

Standard Bank Jazz Festival, Grahamstown 2008
(Incorporating the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival)

Support funding from:

- **Eastern Cape Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture**
- **ProHelvetia and Basel Akademie**
- **SAMRO**
- **Tararam - South Africa/Israel Culture Fund**
- **Mmino**

Thursday 26 June

17.00 The Human Factory

The Human Factory jazz quintet comes to us from Israel and comprises some of the leading jazz players in the Middle East. It is led by saxophonist **Amikam Kimelman**, who has performed in festivals throughout the world and played with Airto Moreira, Lew Soloff and Dave Leibman. Kimelman is Director of the Rimon School of Jazz and Contemporary Music in Israel and a well-known composer, having arranged and composed for The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, for top Israeli jazz, pop and rock stars and prime time television shows. The diverse backgrounds of the band members creates a unique sound within The Human Factory, which combines Be Bop, Fusion, Hip-Hop and Modern modal jazz, threaded with a distinct Israeli flavour, and the band has performed throughout Israel, as well as in Germany and Kazakhstan. The band features **Idan Walish** (trombone), **Aharoni Benari** (guitar), **Dima Grotsky** (bass) and **Roy Oriel** (drums). *The Human Factory appears courtesy of the Embassy of Israel and its funding arm Tararam.*

DSG Hall R50

19.30 Prisoners of Strange

In the 1970s an eager young bass prodigy – **Carlo Mombelli** – emerged under the tutelage of guitar maestro Johnny Fourie and took every opportunity available to learn from other musicians and explore new approaches to sound. Three decades later the same exploratory, vibrant approach is the hallmark of the music of Mombelli, now firmly established as one of South Africa's most interesting musicians and composers. The decades have seen Mombelli in Europe for an extended period, where he played with Lee Konitz and Egberto Gismonti, influenced by the European avant gard, and then an eclectic set of collaborations in South Africa, including musicians such as Marcus Wyatt, Sibongile Khumalo, Miriam Makeba and Simphiwe Dana. Mombelli's focal project over the past five years has been **The Prisoners of Strange - Carlo Mombelli** (bass), **Siya Makuzeni** (vocals, trombone), **Marcus Wyatt** (trumpet), **Melissa van der Spuy** (piano), **Lloyd Martin** (drums) – where the band offers evocative explorations of new soundscapes, taking jazz to fascinating places. The latest Prisoners of Strange album – *I Stared into my Head* – has been nominated for a SAMA award for 2008.

DSG Hall R55

22.00 United Nations of Grahamstown

Part of what has made the Standard Bank Jazz Festival, Grahamstown, renowned is the startling mix of musicians gathered for a week together, teaching at the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival by day and performing on the Main Jazz Stage at night. 350 students and 50 teachers gather for the SBNYJF, itching for new musical ideas and keen to interact with the 80 musicians invited as performers and teachers. These performers come from 10 countries and represent some of the hippest directions being taken in jazz around the world. As an introduction to the festival, we put together five musicians from opposite ends of the globe, each bringing their own compositions and reflecting their national style. From Sweden comes tenor saxophonist **Per Thornberg**, very experienced with Scandinavian musicians such as Bobo Stenson and Fredrik Norén. Australian trombonist **Adrian Mears**, now resident in Switzerland, includes in his experience performances as diverse as the Vienna Art Orchestra, McCoy Tyner's Big Band and Paquito DeRivera. From The Netherlands

comes **Mike del Ferro** (piano), in great demand in his home of Amsterdam and with collaborative experiences with Toots Thielemans, Jack de Johnette and rural singers from Latvia to Myanmar. On bass is South African **Marc Duby**, recently appointed Professor of Music at Rhodes University and with an extensive performance pedigree. From New York comes **Carl Allen** (drums), Artistic Director of the Juilliard School of Music, and with performance collaborations that include US jazz greats like Freddie Hubbard, J J Johnson, Joe Henderson, Herbie Hancock and Phil Woods.

DSG Hall R55

23.30 Jazz Jam - The nightly NYJF jam session begins with a collaborative guest spot of professionals from the Main Jazz Stage.

DSG Auditorium R20

Friday 27 June

17.00 **Melanie Scholtz & Abigail Petersen**

Songbird **Melanie Scholtz** has made a name for herself in both opera and jazz in Cape Town, extending her international reputation through Europe, and she is undoubtedly a talent to watch. She has performed with the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra, Sibongile Khumalo, Joe McBride, Gerald Veasley and many more in a variety of music styles. Here she shares the stage with another talented Cape Town singer, **Abigail Petersen**, who teaches Jazz Voice at the University of Cape Town. Ten years ago Abigail Petersen was a member of the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band; now she's a teacher at the festival. Joining these two stunning singers is the lyrical trumpet of **Brian Thusi**, with the top-class rhythm section of **Andrew Lilley** (piano), **Shaun Johannes** (bass), **Kesivan Naidoo** (drums) and **Basi Mahlasela** (percussion).

DSG Hall R50

19.00 Youth/School Jazz Bands I Top young jazz players from around the country migrate to Grahamstown each year to try their luck for the national bands, and attend the festival sometimes as established bands. Three small combos from these students feature this evening - the **J-Walkers (Port Elizabeth)**, the **Mattias Lindberg Trio (Sweden)**, winners of the Swedish Jazz Federation Youth Competition 2007, and the **Little Giants (Cape Town)**, the long-standing development band of Ezra Ngcukana and George Werner.

DSG Auditorium R30

19.30 **Marcus Wyatt electric**

Trumpeter **Marcus Wyatt** learnt his jazz amidst varied musical influences, the most potent of which is his homeland itself – “We live in the most beautiful country on the tip of the oldest, richest continent - right in the cradle of humankind. Space, in every form, abounds here. This music is an expression of that, and is and always will be, inspired by it.” His latest album, *Language 12*, has been hailed by fans and critics alike and the music breaks away from a previous straight-ahead sound to a more groove-based concept, with loops and soundscapes interspersed with great live performances. The band had audiences on their feet at the Stockholm Jazz Festival and has been invited to play at the Rochester Jazz Festival in New York. Tonight's performance is enhanced by the addition of Zimbabwean guitar giant **Louis Mhlanga**, who joins the band for the first time. His guitar style reflects a modernised interpretation of the traditional African Mbira patterns which, set against Wyatt's urban soulfulness, is sure to create a musical sensation. To this is added the fresh vocal inflection of young vocalist **Siya Makuzeni**, the pianistic virtuosity of **Melissa van der Spuy**, the undeniable mastery of **Carlo Mombelli** (bass) and the edgy drive of **Clement Benny** (drums).

DSG Hall R60

21.00 **The Human Factory + John Davies**

Israeli jazz quintet The Human Factory continues their exploration of jazz with a Middle Eastern inflection, but this time with the addition of a South African guest – Johannesburg trombonist **John Davies**. Davies has appeared with stars such as Tina Turner, Shirley Bassey and Natalie Cole and has performed and recorded with many of South Africa's top musicians. Both he and Amikam Kimelman are

noted composers and the performance will undoubtedly produce fresh interpretations. The band features **Amikam Kimelman** (sax), **Idan Walish** (trombone), **Aharoni Benari** (guitar), **Dima Grotsky** (bass) and **Roy Oliel** (drums). *The Human Factory appears courtesy of the Embassy of Israel and its funding arm Tararam.*

DSG Auditorium R50

22.00 Northern European Jazz Quartet

In 2004 one of the most exciting young jazz bands in the world – Norwegian trio Urban Connection – performed at the Standard Bank Jazz Festival in Grahamstown and blew the audience away. During their performance they invited London saxophonist Dave O’Higgins – himself a British sax legend – to join them as he was also performing at the festival. Thus was born a collaboration which has returned to Grahamstown four years later as a new unit after a tour of Scotland, England, Norway and Sweden. Norwegians **Frode Nymo** (sax) and **Håkon Johansen** (drums) from Urban Connection join **Dave O’Higgins** (sax) and Swedish bass player **Torbjörn Zetterberg**. John Fordham commented in the Guardian that, “driven by the edgy, active drumming of Håkon Mjaset Johansen and featuring Frode Nymo’s alto sax, the group sounded like a trio of long-time partners and restless risk-takers looking for adventure.” As individuals the band members have performed with the likes of Michael Brecker, Jerry Bergonzi, Chick Corea, Jan Garbarek and Michael Buble. *The participation of these four musicians was made possible by the support of Norwegian funding organisation Mmino.*

DSG Hall R50

23.30 Jazz Jam - The nightly NYJF jam session begins with a collaborative guest spot of professionals from the Main Jazz Stage.

DSG Auditorium R20

Saturday 28 June

14.00 Jazz Double Bill I – Mattias Lindberg Trio + Bossorito Sana.

From Sweden comes the talented young trio of **Mattias Lindberg** (sax), **Ville Bromander** (bass) and **Johan Malmberg** (drums) – the winning youth band in the Swedish Jazz Federation Competition 2007. The Special Double Bill then features Queenstown singer **Bossorito Sana**, backed by Queenstown musicians **Mike Qampi** (sax), **Makoko Samela** (piano), **Bongani Mgcoyi** (guitar), **Xolani Dyani** (bass), **Zola Mtiye** (drums), **Anele Ntingashe** (vocals) and **Yolanda Qoshe** (vocals). *Musicians from the Eastern Cape are presented by courtesy of the Eastern Cape Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture.*

Nombulelo Hall, Rhini R30

17.00 Standard Bank Young Artist (Jazz) 2008 – Mark Fransman’s Strait & Narro

Multi-instrumentalist **Mark Fransman** is certainly one of the important faces of South Africa’s jazz future, and he has forged a name for himself as a highly-creative pianist and saxophonist, a vibrant composer and an astute record producer. Born in Cape Town, he started his professional musical career as a teenager in musical theatre, as pianist and singer in the David Kramer/Taliep Petersen productions of *Poison* and *Kat and the Kings*, winning a Vita Award for Music Theatre in 1995 for the latter and has subsequently received a variety of awards including two SAMAs for Production. He refuses to be bound by staid categories and his compositions in Strait & Narro explore a fresh urban South African sound with hip hop, trip hop funk and jazz, with this debut album receiving extensive airplay. Joining him is a very hip array of young Cape Town musicians - **Mark Fransman** (piano), **Melanie Scholtz** (vocals, poetry), **Lee Thompson** (trumpet), **Buddy Wells** (sax), **Wesley Rustin** (bass), **Heinrich Goosen** (drums) and **Gavin Minter** (percussion).

DSG Hall R60

19.00 Youth/School Jazz Bands II We first feature a selection of the top young vocalists attending the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival, under the guidance of UCT vocal lecturer Abigail

Petersen. Next up are two full Big Bands - **Stirling High (East London)** and the **UCT Big Band (Cape Town)**.

DSG Auditorium R30

19.30 **Opera Meets Jazz - Sibongile Khumalo + Mike Del Ferro**

Sibongile Khumalo, South Africa's best-known opera singer, grew up in a household where Classical music mingled with traditional African songs. Her father, a music professor, instilled a love for both genres and at an early age she began formal lessons. Good music, though, knows no bounds, and she glided spectacularly into jazz in the 1990s. On the other side of the world, Dutch master pianist **Mike Del Ferro** grew up in a house where his father was one of the leading opera singers in Europe and he also began music lessons early. Jazz soon drew him too. Both Khumalo and Del Ferro have an impressive list of international performances and collaborations, but one in particular links them – drummer Jack DeJohnette, with whom both have independently performed. He recommended that they perform together, so Grahamstown is where the great opera-jazz meeting takes place! Added to the mix is **Shannon Mowday** (sax), a multi-instrumentalist with an extensive musical pedigree that includes the skills of composer, arranger, lyricist and band leader. She boasts a professional career of performances extensively throughout South Africa in all musical genres, with her list of musical collaborators reading as a “Who’s Who” of South African jazz. Providing the glue in the band is the highly sensitive and creative rhythm section of **Torbjörn Zetterberg** (bass) from Sweden and Norwegian **Håkon Johansen** (drums).

DSG Hall R60

21.00 **Peter Asplund Quartet**

Peter Asplund performed at the 2005 Standard Bank Jazz Festival, Grahamstown, as part of the renowned Stockholm Jazz Orchestra and returns this year with his own quartet - a dynamic and closely-knit group which represents some of the strongest voices to be found on the Scandinavian jazz scene today. With honest expression and respect for the jazz tradition tastefully combined with a natural drive for pioneering and genuine charisma the Peter Asplund Quartet manages to reach every person in the audience. The individual members of the quartet display excellent musicianship and creative interpretations of jazz standards, as well as Asplund's original compositions, with strong Swedish traditional tonal inflections. The quartet consists of **Peter Asplund** (trumpet), **Jacob Karlzon** (piano), **Hans Andersson** (bass) and **Johan Ramsay** (drums). Joining them as guest is Norwegian saxophonist **Frode Nymo**.

DSG Auditorium R50

22.00 **Saturday Night Funk**

This is a guaranteed show-stopper gig, with power-house musos from four countries collaborating in a funk set that will set the DSG floor alight! South Africa's leading jazz trumpeter, **Marcus Wyatt**, needs no introduction to festival audiences, and his horn partner tonight is London saxophonist **Dave O'Higgins**, one of Britain's leading jazz players who has worked with Jamie Cullum, Frank Sinatra, Peter Gabriel and 80s jazz-pop unit Matt Bianco, amongst many others. Israeli guitarist **Aharoni Benari** joins us for the first time, bringing a wealth of experience from the Middle East, joining the very funky Cape Town duo of **Andrew Lilley** (piano) and **Shaun Johannes** (bass). The explosive driving force of this collaborative band is undoubtedly world-renowned New York drummer **Carl Allen**, who grew up on gospel, R&B, and funk, but later turned to jazz and had his first hometown gigs with sax greats Sonny Stitt and James Moody. Allen was trumpeter Freddie Hubbard's Musical Director for eight years and played, amongst others in a glowing jazz career, with Michael Brecker, Rickie Lee Jones, Sammy Davis Jr., Branford Marsalis, Kenny Garrett, Wayne Shorter, Herbie Hancock and Mike Stern. Master South African percussionist **Basi Mahlasela** rounds off an incredible musical experience.

DSG Hall R60

23.30 **Jazz Jam** - The nightly NYJF jam session begins with a collaborative guest spot of professionals from the Main Jazz Stage.

DSG Auditorium R20

Sunday 29 June

14.00 Jazz Double Bill II – Stellenbosch University + Fiks Jazz Band

The second festival double bill begins with a band from Stellenbosch University combining staff and students from the university jazz department: **Lou-Ann Stone** (sax), **Nathan Lawrence** (trumpet), **Ramon Alexander** (piano), **Phillip Vermeulen** (guitar), **Anthony Coetzee** (bass), **Nathaniel Salies** (drums), **Annemie Nel** (percussion), **Lynette Petersen** (vocals) and **Lezanne October** (vocals). Next up is a band full of experience - **Fiks Jazz Band** – from Port Elizabeth, led by guitarist **Fikile “Fiks” Marwana** and featuring **Bongani Tulwana** (sax), **Mzwanele Maqosha** (keys), **Them bani Kubashe** (bass) and **Bingo Hlazo** (drums). *Musicians from the Eastern Cape are presented by courtesy of the Eastern Cape Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture.*

Nombulelo Hall, Rhini R30

17.00 Festival Big Band – conductor Amikam Kimelman

Big Bands emerged in the 1930s and were popularised by the bands of Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller and others, dominating the popular musical consciousness. Often dubbed the “Jazz Orchestra”, a Big Band offers dynamic and tonal ranges that small bands cannot match and modern composers have exploited these strengths. In the past couple of years, we have showcased Big Bands on the Standard Bank stage playing the music of innovative contemporary South African, American, Swedish and Canadian composers, and this year we feature a programme with an Israeli inflection. **Amikam Kimelman**, Director of the Rimon School of Jazz and Contemporary Music in Israel, is also Musical Director of The Tel Aviv Jazz Big Band and artistic director of the Israeli jazz label JAZZ 972, and an accomplished composer. Here he conducts a Big Band where half of the band is made up of accomplished professional musicians such as saxophonists **Shannon Mowday** (South Africa) and **Per Thornberg** (Sweden), trumpeter **Lee Thomson** (South Africa), trombonists **Idan Walish** (Israel) and **James Bassingthwaight** (South Africa) and Israeli rhythm section of **Dima Grotsky** (bass) and **Roy Oliel** (drums). To this will be added eight top youth players from around the country attending the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival.

DSG Hall R50

19.00 Youth/School Jazz Bands III Three established school Big Bands show the standard of their jazz programmes, with full Big Bands from **South Peninsula High Heathfield? (Cape Town)**, **SACS (Cape Town)** and **Alexander Road High (Port Elizabeth)**.

DSG Auditorium R30

19.30 Mkutano – The Meeting

Mkutano is Swahili for “meeting” – a suitable description for the coming together of two of the great composers of Southern Africa, each of whom has a string of impressive performing and recording credits to their name. Yet, despite regular appearances as sidemen in other people’s bands, pianist **Themba Mkhize** and guitarist **Louis Mhlanga** have never had the opportunity to put together a show that combines their own musical inspirations. Themba Mkhize is one of South Africa’s piano legends, as a founder member of Bayete, and has become renowned as a musical director for musicians such as Hugh Masekela, Miriam Makeba and Sibongile Khumalo, and he draws on our musical traditions, polishing them with a modern edge. Louis Mhlanga is originally from Zimbabwe where, amongst other things, he ran Zimbabwe’s Ethnomusicology Trust, and he was tasked with developing teaching programmes for traditional and contemporary Zimbabwean music forms. Since his move to South Africa he has become a fixture on music festivals with his evocative African-based guitar style. Adding their musical voices to this special, first-time meeting are Durban trumpet maestro **Brian Thusi**, astounding young vocalist **Siya Makuzeni** and the tight rhythm section of **Michael Phillips** (bass), **Rob Watson** (drums) and **Basi Mahlasela** (percussion).

DSG Hall R60

21.00 Youth/School Jazz Bands IV Well-known Cape Town vocal teacher **Amanda Tiffin** has put together a jazz choir of the top young vocal students attending the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival, and tonight they get a spot on stage. Following them are the jazz bands of the universities of **KwaZulu-Natal** and of **Stellenbosch**.

DSG Auditorium R30

22.00 Mombelli Meets Mears (Again)

Jazz musicians look constantly for new vistas of expression and thrive on new musical challenges and collaborations – the essence of the festival in Grahamstown. Tonight we see five highly creative musicians sharing their ideas in what is certain to be a festival highlight. **Carlo Mombelli** (bass) first met Australian/Swiss trombonist **Adrian Mears** in Germany in the 1990s where they performed together in assorted cutting-edge ensembles, exploring new avenues of musical expression. This is their first reunion in over a decade, and to the meeting is added the technical virtuosity and startling improvisation of Norwegian **Frode Nymo** (sax). **Mark Fransman**, 2008 winner of the Standard Bank Young Artist Award for Jazz, alternates between sax and piano, showing the musical dexterity and free-spiritedness that made him an obvious winner of this year's premier jazz award. And on drums is **Håkon Johansen** from Norway, described as "one of the most dynamic and musical drummers in Scandinavia, whose mesmerising drum solos are dramatic, surprising and powerful."

DSG Hall R50

23.30 Jazz Jam - The nightly NYJF jam session begins with a collaborative guest spot of professionals from the Main Jazz Stage.

DSG Auditorium R20

Monday 30 June

Each year the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival sets the stage for a national search for the finest young jazz talent in the country. Hopefuls between 13 and 26 years get the chance to play their hearts out for a prestigious place in one of two national bands – one at school level, and one representing the best players under the age of 26. After Grahamstown, the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band performs in leading jazz festivals around the country and has performed at the North Sea Jazz Festival in The Netherlands and twice in Sweden. See these newly-selected bands comprising the country's top young jazz players performing together for the first time.

17.00 Standard Bank National Schools' Big Band

The **Standard Bank National Schools' Big Band** will show you the strides being made in the jazz education programmes in high schools around South Africa. The band brings together the best young school players in the country under the guidance of **John Davies**, a highly experienced trombonist and teacher from Tshwane. The irrepressible big band sound is the most popular genre in jazz and a wonderful vehicle for educating young players.

DSG Hall R30

19.30 Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band

The **Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band** is this year led by pianist **Neil Gonsalves**, jazz lecturer at the University of KwaZulu-Natal – who will put a small elite combo of the nation's very best young players under the age of 26 through their paces. We are proud of the fact that a number of past members of this band are featured on the Main Jazz Stage of the National Arts Festival this year, having made the step up from being talented students to seasoned performers in a demanding industry. Grab a glimpse of the future of South Africa's jazz.

DSG Hall R30

22.00 Two Quintets

Before we say goodbye to the lecturers teaching at the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival, we get together a fascinating taste of the collaborative vibe that permeates Grahamstown for a week. Instead of one band on stage for a full set, the rhythm section - **Jacob Karlzon** (piano - Sweden), **Hans Andersson** (bass - Sweden), **Kesivan Naidoo** (drums – South Africa) – stays the same and the horns take turns. First up is the sensitivity of **Peter Asplund** (trumpet - Sweden) and **Adrian Mears** (trombone – Switzerland/Australia) and then taking over from them is the powerhouse tenor sax duo of **Dave O’Higgins** (Britain) and **Per Thornberg** (Sweden).

DSG Hall R50

23.30 Final Jazz Jam The Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival concludes with an all-out jazz party, starting with a collaborative guest spot of professionals from the Main Jazz Stage.

DSG Auditorium R20

Tuesday 1 July

17.00 Universal Explorations

Shannon Mowday (sax) is one of South Africa’s hardest-working young musicians, constantly looking for new collaborative opportunities to expand her musical horizons, and she has spent time recently in Australia, The Netherlands and Scandinavia performing, composing and recording. On her travels she has met and performed with **Mike del Ferro**, a phenomenal pianist from Amsterdam whose collaborative explorations have led him to performances with musicians as diverse as world-class jazz musicians, opera divas and folk singers in Bolivia, Kazakhstan, Eritrea and Vietnam. London saxophonist **Dave O’Higgins** has a background that includes stints with the BBC Big Band, Joey Calderazzo and Ray Charles and is described as a “dazzling post-bop tenorist with a magnificent range and a dramatic turn of phrase”, while **Marc Duby** (bass), has performed with musicians from Nataniël to the Natal Philharmonic Orchestra to Spike Milligan to Stephane Grappelli. **Kesivan Naidoo** (drums) recently returned from a year in India on a SAMRO scholarship and is undoubtedly the most exciting young drummer in South Africa, having performed with most leading jazz musicians in the country.

DSG Hall R60

19.30 Standard Bank Young Artist – Mark Fransman’s Suite

Not one for pigeonholes, Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz 2008 **Mark Fransman** veers into a very different realm for his third performance of the festival. Instead of the hip-hop funkiness of his first performance or the tearing jazz mania of his second, here he presents a through-composed work written specially for the festival and scored for the unusual jazz instrumentation of himself on sax and piano, **Charles Lazar** (bass), **Shaun Johannes** (bass) and **Heinrich Goosen** (drums). To this is added the a standard Classical string quartet of two violins, viola and cello. The music juxtaposes a traditional Classical string quartet - infused with strong influences of the string quartet writing of Bela Bartok and Dmitri Shostakovich - with the urban edginess of a jazz quartet in the style of Tribe, Cape Town’s cutting-edge jazz quartet of which Fransman is a central member. The music is spacious, reflecting an interaction between the strings and Fransman’s saxophone or piano interventions.

DSG Hall R60

22.00 Peter Asplund Quartet

Sweden’s Peter Asplund Quartet performs startling revitalisations of jazz standards and original compositions with strong Swedish folk origins, featuring **Peter Asplund** (trumpet), **Jacob Karlzon** (piano), **Hans Andersson** (bass) and **Johan Ramsay** (drums).

DSG Hall R50

Wednesday 2 July

17.00 Kouga Jazz Band

The **Kouga Jazz Ensemble** was formed in 2004 and draws the top jazz musicians from the Kouga Municipality and beyond, playing neo-traditional African jazz. The group has performed at numerous jazz festivals and functions across the Eastern Cape, and received an award for cultural achievement from the Cacadu District Municipality in 2007. The band has focussed on translating Xhosa traditional music into a jazz idiom under Xolani Faku's direction and a recent milestone was recording these original compositions and arrangements at the Miriam Makeba Audio-Visual Centre in East London. The band consists of **Timothy Hutchinson** (sax), **Xolani Faku** (trumpet, vocals), **Tshepo Monareng** (piano), **Mano Smith** (guitar), **Paul Gibbings** (bass), **Jonno Sweetman** (drums) and **Daniel Hutchinson** (percussion), with **Ntlahla Nyiki** and **Thamsanqa Matebese** on vocals. *Musicians from the Eastern Cape are presented by courtesy of the Eastern Cape Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture.*

DSG Hall R40

19.30 Steve Dyer

Steve Dyer (sax, flute) harnesses his eclectic musical experiences in a variety of African countries to produce an invigorated African jazz form that is both adventurous and reflective - rooted in afro-jazz but with an experimental sense of sound. Collaborations with musicians such as Jonas Gwangwa, Hugh Masekela, Caiphus Semanya, Letta Mbulu, Oliver Mtukudzi (Zimbabwe) and George Phiri (Malawi) over the past two decades throughout southern Africa have honed a sense of Africa that promises to deliver an energetic and life-affirming music experience. Dyer is also in demand as a composer and producer and has produced numerous recordings. Joining him in music that explores composition, improvisation, rhythm and form in Africa are **Johan Mthethwa** (piano), **Menyatso Mathole** (guitar), **Herbie Tsoaeli** (bass) and **Godfrey Mngcina** (drums, percussion).

DSG Hall R60

22.00 Tucan Tucan

Renowned Mozambican drummer/percussionist **Frank Paco** has established a strong reputation in South Africa over the past decade and has played with the likes of Jimmy Dlodlu, Miriam Makeba, Brenda Fassie, Judith Sephuma, Hugh Masekela and Jonathan Butler amongst others. His pet project over the past four years has been Tucan Tucan, for which he composes and arranges the music. Rooted in the vibrant polyrhythms of Mozambique, Tucan incorporates a wealth of influences ranging from Latin-Jazz to chacarera, marrabenta and hi-life. The band includes **Muriel Marco** (keys), **Buddy Wells** (sax), **Angelo Syster** (guitar), **Helder Gonzaga** (bass), **Daniel Bloem** (perc), **Xisseve Langa** (vocals) and **Cindy Gibbons** (vocals)

DSG Hall R50

Thursday 3 July

17.00 Fiks Jazz Band

Port Elizabeth is home to many of South Africa's leading jazz players, some of whom have moved to bigger centres, but some of whom have stayed at home. Guitarist **Fikile "Fiks" Marwana** has harnessed the talents of **Bongani Tulwana** (sax), **Mzwanele Maqosha** (keys), **Thembanani Kubashe** (bass) and **Bingo Hlazo** (drums) in a band to make Port Elizabeth proud. *Musicians from the Eastern Cape are presented by courtesy of the Eastern Cape Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture.*

DSG Hall R40

19.30 Tucan Tucan

Repeat performance - see Wednesday 2 July, 22.00.

DSG Hall R60

22.00 Kouga Jazz Band

Repeat performance – see Wednesday 2 July 17.00.

DSG Hall R40

Friday 4 July

19.30 Oliver Mtukudzi

World-acclaimed Zimbabwean singer/guitarist **Oliver Mtukudzi**, or "Tuku" to his fans, has had a career that has spanned more than thirty years and 40 original albums (nearly all of them best-sellers) and which has seen him performing on leading stages on four continents. His music is truly Southern African in its style, incorporating traditional mbira patterns, popular Zimbabwean "Jiti" style, mbaqanga inflections and traditional Korekore drumming patterns, but he has conflated and modernised them in such a way that it has become a music genre all its own – "Tuku Music". His skill in harnessing diverse traditional African musical styles, modern African dance trends, but still weaving them through with the thread of jazz improvisation has seen him straddle the limiting divides of "World Music" and "Jazz". On stage Tuku's powerful vocal presence and transfixing musical energy has brought him thousands of fans, and he is known also for his social conscience and straight-talking lyrics. In his long-overdue first visit to the Standard Bank Jazz Festival, Grahamstown, Tuku introduces his son and musical heir, **Sam Mtukudzi** (guitar, sax), accompanied by his stalwart Zimbabwean band: **Patricia Onai Mutizwa** (vocals, mbira), **Peggy Namatayi Mubariki** (vocals), **Never Mpofo** (bass) and **Tendai Samson Mataure** (drums).

DSG Hall R70

22.00 Lira

Singer Lerato "**Lira**" Molapo grew up in Daveyton and, after winning a competition for young singers and songwriters, started performing live at the age of 16, singing cover versions and self-penned songs. In 2000 musician and producer Arthur Mafokate signed her with his own record label, 999 Music, and she has produced two albums that reveal her as a talented artist, able to move easily from modern R&B to jazz, from lush pop to bossa. Her second album led five nominations at the South African Grammy Awards (Best New Artist, Best Female Artist, Best R&B Album, Best Single, and Best Video) and in 2007 the album was released in Italy, where its title track gained massive airplay and her music video received a SAMA award at home. She has performed extensively, including at the Cape Town Jazz Festival and Durban's Awesome Africa Festival. Lira has gained great popularity and a substantial following over the past year and, aside from her support from hip fashion house Stoned Cherry, she is convincing South African listeners that she is a voice of the future in this country. Joining **Lira** are **Brenda Mthambo** (vocals), **Nothende Madumo** (vocals), **Victor Mngomesulu** (keyboard), **Grant Tregellas** (guitar), **Tsepo Sekele** (bass) and **Josh Zachias** (drums).

DSG Hall R70

Saturday 5 July

19.30 Lira

Repeat performance – see Friday 4 July, 22.00.

DSG Hall R70

22.00 Oliver Mtukudzi

Repeat performance – see Friday 4 July, 19.30.

DSG Hall R70

For more information on the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival and the performers visit www.youthjazz.co.za.

This festival is produced by Eastern Cape Jazz Promotions.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Festival Director | Alan Webster |
| Production | Donné Dowlman |
| Sound Engineer | Les van der Veen |
| NYJF Teaching co-ordinators | Merlin Julie, Brian Thusi |