



MEDIA RELEASE

Top Artists Headline Standard Bank Joy of Jazz

The Standard Bank Joy of Jazz reinforces its status as South Africa's premier jazz festival thanks to a stellar line up of international and local giants on the jazz scene.

Appearing in Newtown, Johannesburg, from August 23 to 25 headline acts include Grammy-Award winner **Kurt Elling** who has been hailed as the jazz male vocalist of his generation; trombone master **Wycliffe Gordon**; Grammy-winning guitarist **Earl Klugh** as well as an appearance by the world famous **Duke Ellington Orchestra**.

Other celebrated jazz musicians on the line-up include Grammy Award winning performers **Clarence Carter** and **Eddie Palmieri**; Jamaican legend **Monty Alexander** and France's celebrated **Manu Katche**. There's also the US's **Lizz Wright**; **Ken Philmore** from Trinidad and Tobago who is one of the top steel-drum soloists in the world and France's innovative **Orchestre National de Jazz (ONJ)**.

Luminaries from the African continent include **Caiphus Semanya**, one of South Africa's most celebrated arts and culture ambassadors and revered and respected worldwide for his musical genius; **Bakithi Kumalo** who made his name internationally thanks to his performance on Paul Simon's *Graceland*; **Manu Dibango** from Cameroon and **Mory Kante** from Guinea whose hit song *Yé ké yé ké*, was one of the first African singles to sell over one million copies on the European market.

Two not-to-be-missed concerts include the opening night spectacular **Sax Summit** and the unforgettable **Tribute to Miles Davis**.

Sax Summit has five of the world's top female saxophonists playing the music of Kippie Moeketsi. They are American rising star **Grace Kelly**, Holland's acclaimed **Tineke Postma**, British tenor **Rosemary Quaye** as well as **Shannon Mowday** (a former Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz) and **Nthabiseng Mokoena**. The Tribute to Miles Davis features two former Crusader players' trombonist **Wayne Henderson** and drummer **Ndugu Chancler**, trumpeter **Tom Browne**, saxophonist **Everette Harp**, pianist **Bobby Lyle** and bassist **Edwin Livingston**.

A powerhouse of female vocalists will also be performing at Standard Bank Joy of Jazz. They are **Jane Monheit** (US) who has worked with Michael Buble; **Maysa** (US) who started of her singing career as a back-up singer for Stevie Wonder before recording the hit song *Don't You Worry 'Bout A Thing* with British band Incognito; the multi-Grammy nominated **Ledisi** (US) fresh off a headlining tour with Eric Benet and **Cécile Verny** (France) whose voice has been one of the most important in European jazz for the past 20 years. Her love for the songs of her Ivory Coast homeland, gospel, chansons and American jazz standards, have all united in a distinctive way.

Others performers in the impressive line-up include **Afrika Mkhize**, the 2012 Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz; the **Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band (SBNYJB)**; another former Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz **Gloria Bosman**; **Jimmy Dlodlu**;

saxophonist **Bhudaza Mapefane** from Lesotho; **Erik Truffaz** the French jazz trumpeter who infuses elements of hip hop, rock 'n' roll and dance music into his compositions; jazz maestro **Johnny Meko**; trumpeter **Marcus Wyatt**; **Musa Manzini**; Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz 2010, vocalist **Melanie Scholtz** and violinist **Samson Diamond**, Standard Bank Young Artist for Music 2010; Botswana's **Shanti Lo** who performs with the Swedish Ensemble; **Thandiswa Mazwai**; **Swazi Dlamini** and **Vusi Khumalo** who will be playing the music of Winston Makunku, Zakes Nkosi and Joe Malinga.

Kurt Elling is among the world's foremost jazz vocalists. He has been named "Male Singer of the Year" by the Jazz Journalists Association on half a dozen occasions in the past 10 years, and during the same interval has been the perennial winner of the DownBeat Critics Poll. He is also a Grammy winner, and every record he has made has been Grammy nominated. Elling's rich baritone spans four octaves and features both astonishing technical mastery and emotional depth.

Trombone player Wycliffe Gordon is best known for his work with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, under the direction of jazz maestro, Wynton Marsalis. The versatile trombonist can scat, multi-note, slide, and plunge, just like he stepped out of the 1930s. Gordon has played with many jazz luminaries, including Dizzy Gillespie, Joe Henderson, Branford Marsalis, Lionel Hampton, Tommy Flanagan, and Shirley Horn.

Guitarist Earl Klugh has recorded more than 30 albums including 23 Top 10 charting records – five of them No. 1 on Billboard's Jazz Album chart. He has received 12 Grammy nods, millions of record and CD sales and continues touring worldwide.

The music of Duke Ellington defies any strict categorisation. Call it jazz, call it swing or call it big band. But whatever you call it, call it the music that will make you want to dance in the aisles. The Duke Ellington Orchestra in a toe-tappin', finger-snappin' concert of music from the great Ellington songbook, including some of his best loved tunes. His son, Mercer Ellington kept his big band alive after his death. When Mercer died, Paul Ellington, Ellington's grandson took over the band. Pianist **Tommy James** will be leading the orchestra in their Standard Bank Joy of Jazz appearance.

Eddie Palmieri is one of the foremost Latin jazz pianists of the 21st century, blessed with a technique that fuses jazz influences from the styles of Herbie Hancock, Thelonious Monk and McCoy Tyner into a Latin context. He is the recipient of nine Grammy Awards.

Drummer Manu Katche blossomed as a contemporary jazz drummer and band leader thanks to his involvement with the touring and recording projects of Peter Gabriel and Sting. He has performed with some of the world's most well-known musicians including Joni Mitchell, Gloria Estefan, Simple Minds, Tears for Fears, Dire Straits, Youssou N'Dour, the Bee Gees and Black Eyed Peas.

In a career that spans more than four decades, Jamaican piano legend Monty Alexander has performed and recorded with artists from every corner of the musical universe: Frank Sinatra, Ray Brown, Dizzy Gillespie, Sonny Rollins, Quincy Jones, Ernest Ranglin, Sly Dunbar, Robbie Shakespeare to name just a few. Alexander was awarded the title of Commander in the Order of Distinction by the Jamaican Government for outstanding services to Jamaica in his capacity as worldwide music ambassador.

Clarence Carter won legends of fans around the world with songs such as *Patches*, *Slip Away* and *Too Weak to Fight*. He found a new audience with songs such as *Strokin'* and *Dr CC* in the 1990s. *Strokin'* was also used in the Eddie Murphy film *The Nutty Professor*. Carter's strong soul sound also found an audience within the hip-hop community where he is known as Dr CC for his soulful guitar work intertwined with his sexy lyrics.

Lizz Wright's music is a mixture of jazz, folk, gospel, and R&B. The Georgia-based singer-songwriter is already a celebrated contributor to the jazz world, having recorded four albums.

Ken "Professor" Philmore has performed and recorded with a number of international artists such as Tito Puente, Ella Fitzgerald, Phyllis Hyman, Nancy Wilson, Tina Turner, Andy Narrell, Ralph Mc Donald, George Howard, Lionel Hampton and the Duke Ellington Orchestra. Apart from his work in Trinidad, he currently arranges music for steel bands both in US and the UK and lectures at universities worldwide.

Orchestre National de Jazz (under the current leadership of artistic director Daniel Yvinec) has charted a unique musical path over the last quarter of a century, with projects tributes to Billie Holiday and art rock pioneer Robert Wyatt. Their latest offering is the acclaimed *Shut Up and Dance*.

Manu Dibango is Cameroon's best-known jazz saxophonist. Starting in the 1950s, he became a globe-trotting musician, living and performing in France, Belgium, Jamaica, Zaire, and Cote d'Ivoire, as well as in Cameroon. In 1960, Dibango was one of the founding members of the Zairean band African Jazz. World attention came to Dibango with the release of *Soul Makossa*. He has worked with musicians such as Fela Kuti, Sly Dunbar, Robbie Shakespeare, Don Cherry, and the Fania All-Stars.

The Standard Bank Joy of Jazz will take place on eight stages in Newtown including the Dinaledi Stage, the Conga, Mbira, Bassline and The Market Theatre. Other venues include free concerts at Sophiatown, Shikisha and Nikki's Oasis.

Event producer Peter Tladi of T-Musicman says: "As the festival promoter we spend a great deal of time searching for artists that will appeal to a broad base of music fans. Once again, we have endeavoured to provide a diverse range of jazz styles. The artists performing this year are all highly respected, heavyweight musicians, whether newcomers or those who are icons of the global jazz scene. We have gone for a mix of the contemporary and the classic for this year's event and have something exciting and unmissable for everyone."

Commented Mandie van der Spuy, Art & Jazz Sponsorships at Standard Bank: "Our continued support for the Standard Bank Joy of Jazz has seen it grow in stature each year, enjoyed by growing numbers of appreciative audiences who are treated to the best selection of jazz musicians. We were delighted that last year's festival was a sell-out and are expecting record attendances again this year. We are proud to sponsor an event that not only brings jazz lovers together, but also allows us to stage a wonderful collaboration and celebration of jazz in the heart of Johannesburg."

For more information on the line-up and venues go to www.joyofjazz.co.za, and www.standardbankarts.co.za. See also <http://www.facebook.com/standardbankjoyofjazz>; <http://standardbank.mobi/jazz>; twitter.com/joyofjazz; www.facebook.com/standardbankjoyofjazz and youtube.com/standardbankgroup

Tickets are on sale at Computicket with a 15% discount for all Standard Bank customers (terms and conditions apply).

The 2012 Standard Bank Joy of Jazz is produced by T-Musicman and brought to you by Standard Bank in association with the Department of Arts & Culture with co-sponsors The Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation; South African Tourism; Gauteng Tourism; the National Arts Council and the City of Joburg.

2012 STANDARD BANK JOY OF JAZZ BIOGRAPHIES



AFRIKA MKHIZE (South Africa)

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASqbsJXYONE

Durban-born 2012 Standard Bank Young Artist Award winner for Jazz Afrika Mkhize started playing the piano at the age of six. At age 15, he was accepted at the National School of the Arts to further his classical music studies. In 1999, he enrolled at Pretoria Technikon to further his interest in jazz, composition and arranging. He has worked as a producer for the likes of Themba Mkhize, Miriam Makeba, Sibongile Khumalo and Kabelo. Mkhize has also performed with renowned artists such as Dorothy Masuka, Judith Sephuma and Marcus Wyatt. He has spent the last couple of years in Paris soaking up the jazz scene. "Afrika Mkhize represents the exciting new face of South African jazz," says Alan Webster, National Arts Festival committee member for Jazz. "Steeped in South Africa's musical heritage, he displays a fresh, international perspective that places South African jazz in a new perspective. He is a pianist with serious jazz chops who has the versatility to play music from across the spectrum, from African grooves to hip-hop to straight-ahead jazz, and in any company," Webster added.

- *Afrika Mkhize performs at Bassline on Saturday, August 25.*



BAKITHI KUMALO (South Africa/US)

- www.bakithikumalo.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8l_n814ijY
- *Selected discography*
 - *Step on the Bass Line* 1996
 - *San Bonan* 1998
 - *In Front of My Eyes* 2000
 - *This Is Me* 2005
 - *Transmigration* 2006
 - *Change* 2009

Bakithi Kumalo is a composer, vocalist, and bassist who decided to become a musician at an early age and by the time he was seven, was already performing in his uncle's band. Bakithi's fame grew, but his musical career was still a terrible struggle and he was seriously considering taking a job as a car mechanic at the time Paul Simon came calling in 1985. Simon was in South Africa to assemble a band for his *Graceland* album. A well-

known Johannesburg producer suggested Bakithi for his unique ability. Simon was entranced by his sound and, after some preliminary sessions in South Africa, he flew Bakithi to New York City to complete the tracks. His contribution to the Grammy-winning *Graceland* album gave him major visibility in the American music industry. He found himself in much demand for recordings and tours with many great artists such as Chaka Khan, Paul Simon, Randy Brecker, Josh Groban, Miriam Makeba, Hugh Masekela, Eileen Ivers, Harry Belafonte, Gerald Albright, Jonathan Butler, Cyndi Lauper, Laurie Anderson, Jon Secada and Gloria Estefan.

Band members:

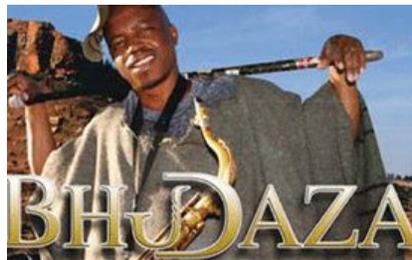
Levi Barcourt, who began studying piano at age eight, garnered four piano competition scholarships by the age of 16. After graduating from the famed High School of Music & Art in New York, he attended the Hartt College of Music at the University of Hartford and then Purchase Conservatory of Music where he received his Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree and his Master's Degree. This multi-talented artist is in high demand as a musical director, pianist, composer, conductor and arranger. He has worked in various capacities for such notables as Melba Moore, Freda Payne, Ashford and Simpson, The New York Boys Choir, the Harlem Opera Society, the New York Jazz Quartet, and nine-time Grammy winning group, Take 6.

Mark Gatz has been playing tenor, soprano sax, clarinet since the age of 13. He has a master in jazz performance from the Manhattan School of Music. Mark enjoys playing many styles of music including jazz, Latin, blues, bluegrass, as well as classic rock. Throughout his career he has performed and recorded with bands in all of these styles.

Robbi K's powerful soprano voice has graced TV commercials for the likes of Coca Cola, Lincoln Mercury, and GE, while onstage and in studios it has served her well in establishing an active career as a back-up singer for such superstars as Chaka Khan, Aretha Franklin, Jewel, Diana Ross, Rod Stewart, Daniel Rodriguez, Mary J. Blige, and Harry Belafonte. Robbi moves easily among the jazz, pop, blues and world music genres.

Mark Portugal has been studying percussion and drum set since the age of 12 and considers Steve Gadd, Buddy Rich, Dave Weckl, Carter Beauford and John Riley his biggest drumming influences. In addition to being an outstanding educator, Mark received a Master's Degree in Music Education from the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College, NY and a Bachelor's Degree in Music Theory and Performance from SUNY Stony Brook.

- *Bakithi Kumalo performs at Bassline on Friday, August 24 and Saturday, August 25.*

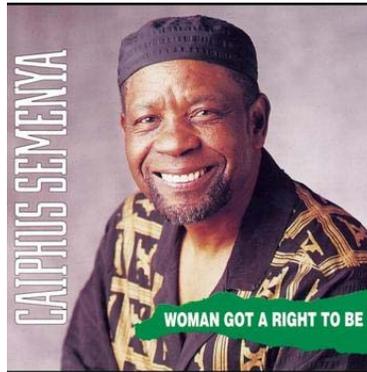


BHUDAZA MAPEFANE (Lesotho)

- *Discography*
 - *Bo Mapefane*
 - *Mohokare*
 - *Likhomo*

Saxophonist Bhudaza Mapefane studied music at the Mmabana Cultural Centre where he majored in jazz studies doing piano music theory and saxophone. He then joined Sankomota as a pianist and later switched to saxophone. He then studied jazz at the University of Cape Town College of Music. In 2001 he formed Bhudaza and Friends, and went solo in 2003 to record his debut album *Bo Mapefane*. He has performed with many top artists and has performed around the country.

- *Bhudaza Mapefane performs on the Conga Stage on Friday, August 24.*



CAIPHUS SEMENYA (South Africa)

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=TBuZtMEeQU0
- *Discography includes*
 - *Woman Got a Right To Be*
 - *The Best of Caiphus Semenya and Letta Mbulu*

Caiphus Semenya was born in Alexandra Township, Johannesburg. At the age of 14 he was exposed to such musical influences as the Woody Woodpeckers and the Inkspots. Soon Caiphus and three of his friends formed a group called the Katzenjammer Kids and within three years they became one of South Africa's top teenage groups. This led to a part in the 1959 production of the musical *King Kong*. In 1964, after a brief tour with the musical *Sponono*, Caiphus decided to stay in America. He worked closely with other exiled artists such as Miriam Makeba and formed a group with fellow exiles Hugh Masekela and Jonas Gwanga called the Union of South Africa. He has composed and arranged songs for many diverse artists such as Cannonball Adderley, Lou Rawls, Stanley Turrentine, Herb Alpert, Nina Simone, Harry Belafonte, Quincy Jones and his wife own Letta Mbulu. He wrote and arranged the African music for the mini-series *Roots* which earned him an Emmy Award. Caiphus, in association with Quincy Jones, also wrote and arranged all the African music for the Steven Spielberg produced and directed film *The Color Purple*. His collaboration with Jones led to an Oscar nomination and a Grammy win. Caiphus formed his own production company called Munjale Productions and has produced international music events around the world. He produced hit albums for Mbulu, Masekela and Makeba. Caiphus is one of South Africa's most celebrated arts and culture ambassadors and revered and respected worldwide for his musical genius.

- *Caiphus Semenya performs at on the Conga Stage on Friday, August 24.*



CÉCILE VERNY (Ivory Coast, France, Germany)

- www.cvq.de
- www.cecile-verny.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=pwoSidOzNAo

- *Discography*
 - *Oazoo (1992)*
 - *Patchwork (1995) (Cécile Verny Quartet For Jazz D'Or)*
 - *Expressive Impressions (1995) - Cecile Verny Quartet Live At The ZMF 1995*
 - *Coquelicot - Melodie De Vie (1997)*
 - *Got A Ticket (1998)*
 - *Metisse (1999)*
 - *Of Course (2000)*
 - *Kekeli (2002)*
 - *Cécile Verny Quartet - Live In Antibes (DVD, 2003)*
 - *European Songbook (2005)*
 - *The Bitter And The Sweet (2006)*
 - *Amoureuse (2008)*

Born in Ivory Coast, singer Cécile Verny has been singing on stage in Europe since she was 17. Having grown up in both Africa and Europe, she developed her personality, her voice and her multifarious, multifaceted way of singing as a very individual, unique mixture of her African roots, her European culture, and her love for Afro-American music. She is regularly in the studio and on stage in all kinds of groups and styles of music, where she enthral people with her down-to-earth charm. She has taught jazz vocals at the State Conservatory in Trossingen, the Jazz & Rock School in Freiburg and at C.E.D.I.M in Strasbourg. From the beginning, however, the key to her successful career has been her award-winning quartet.

Band members:

Vocalist: **Cécile Verny**

Bassist: **Bernd Heitzler**

Pianist: **Andreas Erchinger**

Percussionist: **Lars Binder**

- *Cécile Verny performs at The Market on Friday, August 24 and Saturday, August 25.*



CLARENCE CARTER (US)

- www.clarencecarter.net
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7gMkiOPSeA
- *Discography*
 - *1968 This Is Clarence Carter*
 - *1969 Testifyin'*
 - *1969 The Dynamic Clarence Carter*
 - *1970 Patches*
 - *1971 That's What Your Love Means to Me*
 - *1973 Sixty Minutes*
 - *1974 Real*
 - *1975 Loneliness & Temptation*
 - *1976 Heart Full of Song*
 - *1977 I Got Caught Making Love*
 - *1977 Let's Burn*
 - *1981 Mr. Clarence Carter in Person*
 - *1982 Love Me With A Feeling*

- 1984 *Singing For My Supper*
- 1985 *Messin' With My Mind*
- 1986 *Dr. C.C.*
- 1987 *Hooked on Love*
- 1989 *Touch of Blues*
- 1990 *Between a Rock and a Hard Place*
- 1991 *Dr. CC's Greatest Prescriptions: The Best Of*
- 1992 *Have You Met Clarence Carter...Yet?*
- 1994 *Live with the Dr.*
- 1995 *Together Again*
- 1995 *I Couldn't Refuse*
- 1996 *Carter's Corner*
- 1997 *Too Weak to Fight*
- 1999 *Bring It to Me*
- 2001 *Live in Johannesburg*
- 2003 *All Y'all Feeling Alright*
- 2005 *One More Hit (To the Face)*
- 2007 *Messin' with My Mind*
- 2007 *The Final Stroke*
- 2009 *On Your Feet*
- 2010 *A Christmas Party*
- 2011 *Sing Along With Clarence Carter*

Born in Montgomery, Alabama in 1936, Clarence Carter attended the Alabama School for the Blind in Talladega, Alabama, and Alabama State College in Montgomery, graduating in August 1960 with a Bachelor of Science degree in music. His rendition of *Patches* was a UK No 2 and a US No 4 in 1970, and won the Grammy Award for Best R&B Song in 1971. This disc sold over one million copies. Following *Slip Away* and *Too Weak to Fight*, it was Carter's third million-seller. He found a new audience with songs such as *Strokin'* and *Dr CC* in the 1980s and 1990s. *Strokin'* was also used in the Eddie Murphy film *The Nutty Professor*. Carter's strong soul sound also found an audience within the hip-hop community. Dr CC as he is known to his worldwide fan base can still bring the party to life with his soulful guitar work intertwined with his sexy lyrics.

- *Clarence Carter performs on the Mbira Stage on Friday August 24 and Saturday August 25.*



THE DUKE ELLINGTON ORCHESTRA (US)

- www.dukeellington.com/orchestra.html
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=JY1fx-NqOnU

Duke Ellington's work has come to be recognised as a cornerstone of American culture and heritage. He is widely regarded as the most important composer in jazz; he was also a galvanising bandleader who inspired many of his musicians to produce their best work, whilst himself being a significant exponent of jazz piano. His works have been revisited by artists and musicians around the world both as a source of inspiration and a bedrock of their own performing careers. Ellington's compositions are now the staple of the repertoire of music conservatories. His son, Mercer Ellington kept his big band alive after

his death. When Mercer died, Paul Ellington, Ellington's grandson, kept the Duke Ellington Orchestra going. It plays in concert halls around the world to this day. The music of Duke Ellington defies any strict categorisation. Call it jazz, call it swing or call it big band. But whatever you call it, call it the music that will make you want to dance in the aisles. The Duke Ellington Orchestra in a toe-tappin', finger-snappin' concert of music from the great Ellington songbook, including some of his best loved tunes.

Band member:

Pianist **Tommy James** will be leading the orchestra in their Standard Bank Joy of Jazz concerts. "You don't apply for an open slot in this orchestra," says James. "You're invited by someone already in the band who wants you in there." The average age of a player is in their 40s, James estimates. But, he stressed, though the orchestra is connected to the band of 80 years ago, it's no carbon copy. "It's not like you're trying to imitate the original cats," he says. "As far as the ensemble work goes, we try to observe everything that needs to be observed."

- *The Duke Ellington Orchestra perform on the Dinaledi Stage on Friday, August 24, and Saturday, August 25.*



EARL KLUGH (US)

- www.earlklugh.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=n7fF_eRYM5k
- *Sample discography*
 - 1976 *Earl Klugh*
 - 1976 *Living inside Your Love*
 - 1977 *Finger Paintings*
 - 1978 *Magic in Your Eyes*
 - 1979 *Heart String*
 - 1980 *Dream Come True*
 - 1980 *Late Night Guitar*
 - 1981 *Crazy for You*
 - 1983 *Low Ride*
 - 1984 *Wishful Thinking*
 - 1985 *Nightsongs*
 - 1985 *Soda Fountain Shuffle*
 - 1986 *Life Stories*
 - 1989 *Solo Guitar*
 - 1989 *Whispers and Promises*
 - 1991 *Midnight in San Juan*
 - 1994 *Move*
 - 1996 *Sudden Burst of Energy*
 - 1997 *The Journey*
 - 1999 *Peculiar Situation*
 - 2005 *Naked Guitar*
 - 2008 *The Spice of Life*

Earl Klugh (pronounced "Clue") is an American smooth jazz/crossover jazz/jazz fusion guitarist and composer. Klugh played on a Yusef Lateef album when he was 15 and gained recognition in 1971 for his contributions to George Benson's *White Rabbit* record. He played regularly with Benson in 1973, was a member of Return to Forever briefly in

1974, and then in the mid '70s, began recording as a leader. After a couple well-received solo albums, Klugh found international fame with 1979's *One on One*, a Grammy-winning collaboration with pianist Bob James. More solo albums followed before the sequel to *One on One*, *Two of a Kind*, appeared in 1982. Klugh made his biggest artistic impression in 1989 with the self-explanatory *Solo Guitar*. Klugh has recorded over 30 albums including 23 Top 10 charting records – five of them No. 1 on Billboard's Jazz Album chart. He has received 12 Grammy nods, millions of record and CD sales and continues touring worldwide.

- *Earl Klugh performs on the Dinaledi Stage on Thursday, August 23 and Saturday, August 25.*



EDDIE PALMIERI (US)

- www.eddiepalmierimusic.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=3HbCt6nXsv4
- Discography
 - *La Perfecta*, 1962
 - *El Molestoso*, 1963
 - *Lo Que Traigo Es Sabroso*, 1964
 - *Echando Pa'lante (Straight Ahead)*, 1964
 - *Azucar Pa'ti (Sugar for You)*, 1965
 - *Mozambique*, 1965
 - *El Sonido Nuevo: The New Soul Sound*, 1966 (with [Cal Tjader](#))
 - *Bamboleate*, 1967 (with Cal Tjader)
 - *Molasses*, 1967
 - *Champagne*, 1968
 - *Justicia*, 1969
 - *Superimposition*, 1970
 - *Vamonos Pa'l Monte*, 1971
 - *Live at the [University of Puerto Rico](#)*, 1971
 - *Harlem River Drive*, 1971 (as part of Harlem River Drive band)
 - *Recorded Live at Sing Sing, Vol. 1*, 1972
 - *Recorded Live at Sing Sing, Vol. 2*, 1972
 - *Sentido*, 1973
 - *The Sun of Latin Music (with Lalo Rodriguez)*, 1974
 - *Unfinished Masterpiece*, 1974
 - *Eddie's Concerto*, 1976
 - *Lucumi, Macumba, Voodoo*, 1978
 - *Eddie Palmieri*, 1982
 - *Palo Pa Rumba*, 1984
 - *Solito*, 1985
 - *E.P.*, 1985
 - *The Truth, La Verdad*, 1987
 - *Sueno*, 1992
 - *Music Man*, 1992

- *Llego La India via Eddie Palmieri*, 1992 (with La India)
- *Palmas*, 1994
- *Arete*, 1995
- *Vortex*, 1996
- *El Rumbero Del Piano*, 1998
- *Live*, 1999
- *Masterpiece / Obra Maestra*, 2000 (with Tito Puente)
- *En Vivo Italia*, 2002
- *La Perfecta II*, 2002
- *Ritmo Caliente*, 2003
- [Listen Here!](#), 2005
- [Simpático](#) (The Brian Lynch/Eddie Palmieri Project), 2006
- *Salsa Brothers*, 2011 (with Charlie Palmieri)

Eddie Palmieri, known for his charismatic power and bold innovative drive, has a musical career that spans over 50 years as a bandleader of salsa and Latin jazz orchestras. With a discography that includes 36 titles, Palmieri has been awarded nine Grammy Awards. Born in Spanish Harlem in 1936, Eddie began piano studies at an early age, as did his celebrated older brother, the late Salsa legend and pianist, Charlie Palmieri. For Latin New Yorkers of Eddie's generation, music was a vehicle out of El Barrio. At age 11, he auditioned at Weil Recital Hall, which is next door to Carnegie Hall, a venue as far from the Bronx as he could imagine. Possessed by a desire to play the drums, Palmieri joined his uncle's orchestra at age 13, where he played timbales. Says Palmieri, "By 15, it was good-bye timbales and back to the piano until this day. I'm a frustrated percussionist, so I take it out on the piano." Eddie Palmieri embraces the future of his music by blazing a distinctive musical path to the delight of fans across the globe. He has one of the most actively touring salsa and Latin jazz orchestras to date, tours of which have taken him to Europe, Asia, Australia, Latin America, North Africa and throughout the Caribbean. A true powerhouse of brilliance known for his astute arranging skills and historic compositions, Palmieri has shown that time is infinite with respect to his repertoire as he continues to thrill audiences with his legendary style.

- *Eddie Palmieri Conga Stage on Saturday, August 25.*



ERIK TRUFFAZ (Switzerland/France)

- www.eriktruffaz.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPv9IH_23FU
- *Discography*
 - *In between* (2010)
 - *Benares* (2008)
 - *Mexico* (2008)
 - *Paris* (2008)

- *Arkhangelsk* (2007)
- *Face-à-face* (2CD Live + DVD) (2006)
- *Saloua* (2005)
- *The Walk of the Giant Turtle* (2003)
- *Magrouni* (2002)
- *Revisité* (2001)
- *Mantis* (2001)
- *The Mask* (2000)
- *Bending New Corners* (1999)
- *The Dawn* (1998)
- *Out of a Dream* (1997)
- *Nina Valéria* (1994)

Erik Truffaz is a Swiss-born French jazz trumpeter, infusing elements of hip hop, rock 'n' roll and dance music into his compositions. He signed with the French EMI label in 1996. Truffaz gained international attention with his second album on Blue Note, *The Dawn*, produced together with Pat Muller, Marcello Giuliani and Mark Erbetta. Since then they have produced many Blue Note albums together such as *Bending New Corners*, which became a Silver Album in France. The 2007 release *Arkhangelsk* is a mixture of pop songs, French chanson, and jazz-groove.

- *Erik Truffaz performs at Bassline on Friday, August 24 and the Conga on Saturday, August 25.*



GLORIA BOSMAN (South Africa)

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=238RO_HFAvM
- *Discography*
 - *Tranquility*
 - *The Many Faces of Gloria Bosman*
 - *Stop and Think*
 - *Nature Dances*
 - *Emzini*

Gloria Bosman began her singing in a church choir and in 1993 was awarded a scholarship to study opera at the Pretoria Technikon. She toured France with Jonas Gwangwa and has sung for both outgoing and incoming presidents Nelson Mandela and Thabo Mbeki. Gloria has sung with the cream of South African musicians, amongst them Sibongile Khumalo, Moses Molelekwa, Siphon Mabuse, Vusi Mahlasela, James Philips, Victor Masondo, Hugh Masekela and Jonas Gwangwa. Her debut album *Tranquility* won the SAMA Best Newcomer award. Gloria has performed in theatre productions including the musicals *SA Love*, *Jubilation*, *Woman in Spirit* and John Kani's *The Lion and the Lamb*. Bosman is a former Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz.

- *Gloria Bosman performs at The Market on Friday, August 24.*



GRACE KELLY (US)

- www.gracekellymusic.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=igF190jGQ-o
- *Discography*
 - *Grace (2011)*
 - *Man With The Hat (2011)*
 - *Mood Changes (2009)*
 - *GRACEfulLEE (2008)*
 - *Every Road I Walked (2006)*
 - *Times Too (2005)*
 - *Dreaming (2004)*

When it comes to saxophonist /vocalist/composer/lyricist/arranger Grace Kelly, people seem to be divided into two groups: those who marvel at her proficiency, creativity and ever-accelerating growth, and those who have yet to encounter the 20-year-old wunderkind. The ranks of the former category are growing by the day. Trumpeter and Jazz at Lincoln Center Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis was so impressed with Kelly's three-night stand as guest of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra that he invited her to join the ensemble at the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theater in Washington, D.C. for Barack Obama's Inauguration Celebration. Harry Connick, Jr. heard Kelly in a master class on a December afternoon and brought her on stage to sit in with his band that night. Since then, Kelly has been voted "Best Jazz Act" in Boston four consecutive years in the FNX/Phoenix Best Music Poll, received the ASCAP Foundation's Young Jazz Composers Award in 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2011 and won "Jazz Artist of the Year" at the Boston Music Awards in both 2008 and 2010. The 2009, 2010, and 2011 Downbeat Critics Poll added to her the list naming her one of the "Alto Saxophone Rising Stars", the youngest artist ever to be named to the music poll. Grace began a teaching residency at Berklee College in January of 2012.

- *Grace Kelly performs as part of Sax Summit at the Dinaledi Stage on Thursday, August 23.*



JANE MONHEIT (US)

- www.janemonheitonline.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=2DSrJXQV9Og
- *Discography*
 - *Never Never Land (2000)*
 - *Come Dream With Me (2001)*
 - *In the Sun (2002)*
 - *Live at the Rainbow Room (2003)*
 - *Taking a Chance on Love (2004)*
 - *The Season (2005)*
 - *The Very Best of Jane Monheit (2005)*
 - *Surrender (2007)*
 - *The Lovers, The Dreamers and Me (2009)*
 - *Home (2010)*

Jane Monheit is a jazz and adult contemporary vocalist. She has collaborated with artists such as Michael Bubl , Ivan Lins, Terence Blanchard and Tom Harrell, and has received Grammy nominations for two of her recordings. Monheit has performed at most of the major concert halls, cabarets and jazz venues around the globe. She appears on the sound track of the movie *Sky Captain and The World of Tomorrow* singing *Over the Rainbow*. Jane has also been a featured performer in the nationally televised *Christmas at the White House*, the Capitol Fourth of July Celebration, and The National Memorial Day Celebration. She has appeared on numerous television shows including Emeril, Ramsey Lewis's *Legends of Jazz*, *Letterman*, *The View* and *The Today Show*. Jane spends most of the year on tour with her band which currently includes Michael Kanan on piano, Neal Miner on bass and Rick Montalbano on drums.

BAND MEMBERS

Michael Kanan, piano

Michael Kanan is originally from Boston, MA, where he attended Boston College. His first jazz instructor, Harvey Diamond, was a student of legendary pianist and composer Lennie Tristano. From 1995-2001, Michael was the accompanist for vocal great Jimmy Scott, with whom he toured the United States, Europe and Japan, made numerous TV and radio performances, and recorded three CDs.

In addition to his work accompanying vocalists like Mr. Scott, Jane Monheit, Annie Ross, and Madeleine Peyroux, Michael has also played in many instrumental settings. He performed in New York with guitar wizard Kurt Rosenwinkel, and with him recorded the popular CD *Intuit for Criss-Cross*. Michael was also a founding member of the International Hashva Orchestra, which included Mark Turner and Jorge Rossy and has led his own trio, with bassist Ben Street and drummer Tim Pleasant, on two recordings for Fresh Sound Talent: *Convergence* and *The Gentleman Is a Dope*. His most recent CD is a duet album with saxophonist Nat Su, *Dreams and Reflections*.

Neal Miner, bass

Born and raised in Manhattan, Neal received his high school diploma from the Interlochen Arts Academy, and attended the Manhattan School of Music. Most notable of his private teachers were classical bassist Orin O'Brien of the New York Philharmonic, and jazz bassist John Webber.

Over the years Neal has accompanied jazz legends such as Jon Hendricks, Annie Ross, James Moody, Bob Dorough, Bill Henderson, Frank Wess; and new jazz stars like Jane Monheit, Stacey Kent, Ann Hampton Callaway, Dena DeRose, Loston Harris; and fashion celebrity and TV personality Isaac Mizrahi. Neal has also held the bass chair in large groups such as the Toshiko Akiyoshi Jazz Orchestra, Carnegie Hall Big Band, and the Village Vanguard Jazz Band.

In 2006, Neal's latest CD, *The Evening Sound*, was released on the Smalls Records label.

Rick Montalbano, drums

Rick Montalbano has been playing drums professionally since his early teens. Growing up in a professional musical environment – his father is jazz pianist and organist, Rick Montalbano – offered him unique exposure to world-class musicians, including legendary

saxophonists Sal Nistico and J.R. Monterose. Years later, he would win the very first J.R. Monterose Memorial Scholarship.

While in high school, Rick was selected as one of five young musicians to be awarded a scholarship from the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, a prestigious international competition.

- *Jane Monheit performs at The Market on Friday, August 24, and on the Mbira Stage on Saturday, August 25.*



JIMMY DLUDLU (Mozambique/ South Africa)

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=sxBf9RV3Z6M
- *Discography*
 - *Echoes from the Past* 1997
 - *Essence of Rhythm* 1999
 - *Afrocentric* 2002
 - *Corners of my Soul* 2006
 - *Portrait* 2007
 - *Sound And Vision* 2008
 - *Tonota* 2001

Award-winning guitarist Jimmy Dlodlu cut his teeth playing with various bands in Mozambique, Botswana, Namibia, Swaziland and South Africa. He attended the music school at the University of Cape Town, where he completed a three-year scholarship in the jazz programme. Dlodlu played for saxophonist McCoy Mrubata's outfit Brotherhood, which a year later went on to win the Music of Africa Competition. In 1991, together with some of his Mozambican compatriots based in South Africa, Dlodlu formed the seminal Loading Zone. Dlodlu's style includes wide-ranging influences, combining both traditional and modern elements of jazz drawn from among others Wes Montgomery, George Benson and Pat Metheny, to South African legends Miriam Makeba, Letta Mbulu, Hugh Masekela, Themba Mokwena, and Allen Kwela. He is particularly drawn to the sounds of west and central Africa, as well as Latin America, but says jazz remains his first love. His numerous original compositions fall within the tradition of what has been loosely termed Afro-Jazz.

- *Jimmy Dlodlu performs on the Dinaledi Stage on Saturday, August 25.*



JOHNNY MEKOA (South Africa)

Jazz maestro Johnny Meko was mentored by his two brothers Fred and Peter. It was the days of marabi and mbaqanga music. Meko found himself at the hub of Mzansi music at Dorkay House in Eloff Street, Joburg. In the frustrating political climate of 1967, when black musicians were banned from playing in white clubs, Johnny decided to form his own band The Jazz Ministers. The group took their unique sound all over South Africa and the world. In 1987, Meko started studying for a Bachelor's Degree in Music at the University of Natal. He was later awarded a Fullbright scholarship, which he used to get a Masters Degree in Jazz Education at Indiana University in the US. He had always dreamed of opening a music school and this dream came to fruition in 1994 with the establishment of the Music Academy of Gauteng. The school's band plays big concerts and tours as well.

- *Johnny Meko performs at The Market on Saturday, August 25. He will be playing the music of the Jazz Ministers.*



KEN "PROFESSOR" PHILMORE (Trinidad and Tobago)

- www.kenprofessorphilmore.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxFHVYfw_NE
- *Discography includes*
 - [Pan Jamboree](#)
 - [Love in Steel](#)
 - [Our Heritage](#)
 - [Pan by Storm](#)

Ken Philmore is from the island of Trinidad and Tobago, birthplace of the musical instrument, the steel pan (a.k.a. steel drum). "Professor" is one of the top steel-drum soloists in the world. His fascination with the steel pan began when he was only four years old. In 1974, at the age of 15, he joined the Hatters Steel Orchestra. In 1982, he became musical director of one of the nation's most prestigious steel orchestras. In 1985 he was requested to play for Queen Elizabeth II on her visit to Trinidad and Tobago. In 1985, "Professor" also did his first album – *Our Heritage*, which features a mixture of his version of jazz classics like *Mr Magic* and *Stardust*, together with pan instrumentals of some popular calypsos. He has since produced 17 albums, five of which feature lead vocals by the "Professor" himself.

- *Ken Philmore performs on the Mbira Stage on Friday, August 24.*



KURT ELLING (US)

- www.kurtelling.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4f1-Enyhds
- *Discography*
 - *Close Your Eyes (1995)*
 - *The Messenger (1997)*
 - *This Time it's Love (1998)*
 - *Live in Chicago (2000)*
 - *Flirting with Twilight (2001)*
 - *Man in the Air (2003)*
 - *Concord Records*
 - *Nightmoves (2007)*
 - *Dedicated to You (2009)*
 - *The Gate (2011)*

Kurt Elling is among the world's foremost jazz vocalists. He has been named "Male Singer of the Year" by the Jazz Journalists Association on half a dozen occasions in the past 10 years, and during the same interval has been the perennial winner of the DownBeat Critics Poll. He is also a Grammy winner, and every record he has made has been Grammy nominated.

Elling's rich baritone spans four octaves and features both astonishing technical mastery and emotional depth. His command of rhythm, texture, phrasing, and dynamics is more like a virtuoso jazz instrumentalist than a vocalist.

His repertoire includes original compositions and modern interpretations of standards, all of which are springboards for inspired improvisation, scatting, spoken word, and poetry. Declared *The New York Times*, "Elling is the standout male vocalist of our time." Said *The Washington Post*, "Since the mid-1990s, no singer in jazz has been as daring, dynamic or interesting as Kurt Elling. With his soaring vocal flights, his edgy lyrics and sense of being on a musical mission, he has come to embody the creative spirit in jazz." He has been featured in profiles for *CBS Sunday Morning*, *CNN*, on Ramsey Lewis's *Legends of Jazz*, and in hundreds of publications. Elling has recorded and/or performed with an array of artists, including Terence Blanchard, Dave Brubeck, Jon Hendricks, Charlie Hunter, Al Jarreau, Christian McBride, and Kurt Rosenwinkel.

He served as the Artist-in-Residence for the Singapore Music and Monterey Jazz Festivals. He has also written multi-disciplinary works for The Steppenwolf Theatre and the City of Chicago. The Obama Administration's first state dinner featured Elling in a command performance. Elling is a renowned artist of *vocalese* - the writing and performing of words over recorded improvised jazz solos. In 2010 Elling completed an extensive tour with the Monterey Jazz Festival All-Stars and staged *Passion World*, a commissioned event for Jazz at Lincoln Center with French accordion virtuoso Richard Galliano, singing songs of love and loss in five languages.

- *Kurt Elling performs on the Dinaledi Stage on Friday, August 24 and at Bassline on Saturday, August 25.*



LEDISI ANIBADE YOUNG (US)

- www.ledisi.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=McUj4t3TkPA
- *Discography*
 - *Soulsinger: The Revival* (2000)
 - *Feeling Orange but Sometimes Blue* (2002)
 - *Lost & Found* (2007)
 - *Turn Me Loose* (2009)
 - *Pieces of Me* (2011)

Ledisi (which means "to bring forth" in Yoruba) is known for her jazz influenced vocals. In 1995, Ledisi formed the group known as Anibade. In 2000, she released her first album, *Soulsinger: The Revival*. In 2002, Ledisi released her second album, *Feeling Orange but Sometimes Blue*. The album won her an award for Outstanding Jazz Album at the California Music Awards. In 2007, Ledisi signed a major record deal with Verve Forecast and released her third album in August of that year, *Lost & Found*, which sold almost 217 000 copies and earned her two Grammy nominations, including one for Best New Artist. In 2009, Ledisi released her fourth album *Turn Me Loose*, which earned her two Grammy nominations. *Pieces of Me*, an album that involved the likes of Rex Rideout, Mike City, and Chuck Harmony - as well as Jaheim, on a duet - followed in 2011. It received three Grammy nominations.

- *Ledisi performs on the Mbira Stage on Friday, August 24 and Saturday, August 25.*



LIZZ WRIGHT (US)

- www.lizzwright.net
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OCldhum9vU
- *Discography*
 - 2003: [*Salt*](#)
 - 2005: [*Dreaming Wide Awake*](#)
 - 2008: [*The Orchard*](#)
 - 2010: [*Fellowship*](#)

Lizz Wright started singing gospel music and playing piano in church as a child, and also became interested in jazz and blues. She attended Houston County High School, where she was heavily involved in choral singing, receiving the National Choral Award. She went on to Georgia State University in Atlanta to study singing. Since then she has studied at The New School in New York and in Vancouver. Wright joined the Atlanta-based vocal quartet In the Spirit in 2000, which soon achieved critical acclaim, and in 2002 she signed a recording contract with Verve Records, where her musical compositions and vocal style led her to be compared to that of Norah Jones. Her first album, *Salt*, was released in the spring of 2003 (and reached number two on the

Billboard Top Contemporary Jazz chart in 2004). Wright took some time off in 2009 to get back in touch with non-musical interests-including graduating from culinary school. She says about her latest album *Fellowship*: "I went into this project thinking that it was a good time to sing the songs that I needed in my life and that I felt like my people needed. The gospel is always in my heart and veins, and the voices of my family singing those stories are always with me."

- *Lizz Wright performs at The Market Theatre on Friday, August 24, and Saturday, August 25.*



MANU KATCHE (France)

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gjOvDmeluM
- *Discography*
 - [It's About Time](#) (1992)
 - [Neighbourhood](#) (2005)
 - [Playground](#) (September 2007)
 - [Third Round](#) (March 2010)

Drummer Manu Kathe blossomed as a contemporary jazz drummer and band leader, emerging in the mid-2000s after having played with his share of popular musicians. He studied classical piano and at age 15 enrolled at the Conservatoire Nationale de Paris. He then became a session and concert drummer with a wide range of groups, but in the mid-'80s, Kathe's stock rose considerably, thanks to his involvement with the touring and recording projects of Peter Gabriel and Sting. A French debut CD *It's About Time* was followed by a string of engagements as a backup musician. The impressive roster of artists he has played with include Joni Mitchell, Gloria Estefan, Johnny Hallyday, Michael McDonald, Simple Minds, Afro Celt Sound System, Jeff Beck, Al DiMeola, Tears for Fears, Dire Straits, Jan Garbarek, Loreena McKennitt, Youssou N'Dour, Robbie Robertson, Joe Satriani, Tori Amos, Richard Wright, Julia Fordham, the Bee Gees, Joan Armatrading, Tracy Chapman, Bob James and Hilary James, Gipsy Kings, Anna Marie Jopek, Black Eyed Peas, Kyle Eastwood and David Lanz. From 2003 to 2007, Kathe was one of the judges for *Nouvelle Star*, the French version of *American Idol*.

- *Manu Kathe performs on the opening night on the Dinaledi Stage on Thursday August 23 and on the Conga Stage on Saturday, August 25.*



MANU DIBANGO (Cameroon)

➤ www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2CgvK5oWz4

➤ *Discography*

- *Soul Makossa (1972)*
- *Boso (1973)*
- *Africadelic (1973)*
- *Makossa Man (1974)*
- *Makossa Music (1975)*
- *Manu 76 (1976)*
- *Super Kumba (1976)*
- *The World of Manu Dibango (1976)*
- *Ceddo O.S.T (1977)*
- *A l'Olympia (1978)*
- *Afrovision (1978)*
- *Sun Explosion (1978)*
- *Gone Clear (1980)*
- *Ambassador (1981)*
- *Waka Juju (1982)*
- *Mboa (1982)*
- *Electric Africa (1985)*
- *Afrijazzy (1986)*
- *Deliverance (1989)*
- *Happy Feeling (1989)*
- *Rasta Souvenir (1989)*
- *Polysonik (1992)*
- *Live '91 (1994)*
- *Wakafrika (1994)*
- *African Soul - The Very Best Of (1997)*
- *CubAfrica (with Eliades Ochoa) (1998)*
- *Mboa' Su - Kamer Feelin' (1999)*
- *Lion of Africa (2007)*
- *African Woodoo (2008)*
- *Past Present Future (2011)*

Manu Dibango is Cameroon's, and perhaps Africa's, best-known jazz saxophonist. Starting in the 1950s, he became a globe-trotting musician, living and performing in France, Belgium, Jamaica, Zaire, and Cote d'Ivoire, as well as in Cameroon. In 1960, Dibango was one of the founding members of the Zairean band African Jazz. World attention came to Dibango with the release in 1972 of *Soul Makossa*. Dibango's output has been prodigious and multi-faceted. He has worked with musicians such as Fela Kuti, Sly Dunbar, Robbie Shakespeare, Don Cherry, and the Fania All-Stars. He served as the first chairman of the Cameroon Music Corporation and was appointed a UNESCO Artist for Peace in 2004.

- *Manu Dibango performs at on the Conga Stage on Friday, August 24 and Saturday, August 25.*



MARCUS WYATT (South Africa)

- www.marcuswyatt.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ljuwa5cjJ9k
- *Discography*

- *Gathering (2000)*
- *Africans in Space (2002)*
- *Language 12 (2006)*
- *Marcus Wyatt & Language 12, Live @ House of Nsako (2009) DVD*
- *ZAR (2011)*

Marcus Wyatt, a native of Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape, has been blowing his horn since 1983. He is part of a new generation of South African musicians, moving forward, respectful of the past without being afraid of twisting boundaries. Marcus' new album *Language 12* is testament to this, with a seamless blend of tradition and progressive thinking, contemporary loop-based ideas and live performance. This young trumpet player has performed around the globe, and worked with an impressive array of musicians, from Manu Dibango, Abdullah Ibrahim and Miriam Makeba to Carlo Mombelli, Courtney Pine and The Fra Fra Sound (Holland). Marcus Wyatt's first two albums *Gathering* and *Africans in Space* feature South Africa's finest jazz musicians, and have both been nominated for South African Music Awards (SAMA). As well as playing every major festival in South Africa, Marcus has performed at the North Sea Jazz Festival (Holland), Stockholm Jazz Festival (Sweden) and The Villa Celimontana Festival in Rome, Italy.

- *Marcus Wyatt performs on the Dinaledi Stage on Friday, August 24.*



MAYSA LEAK (US)

- www.maysa.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=thYz-vgajW4
- *Discography*
 - *Maysa (1995)*
 - *All My Life (2000)*
 - *Out of the Blue (2002)*
 - *Smooth Sailing (2004)*
 - *Sweet Classic Soul (2006)*
 - *Feel the Fire (2007)*
 - *Metamorphosis (2008)*
 - *A Woman in Love (2010)*
 - *Motions of Love (2011)*
 - *Live at the Birchmere (2011)*

While singer Maysa is no newcomer to the music scene, her CD, *Motions of Love* that boasts cameos by the legendary Stevie Wonder and neo soul crooner Dwele, promises to introduce the veteran soul and smooth jazz vocalist to the widest audience of her career. She first gained fame as the featured voice on British acid jazz band Incognito's defining `90s era hits such as *Don't You Worry about a Thing*, *Still a Friend of Mine* and *Deep Waters*. She then launched a concurrent solo career with the hits *Am I Wrong (For Lovin' You)*, *Friendly Pressure* and *Hypnotic Love*. With a sultry alto on par with Phyllis Hyman and Patti Austin's honeyed notes, Maysa has earned a loyal underground audience.

- *Maysa performs on the Mbira Stage on Friday, August 24 and Saturday, August 25.*



MONTY ALEXANDER (Jamaica)

- www.montyalexander.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=WfO-nDUJmlw
- *Discography*
 - *Here Comes The Sun (1971)*
 - *We've Only Just Begun (1973)*
 - *Perception (1974)*
 - *Rass! (with Ernest Ranglin) (1974)*
 - *Love & Sunshine (1974)*
 - *Unlimited Love (1975)*
 - *Montreux Alexander (1976)*
 - *Cobilimbo (with Ernest Ranglin) (1977)*
 - *Estade (1978)*
 - *Jamento (1978)*
 - *So What? (1979)*
 - *The Way It Is (1979)*
 - *Monty Alexander - Ernest Ranglin (1981)*
 - *Duke Ellington Songbook (1983)*
 - *Reunion in Europe (1984)*
 - *Full Steam Ahead (1985)*
 - *Triple Treat II (1987)*
 - *Ivory & Steel (1988)*
 - *Triple Treat III (1989)*
 - *The River (1990)*
 - *Live in Holland (1992)*
 - *Caribbean Circle (1993)*
 - *Live At Maybeck (1994)*
 - *Steamin' (1995)*
 - *Yard Movement (1995)*
 - *Maybeck Recital Hall Series, Vol. 40 (1995)*
 - *To Nat With Love (1995)*
 - *Ivory and Steal (1996)*
 - *Facets (1996)*
 - *Overseas Special (1996) - with Ray Brown and Herb Ellis*
 - *Echoes of Jilly's (1997)*
 - *Reunion in Europe (1997 - with John Clayton & Jeff Hamilton)*
 - *The Concord Jazz Heritage Series (1998)*
 - *Stir it up - The music of Bob Marley (1999)*
 - *Threesome (1999), - with Grady Tate & Niels-Henning Orsted Pedersen*
 - *Ballad Essentials (2000)*
 - *Island Grooves (2000)*
 - *Monty Meets Sly & Robbie (2000)*

- *Triple Treat (2001)*
- *Goin' Yard (2001)*
- *Many Rivers to Cross (2001)*
- *Caribbean Duet (2001) - with Michel Sardaby*
- *My America (2002)*
- *Triple Scoop (2002), - with Ray Brown and Herb Ellis*
- *Rhapsody In Blue (2002)*
- *Jamboree (2003)*
- *Li'l darlin (2003)*
- *Straight Ahead (2003) - with Ray Brown and Herb Ellis*
- *Steaming Hot (2004)*
- *Zing (2004)*
- *In Tokyo (2004)*
- *Rocksteady (2004) - with Ernest Ranglin*
- *Live at the Iridium (2005)*
- *Jazz Calypso (2005)*
- *Concrete Jungle: The Songs of Bob Marley (2006)*
- *The Way It Is (2006)*
- *Impressions in Blue (2008)*
- *The Good Life: Monty Alexander Plays the Songs of Tony Bennett (2008)*
- *Solo (2008)*
- *Taste of Freedom (2008)*
- *Calypso Blues: The Songs of Nat King Cole (2009)*
- *Uplift (2011)*
- *Harlem - Kingston Express Live! (2011)*

In a career spanning five decades, pianist Monty Alexander has built a reputation exploring the worlds of American jazz, popular song, and the music of his native Jamaica, finding in each a sincere spirit of musical expression. In the process, he has performed and recorded with artists from every corner of the musical universe: Frank Sinatra, Ray Brown, Dizzy Gillespie, Sonny Rollins, Clark Terry, Quincy Jones, Ernest Ranglin, Barbara Hendricks, Sly Dunbar, and Robbie Shakespeare, among many others. He formed Monty and the Cyclones in the late '60s and also recorded on sessions with musicians who would later form The Skatalites. Alexander and his family came to the United States at the end of 1961. Less than two years later, while playing in Las Vegas with Art Mooney's orchestra, he caught the eye of New York City club owner Jilly Rizzo and his friend, Frank Sinatra. Rizzo hired the young pianist to work in his club, Jilly's, where he accompanied Sinatra and others. There he met Modern Jazz Quartet vibraphonist Milt Jackson, who hired him and eventually introduced him to former Charlie Parker collaborator and legendary bassist Ray Brown. Alexander subsequently recorded and performed with jazz giants Ray Brown and Milt Jackson on many occasions. His musical collaborations span multiple genres and styles. His projects have been as varied as assisting Natalie Cole in her tribute album to her father, Nat "King" Cole in 1991 (that album, *Unforgettable*, won seven Grammy awards), performing George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* under the direction of Bobby McFerrin at the Verbier Festival in Switzerland, and recording the piano track for the film score of Clint Eastwood's *Bird*, a movie about the life of jazz titan Charlie Parker. In August 2000 Monty Alexander was awarded the title of Commander in the Order of Distinction by the Jamaican Government for outstanding services to Jamaica in his capacity as worldwide music ambassador. Alexander maintains a rigorous touring schedule worldwide, from jazz clubs to concert halls and playing at Jazz Festivals from Montreux (Switzerland) to South Africa, Japan and Australia. To date Monty Alexander has recorded over 70 albums as a leader.

- *Monty Alexander performs at the Bassline on Friday, August 24 and Saturday, August 25.*



MORY KANTÉ (Guinea/France)

- www.morykante.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpZaLnI3oMk
- *Selected discography*
 - *Courougnegre* (1981)
 - *N'Diarabi* (1982)
 - *A Paris* (1984)
 - *10 Kola Nuts* (1985)
 - *Akwaba Beach* (1987)
 - *Touma* (1990)
 - *Nongo Village* (1994)
 - *Tatebola* (1996)
 - *Tamala – Le Voyageur* (2001)
 - *Best Of* (2002)
 - *Sabou* (2004)

Mory Kanté is a legend- a traditional West African musician who rose to regional stardom in the '70s, rocked the world pop charts from his adopted home in Paris in the '80s, rode the wave of globalised African music in the '90s, and returned home to his native Guinea in the 2000s to become a force for economic development and an inspirational voice for a new generation of Africans. Kanté is a vocalist and player of the kora harp. He was born into one of Guinea's best known families of *griot* (hereditary) musicians. In 1971 Kanté became a member of the Rail Band, in which Salif Keita was a singer. Keita left the band in 1973, leaving Kanté as the singer. Kanté is best known internationally for his 1987 hit song *Yé ké yé ké*, which was one of Africa's best-ever selling hits as well as being a European Number One in 1988, making it the first ever African single to sell over one million copies. In 2001, Kanté was nominated Goodwill Ambassador of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

- *Mory Kanté performs at on the Conga Stage on Friday, August 24 and Saturday, August 25.*



MUSA MANZINI (South Africa)

- www.musamanzini.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=pyaLoJ4dC3U
- *Discography*
 - *New Reflections*
 - *Tributes and Memories*
 - *My Bass*
 - *The Best of Musa Manzini*
 - *Simply Life*

Musa Manzini was born in KwaZulu Natal in 1971. He then moved to Cape Town in 1986 for high school and university studies. It was in his high school days that he first picked up the guitar and was instantly hooked. After high school, Manzini enrolled at MAPP Music Academy. He completed a Diploma in Music and in 1992 he enrolled at the University of Cape Town where he completed a Bachelor of Music degree, majoring in composition and arrangement. After graduation, Musa spent three years as a part-time lecturer at UCT instructing electric and acoustic basses, jazz theory and improvisation. He has performed with musicians such as Rene MacLean, Jimmy Dlodlu, Jonathan Butler, Gavin Minter, Nhlanhla Magagula, Kevin Gibson, Mark Goliath, Judith Sephuma, Winston Ngozi, Siphso Mabuse, Menyatso Mathole, Selaelo Selota, Joe McBride, UCT Jazz Orchestra and many others. Manzini's style and sound has been honed by the multi-faceted Cape Town music scene, mostly the townships of Guguletu, Langa, Mitchell's Plain and Khayelitsha. Musa has performed at North Sea Jazz Festival, New Orleans, Joy of Jazz, Muscat, Jazzathon, Arts Alive as well as many other gigs both locally and abroad. He has also worked extensively in the television and film industries as music director, composer and producer.

- *Musa Manzini performs at Bassline on Saturday, August 25.*



NTHABISENG MOKOENA (South Africa)

Nthabiseng Mokoena plays alto and soprano sax. She studied music at the Music Academy of Gauteng in Benoni. She has been a session musician, has worked with international artists such as Kevin Mahogany. Locally she has worked with Theo Kgosinkwe, Themba Mkhize, Sibongile Khumalo, Johnny Meko, Colours of Afrika, Julius Nkuna and local bands. She has travelled to Germany, New York, Sweden, Holland and Atlanta. Nthabiseng's vision and mission is to inspire and educate more women who have the passion to play instruments in a male dominated industry.

- *Nthabiseng Mokoena performs as part of Sax Summit at the Dinaledi Stage on Thursday, August 23.*



THE ORCHESTRE NATIONAL DE JAZZ (ONJ) (France)

- www.onj.org
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=fISgVodNBbk

Celebrating its 26th anniversary this year, France's Orchestre National de Jazz (ONJ), an initiative of the French Ministry of Culture, has appointed artistic directors who have successfully chronicled the musical history of this unique organisation through nine different projects. In 2009, bassist, multi-instrumentalist, composer and producer Daniel Yvinec was appointed to head the ONJ, and is the first artistic director to do this under a renewable three-year mandate. Yvinec imagines his orchestra as being carried forward by ten young emerging talents with original and adventurous profiles. Unearthing new talent has always been one of the Orchestre National de Jazz's strong points, and these multi-instrumentalists are also composers and arrangers keen to explore collective music-making in all its forms.

The orchestra:

Eve Risser (piano, prepared piano, flutes); Vincent Lafont (keyboards, electronics); Antonin-Tri Hoang (alto saxophone, clarinets, piano); Rémi Dumoulin (tenor saxophone, clarinets); Matthieu Metzger (saxophones, electronic treatments); Joce Mienniel (flutes, electronics); Sylvain Bardiau (trumpet); Pierre Perchaud (guitars, banjo); Sylvain Daniel (electric bass); Yoann Serra (drums).

- *ONJ performs at Bassline on Friday, August 24 and at the Market on Saturday, August 25.*



QUATTRO FUSION (South Africa)

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=rB8IChxf-sI

Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz 2010, vocalist Melanie Scholtz, teams up with violinist Samson Diamond, Standard Bank Young Artist for Music 2010, in an exploration of light classical and jazz repertoire. Both musicians have excelled in their formal

classical educations and both are equally comfortable in a jazz setting, with Samson active in Buskaid and Melanie one of the leading jazz singers in the country. They are joined by the rhythmically sensitive duo of Melvin Peters (piano) and Godfrey Mgcina (percussion). Quattro Fusion has been on a tour to Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya, courtesy of Alliance Française and Standard Bank, and there was a very enthusiastic response in each of those countries.

Band members:

MELANIE SCHOLTZ (South Africa)

Melanie Scholtz was born to sing. Coming from a musical family, she learnt to play the piano at the age of five and at 16 went to study singing with The Eoan group. In 1997, Scholtz enrolled at the SA College of Music at UCT and graduated in 2000 Cum Laude with a Performers' Diploma in Opera. In 2002, Melanie was named Best Jazz Vocalist in the Old Mutual Jazz Encounters and in 2006 released her debut album entitled *Zillion Miles*. She has been invited to perform in Spain, Portugal, Holland, Morocco, Norway, Sweden and Austria and collaborates with numerous artists both nationally and internationally. Melanie is also an accomplished composer/lyricist/writer and director and in February 2009 recorded her second album with Norwegian trumpeter and producer, Ole Jorn Myklebust. Apart from her own compositions and recordings, Melanie collaborated and was featured with guitarist Jimmy Dlodlu on *Peaceful Moment* and on *Which Way to Go* with Electronic DJ's Iridium Project. She has also featured on albums by Mark Fransman, Ivan Masuze, Goldfish and Breakfast Included. Melanie has performed at numerous music festivals nationally and internationally and in August 2009 recorded a live album with *Inkala in Vadso* at the Varanger Jazz Festival in Norway. Scholtz is the Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz for 2010.

SAMSON DIAMOND

Samson Diamond is an internationally acclaimed violinist with a string of awards to his name. Diamond matriculated from the National School of Arts in Johannesburg in 2001, with a distinction in Music. He then went on to study in Manchester, obtaining a Masters of Music Performance degree (with distinction) in 2007 from the Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM), where he also obtained a Bachelor of Music honours degree (first class, with distinction). He has studied violin under world-renowned teachers such as Philippe Graffin, Pauline Nobes, Richard Ireland and Rosemary Nalden. Some of the awards that Diamond received during his studies include the RNCM Eric Nicholson Bow Prize, the RNCM Major Entrance Award, Edward Heaton Scholarship as well as the RNCM Philip Newman Violin Prize. In 2006/07 he was a candidate for the Hallé Orchestra and BBC Philharmonic professional experience schemes, and a recipient of the Charles Hallé Award in 2007/08. Diamond is also a former leader of the internationally acclaimed Buskaid Soweto String Ensemble, from its inception in 1997.

- *Quattro Fusion performs at The Market on Saturday, August 25.*



ROSEMARY QUAYE (UK)

- www.rosemaryquaye.co.uk

➤ www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kq4N9P6h6Tw

Rosemary Quaye has been playing the saxophone for 24 years having studied music and obtaining a diploma in jazz theory and musicianship at the Open College in Manchester. Her influences are Stan Getz, Lester Young, Sonny Stitt and Courtney Pine.

- *Rosemary Quaye performs as part of Sax Summit at the Dinaledi Stage on Thursday, August 23.*

SAX SUMMIT (International)

Featuring sax players Grace Kelly, Nthabiseng Mokoena, Rosemary Quaye, Shannon Mowday and Tineke Postma playing the music of Kippie Moeketsi. See biogs under their individual names.

- *Sax Summit performs on the Dinaledi Stage on Thursday, August 23.*



SHANNON MOWDAY (South Africa)

- www.shannonmowday
- www.myvideo.co.za/video/shannon-mowday-jazz
- *Discography includes*
 - *African Eyes*

Acknowledged internationally as a gifted saxophone player, Shannon Mowday is also an accomplished multi-instrumentalist, covering the range of the woodwind family as well as piano. She also an accomplished composer, arranger and lyricist as well as being an experienced and passionate educator. She is known as an extremely adept and versatile musician, having performed in a variety styles including performances as soloist with a symphonic orchestra, live recordings of classical saxophone quartet , big band leader and conductor, straight-ahead jazz, African, klezmer ,traditional styles in both in a studio and live environment. She has performed alongside South Africa's best with artists including Winston Mankuku, Robbie Janssen, Judith Sephuma, Selaolo Selota Feyta Faku, Concord Nkabinde, Gloria Bosman, Kevin Gibson as well as international musicians such as James Morrison, John Fedchock, Douglas Masek, Stefon Harris and members of the Stockholm Jazz Orchestra to name but a few. Mowday is a former Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz.

- *Shannon Mowday performs as part of Sax Summit at the Dinaledi Stage on Thursday, August 23.*



SHANTI LO (Botswana)

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=naAMkQt4S6E
- *Discography*
 - *Koi*
 - *Shanti Lo*

In 2000, after gaining experience as a backup singer for a few local artists including his mother, Shanti Lo landed a two-year recording deal with Stona Records, which produced the album *Koi*. It secured him two nominations at the annual Botswana Music Awards in 2001. He was then a member of the group Live 101, an initiative led by drummer Phillip Meintjies and his daughter Larissa. His album *Shanti Lo* was released in 2005. One of his popular songs, *Ditshwanelo*, was included in the soundtrack of the Anthony Minghella film based on Professor Alexandra McCall-Smith's *No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* series of novels popularly known as "*Mmaramotswe*". Over the years, Shanti Lo has worked on different projects with a number of artists across all genres including the late Duncan Senyatso and Ika jazz pioneer Ndingo Johwa (Batalaunda), as well as featured in recording projects of Citie Seetso, house DJ Leroy and Molemi.

- *Shanti Lo performs with the Swedish Ensemble on the Conga Stage on Friday, August 24.*



STANDARD BANK NATIONAL YOUTH JAZZ BAND (SBNYJB) (South Africa)

- www.youthjazz.co.za

Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band (SBNYJB) is a product of the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival, which takes place in Grahamstown in July each year as part of the National Arts Festival. It is the most significant youth development initiative in jazz in South Africa, and attracts the very best young players in the country, the cream of who are selected for the SBNYJB each year. The band members are chosen from the 320 young musicians from around South African who come to the festival, and each is a highly competent musician, normally with a budding professional pedigree already, with an average age in the band of 20.

- *The SBNYJB perform at The Market on Friday, August 24.*



SWAZI DLAMINI (South Africa)

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=nD4zRBnJLbA
- *Discography includes*
 - *My First Love* (2003)
 - *Dance with Me* (2006)
 - *Gospel Meets Jazz* (2010)

From her humble beginnings in the township of KwaMashu, Swazi Dlamini has made a name for herself in the music industry. Dlamini started her career as a vocalist for the award winning group, Joyous Celebration. Her debut album, *My First Love*, won her much acclaim as one of the most celebrated young artists in South Africa and internationally alike. This album saw her being awarded, Sama 2004 Best Female artist, and Kora 2004 most promising African Female artist for that year. She is also a businesswoman in the music industry with Swazitainment Productions and Shammah Records as two of her co-owned companies with husband and fellow musician, Tshepo Mngoma.

- *Swazi Dlamini performs on the Mbira Stage on Saturday, August 25.*



THANDISWA MAZWAI (South Africa)

- www.thandiswa.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MS1_nHAJSs
- *Discography includes*
 - *Dance of the Forgotten Free* (2010)
 - *Ibokwe* (2009)
 - *Zabalaza* (2004)
 - *New Construction* (2005)
 - *Bongolution* (2001)
 - *The Concerto* (1998)
 - *Final Entry* (1997)
 - *Leaders of D'Gong* (1996)

Thandiswa Mazwai is a multi-award winning musician and is also the lead vocalist and songwriter of Bongo Maffin. Thandiswa's first attempt to get noticed occurred at the Shell Road to Fame talent show but Thandiswa did not even make it to the semi-finals round. She did, however, catch the eye of musician and producer Don Laka, who

arranged to include her in a project he was working on. And so she began her career in 1998 with Bongo Maffin, one of the pioneering bands of Kwaito. They became widely recognised as the voice of South Africa's conscious youth. After five albums with Bongo Maffin, she ventured onto a solo career. Her first project, *Zabalaza* (2004), reached double platinum status and won numerous awards including a Kora award for Best African Female and Four South African Music Awards, including Best Album. It was also nominated for the BBC Radio 3 Planet awards. Her second album, *Ibokwe* (2009) reached gold status in the first few weeks of its release and her live DVD *Dance of the Forgotten Free* (2010) won Best Female Artist and Best Live DVD in 2011. The Guardian has called her "South Africa's finest female contemporary singer." Her music is often deeply political and her compositions include traditional Xhosa rhythms, Mbaqanga, reggae, kwaito and funk and jazz sounds. Thandiswa has performed all over the world at venues including the 2010 FIFA World Cup Opening Ceremony, The Apollo in New York, Womex, The Cannes Film Festival, Midem, The Hackney Empire, Africa Brazil Festival, Fespaco Film Festival, BBC World Music Awards and many Mandela 46664 concerts. She has several noteworthy collaborations. She collaborated on two songs with US musician Meshell Ndegeocello on her album *The World Has Made Me the Man of My Dreams* which was nominated for a Grammy in 2007. At home, Thandiswa has collaborated with illustrious musicians like Hugh Masekela, Stimela, the late Busi Mhlongo, and the BLK JKS. She is an ambassador for 46664 and an ambassador for the Eastern Cape.

- *Thandiswa Mazwai performs on the Mbira Stage on Friday, August 24.*



TINEKE POSTMA (The Netherlands)

- www.tinekepostma.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=_qegdTZ14g8
- *Discography*
 - *First Avenue* (2003)
 - *For the Rhythm featuring Terri Lyne Carrington* (2005)
 - *Journey That Matters featuring Terri Lyne Carrington* (2007)
 - *The Traveller* (2009)
 - *The Dawn of Light* (2011)

Tineke Postma is an internationally acknowledged jazz saxophonist and composer. She has performed with her groups and as a sideman since 2003. Tineke lives in Amsterdam and New York. Her latest CD *the Dawn of Light* received raving reviews and won the prestigious Dutch Edison Award. The UK's *The Evening Standard* called her "One of the leading ladies in jazz!" In 2009 Postma has received the Jazz Juan Revelations Award (Antibes Juan-les-Pins Jazz Festival); in 2006 the prestigious Midem International Jazz Revelation of the Year Award and in 2003 The Sisters in Jazz All Star Award. She was nominated twice for the Paul Acket Award (North Sea Jazz). Tineke's CD *The Traveller* received an Edison nomination in 2010 and her latest album *The Dawn of Light* won the Edison National Category in 2011. Postma is part of Terri Lyne Carrington's *Mosaic* CD which won a Grammy for Best Local Album 2012 where she played four solos.

- *Tineke Postma performs as part of Sax Summit at the Dinaledi Stage on Thursday, August 23.*



TRIBUTE TO MILES DAVIS (International)

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=7y7zgtaQ7Hc

Soul-jazz and hard bop trombonist Wayne Henderson plays a tribute to Miles Davis with The Allstar Jazz Jam which includes drummer Ndugu Chancler, trumpeter Tom Browne, Everette Harpe (saxophone), Edwin Livingston (bass) and pianist Bobby Lyle.

- *The Tribute to Miles Davis on the Dinaledi Stage on Friday, August 24.*



VUSI KHUMALO (South Africa)

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xb2cIJYI3JI
- *Discography includes*
 - *Follow Your Dream*
 - *Reasons for Seasons*

Jazz drummer/composer/arranger Vusi Khumalo is one of the original members of the group of South musician musicians who recorded with Paul Simon on the seminal *Graceland* album. In the year 2000 Vusi's debut album *Follow Your Dream* was nominated for both the Kora Awards and SA Music Award. His band Dondo, which won the SAMA 2004 contemporary jazz award, is a project that mentors talented young artists in the music industry, improving their chances of establishing successful careers. Khumalo has graced countless bestselling albums both locally and internationally and performed with an endless list of music giants locally including Winston Mankunku, Bheki Mseleku, Barney Rachabane, Miriam Makeba, Allen Kwela, and Abdullah Ibrahim. Internationally he has worked with the likes of Paul Simon, Chucho Valdes, Yssour N'dour, Bob Baldwin, Donald Harrison, and the late Carl Anderson.

- *Vusi Khumalo performs at the Bassline on Friday, August 24. He will be playing the music of Winston Makunku, Zakes Nkosi and Joe Malinga.*



WYCLIFFE GORDON (US)

- www.wycliffegordon.com
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovXQktSctWE
- *Discography*
 - *Slidin' Home (1999)*
 - *The Search (2000)*
 - *The Gospel Truth (2000)*
 - *What You Dealin' With (2001)*
 - *United Soul Experience (2002)*
 - *Dig This! (2003)*
 - *In The Cross (2004)*
 - *Cones Coup (2006)*
 - *Storyville (2006)*
 - *Bloozebluzeblues (2007)*
 - *Boss Bones (2009)*
 - *Cone and T-Staff (2010)*
 - *The Word (2011)*
 - *Hello Pops, a tribute to Louie Armstrong (2011)*

Wycliffe Gordon is a jazz trombonist. He also plays didgeridoo, trumpet, tuba, piano and sings. Gordon comes from a strongly religious background (his father was a church organist) that influenced the early direction of his music. He became interested in jazz at the age of 13 inspired by an aunt's music collection. His interest at that time was mostly the earlier musicians like Louis Armstrong. His early works as a professional were with Wynton Marsalis, but in recent years he has expanded beyond swing and has experimented with new instruments. The strongest example of this might be *The Search* where he plays didgeridoo and does Thelonious Monk songs. He has also played Gospel music. He received the Jazz Journalists Association Award/Trombonist of the Year – 2011, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2002, 2001 as well as the Jazz Journalists Association Critics' Choice Award for Best Trombone – 2000. He has worked with Dizzy Gillespie, Lionel Hampton, Tommy Flanagan, Shirley Horn, Joe Henderson, Eric Reed, Randy Sandke and Branford Marsalis, plus many top players from the swing and traditional jazz world. In 2006, Wycliffe Gordon was awarded with an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Scranton (Pennsylvania), and cited as a champion of music. Gordon is the youngest member of the US Statesmen of Jazz (a touring ensemble featuring senior musicians) and in many tour performances continues to serve as a musical ambassador for the U. State Department.

- *Wycliffe Gordon performs on the Dinaledi Stage on Friday, August 24 and Saturday, August 25.*

ENDS