon-2pm, £12. Light Lunches Available. 11am Bird watching walk
McCreadie’s concerts are packed with emotional charge, youthful zest and exuberance; combining traditional Scottish music influences with American Jazz in a thrilling, uplifting and rousing mix. The opening set features the atmospheric piano of Alan Benzie.

16. Stephen Henderson Band with Guest, Graeme Stephen
Ionad Chaluim Chille Ile, Bowmore, 3.30-5pm, £13
The Glasgow jazz scene is packed with talented young musicians right now, but Stephen Henderson stands out. He’s the drummer that makes everyone else sound fantastic. This year he’s formed a band and written new beautiful music, contemporary with strong Scottish roots – with Konrad Wiszniewski (saxes), Fergus McCreadie (piano), David Bowden (bass) - and special guest for Islay, top guitarist, Graeme Stephen.

17. Tommy Smith Quartet + Tommy Smith & Fergus McCreadie Duo
Ionad Chaluim Chille Ile, Bowmore, 6-8pm, £20
Held in the highest esteem by the best in the world, Smith “is one of the most important voices in the tenor sax players of today” (Jack de Johnette). His Quartet specializes in music by John Coltrane, and features Pete Johnstone (piano), Calum Gourlay (bass), and Sebastian de Krom (drums). Opening the concert is an Islay special - Tommy and the brilliant young pianist, Fergus McCreadie, play together professionally for the first time.

18. Colin Steele Quintet
Bruichladdich Hall, 9-11pm, £17.50. BYOB
Together with Mario Caribe, Colin Steele is a central musician in the 20 year pantheon of Islay Jazz. So many memorable moments over all those years. The island is an inspiration to him too. To close our 20th edition, we are delighted that he presents a special version of his classic Quintet playing the wonderful anthems and songs inspired by Scottish music – and an occasional swinger. With Konrad Wiszniewski (saxes), Alan Benzie (piano), Calum Gourlay (bass), and Stu Ritchie (drums).
LAGAVULIN™

One of Scotland’s “essential” distilleries, Lagavulin™ is a place of pilgrimage for many adorers of this definitive Islay single malt Scotch whisky. The distillery works its magic on a cramped, romantic site by the sea across a small bay from the ruins of Dunyvaig Castle. The intensity of this majestic whisky comes from the heavily peated malt from the Port Ellen Maltings, the four traditionally shaped copper stills, a leisurely fermentation and distillation regime, with a wide spirit cut that captures more of the richly-peated tastes and a long maturation of 16 years in refill casks.

A warm welcome awaits at the Lagavulin™ Distillery Visitors’ Centre, open all year round for guided tours and tastings.

For those visitors looking for something extra, we recommend booking the Warehouse Demonstration. Join the distillery team and immerse yourself in the taste, smell and sounds that makes Lagavulin an award winning whisky. Not only will Iain MacArthur give you a behind the scenes look into the Lagavulin warehouse, but we’ll also open up some duty paid casks and give you the rare opportunity to taste some unique single cask whiskies. Available Monday – Thursday 10.30am & 14.30pm, Friday 10.30am.

To celebrate the Lagavulin Jazz Festival, our newly appointed distillery manager Colin Gordon will be hosting Exclusive Manager’s Masterclasses on Friday 14th, Saturday 15th & Monday 17th at 10.00am.

For more information or to book a tour and/or tasting please contact the distillery via email Lagavulin.Distillery@diageo.com or phone +44 (0)1496302749

WEEKENDER TICKET

Weekender Ticket available via +44 (0)131 467 3660

Weekender Tickets offer a 20% discount to customers who book for 8 different concerts. This only applies for tickets booked in one transaction.

INDIVIDUAL TICKET

Tickets for individual concerts are available, as follows

**Online:** simply click the buy button next to the concert - until 13th September. Postal charges may apply.

**By Phone:** +44 (0)131 467 3660 - until 6pm 13th September.

**On Islay:** from The Ileach office - Main Street Bowmore: +44 (0)1496 810355 - from 1st to 14th September.

**On the door:** subject to availability - please note that many capacities are limited, so we strongly recommend advance booking.

Concessionary tickets (£2 off) are available for unemployed and students via the website or via +44 (0)131 467 3660. Proof of status must be shown on the door.

VISITING ISLAY

Islay is the most southerly of the Hebridean islands. Ornithologists, photographers, golfers, anglers and of course whisky enthusiasts all find Islay a joy. The wares of the nine distilleries can be tasted throughout the island. For more information about travel and accommodation please visit www.lagavulinislayjazzfestival.co.uk

THANKS TO

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A NOTE ON THE VENUES

We use all sorts of venues on Islay which have masses of character, however some of their facilities are limited. Doors will open 15 minutes before the concert time - generally there is nowhere to wait apart from outside. Let’s hope for good weather.

ACCESS: All venues are wheelchair accessible and we offer a carers go free ticket.

Please drink responsibly check drinkaware.co.uk for the facts
Among all the malts of Islay, one stands alone. Enjoyed as an award-winning 16 year old, a natural cask strength 12 year old or an intense Distiller’s Edition finished in Pedro Ximenez cask wood, Lagavulin embodies richness and power.

White-washed distillery buildings tumble down to the shore in Lagavulin Bay, guarded still by the lonely Dunyvaig Castle, historic stronghold of the all-powerful Lord of the Isles.

Rich reward lies within.