

Standard Bank Jazz Festival, Grahamstown 2011

(Incorporating the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival)

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Thursday 30 June

17.00 Excess Luggage & Buddy Wells and Mark Fransman

We open this year's festival with a suitably powerful collaboration between an unorthodox Norwegian trio and two of South Africa's jazz stars. **Excess Luggage** showcases the uncommon line-up of Hammond B3 organ, piano and drums and combines the groovy feel of an organ trio with the harmonic and melodic style of the piano trio. On piano is **Vigleik Storaas**, one of the most important piano players in Norway who has received two Norwegian Grammys for his releases with his own trio. **Steinar Nickelsen** on organ, now based in China, was voted 'Young Norwegian Jazz Musician of the Year' in 2002 and has toured extensively with musicians like Pat Metheny. Drummer **Håkon Mjåset Johansen** is one of Europe's most exciting young musical talents with a string of awards to his name and has played with the likes of Chick Corea and Michael Brecker. He is no stranger to Grahamstown, having played here three times. Joining them, fresh from a new collaborative recording, is the powerhouse Cape Town sax duo of **Buddy Wells** and **Mark Fransman** with young trumpeter **Darren English**.

DSG Hall R70

19.30 The Clearing

Guitarist **David Ledbetter** made his first mark on the Jazz Festival in Grahamstown nearly two decades ago as leader of the very funky young group of UCT Jazz School graduates *The Truly Fully Hey Shoo Wow Band*, who stole the show here with their vibey compositions and hip stage presence. The band members – including the horn section of Marcus Wyatt, Buddy Wells and Graham Beyer – have gone on to become central members of South Africa's jazz industry while Ledbetter has toured overseas extensively while maintaining a local professional presence as a guitarist, pianist and singer in all styles of music. His latest project, *The Clearing* – which he styles Folk Jazz, moving seamlessly between jazz, African, country, funk, groove and world music – brings together some of the strongest players on the Cape Town scene in **Mark Fransman** (sax), **Lee Thomson** (trumpet), **Andrew Lilley** (piano), **Shane Cooper** (bass) and **Kesivan Naidoo** (drums) and is already a band with a substantial following.

DSG Hall R100

22.00 Deborah Tanguy Sings

Vocalist **Deborah Tanguy**, based in Paris, is a leading young jazz and improvising music artist in contemporary France. She is an accomplished and award-winning performer in a variety of musical styles, including mainstream and contemporary jazz, funk, big band and popular music and has performed extensively in Europe and South Africa. She has regularly collaborated over the past decade with saxophonist **Shannon Mowday**, 2007 Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz now studying in Norway, and tonight they rekindle their musical relationship. Supporting them is the phenomenal rhythm section of multiple award-winning French pianist **Carine Bonnefoy** (piano), Swiss maestro **Bänz Oester** (bass) and South Africa's master jazz drummer, **Kevin Gibson**.

DSG Hall R70

23.30 Jazz Jam The nightly NYJF jam session includes professionals from the Main Jazz Stage in spontaneous collaboration, musicians attending the NYJF or locals eager to play.

DSG Auditorium R30

Friday 1 July

12.00 Children's Intro to Jazz

American jazz pianist and vocalist **Carolyn Wilkins** has been active in the Boston music scene for over 20 years as a performer, educator and composer. She has released four critically acclaimed CD's of her original compositions and is an experienced educator. She is currently a Professor of ensemble at Berklee College, the leading jazz institution in the world and is ideally placed to introduce audiences to "this thing called Jazz". Today's gig is aimed specifically at children – or anyone who shares a child's fascination with how things work – and is an introduction to the basics of jazz.

Assisting her are four well-qualified academics: **Mark Ginsburg** (sax) from Sydney, **Brian Thusi** (trumpet) from Durban, Professor **Marc Duby** (bass) and **Lloyd Martin**, drum lecturer at NMMU.

DSG Auditorium R70

17.00 Wonderbrazz

Get ready for some serious fun! Danish sextet **Wonderbrazz** will definitely get your feet tapping and your head bobbing with their hip mix of soul, funk and jazz from three powerful horns and a super-tight rhythm section. They have performed all over Europe and their original compositions were a hit at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival. Their speciality is giving people a good time, so bring some extra cash to the gig – we guarantee you will want to buy their CDs afterwards! Wonderbrazz features **Stig Naur** (sax), **Peter Kehl** (trumpet), **Ola Akermann** (trombone), **Henrik Kjelin** (Hammond B3 organ) **Martin Seidelin** (drums) and **Esben Duus** (drums).

DSG Hall R70

19.00 School/youth bands I

Top young jazz players from around the country flock to Grahamstown each year to try their luck for the national bands, and attend the festival sometimes as established ensembles. First up tonight is the **St. John's College** jazz band from Johannesburg, making their first appearance in Grahamstown.

Making their sixth appearance is the acclaimed Cape Flats youth development band founded by Ezra Ngcukana and George Werner - **Little Giants** - and concluding the programme is a taste of the vocal and Big Band repertoire of **Stellenbosch University**.

DSG Auditorium R40

19.30 Standard Bank Young Artist 2011 - Bokani Dyer

Pianist **Bokani Dyer**, Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz 2011, is a very impressive young musician, technically skilled beyond his years and artistically creative in a wide array of jazz genres. He grew up in Botswana, went to school in Johannesburg, studied jazz formally at UCT and has played with diverse musicians and bands, from the Afro-Jazz of Jimmy Dlodlu to Mozambican Moreira Chonguica's eclectic world music to a host of mainstream and modern jazz groups. Despite his age, he has rapidly moved from being a sideman to being a composer and leader of his own group, producing jazz that covers the spectrum from groove to post-bop. He pays obvious respect to the African jazz greats he is following, but is clearly also on a new path. Tonight he harnesses the vibrant talents of his youthful contemporaries - **Angelo Syster** (guitar) **Shane Cooper** (bass), **Ayanda Sikade** (drums) – and adds the watchful eye of experience in **Buddy Wells** (sax) and **Marcus Wyatt** (trumpet).

DSG Hall R100

21.00 Spontaneous Swiss Acrobatics

The singer, vocal acrobat and composer **Andreas Schaerer** is one of the busiest Swiss vocalists and he impresses not only with his expressive voice - covering an extraordinary range - but also employs a seemingly infinite variety of vocal sounds. He tours regularly with various groups and has worked with, amongst many others, Bobby McFerrin. **Bänz Oester** is an extremely perceptive and profound

bassist whose boisterous style one can't but love and he has worked with jazz greats such as Dewey Redman, Joe Lovano, Vienna Art Orchestra, Michael Brecker, Chris Potter and Erik Trufazz, to name a few. Schaerer and Oester tour as a duo, extracting a seemingly limitless range of jazz references and styles and their speciality is composition on the instant, with fascinating, refreshing results. Thus, fittingly, tonight they are joined by two equally creative musicians – from Cape Town **Mark Fransman** (sax, piano) and from Paris **Deborah Tanguy** (vocals).

DSG Auditorium R70

22.00 The Ploctones

The Ploctones is the vehicle for **Anton Goudsmit**, a highly innovative Dutch guitarist whose playing spans all conceivable guitar styles and whose infectious stage presence will stay with you long after the gig. In the past year he won the Boy Elgar Prize (the most important jazz prize in Holland) as well as the prize for best Dutch pop guitarist, and The Ploctones represent everything that jazz is about. Goudsmit has harnessed the diverse talents of three equally independent musicians - **Efraim Trujillo** (sax), **Jeroen Vierdag** (bass) and **Kristijan Krajncan** (drums) - and they express a feeling of liberation on stage as their music swings, howls, vibrates, bangs and whacks like nothing else. If you try to put a label on the Ploctones, they will deliberately break the barriers. All styles flow through their music - jazz, rock, blues, funk, latin, kaseko, punk, pop, R&B, country, bluegrass.

DSG Hall R70

23.30 Jazz Jam The nightly NYJF jam session includes professionals from the Main Jazz Stage in spontaneous collaboration, musicians attending the NYJF or locals eager to play.

DSG Auditorium R30

Saturday 2 July

12.00 Charlie Sayers Plays Standards

For sixty years Johannesburg-based **Charlie Sayers** has been playing jazz trumpet and, listening to him with your eyes closed, you'd swear that Chet Baker had been reincarnated! His speciality is jazz standards and today's rhythm section - **Andrew Lilley** (piano), **Marc Duby** (bass), **Lloyd Martin** (drums) – is the perfect foil to his lyrical improvisation and dulcet tone. Enjoy a lunch-time gig that celebrates the melody and dexterity that has made jazz standards the heart of this beautiful musical form.

DSG Auditorium R70

17.00 Tutu Puoane + Marcus Wyatt and Tony Paco

Vocalist **Tutu Puoane** has a long history in Grahamstown: as a UCT Jazz student she was selected for the National Youth Big Band in 1999 that toured to New York, and she returned to the festival in 2004 as the impressive winner of the Standard Bank Young Artist Award for Jazz. Her mesmerising voice has brought her acclaim and a widening international audience and she appears again in Grahamstown with her top-class Belgian quartet of **Ewout Pierreux** (piano), **Nicolas Thys** (bass) and **Lieven Venken** (drums). Joining the quartet are trumpeter **Marcus Wyatt** and Mozambican percussionist **Tony Paco**, with whom the group recently completed a successful European tour and recording as a sextet.

DSG Hall R70

19.00 Excess Luggage

Vigleik Storaas (piano), **Steinar Nickelsen** (Hammond B3 organ) and **Håkon Mjåset Johansen** (drums) perform their original material as a trio. For more information on the band members, see Thursday 30 June, 17.00.

DSG Auditorium R70

19.30 Soweto Kinch & Bokani Dyer

British saxophonist and MC/rapper **Soweto Kinch** is one of the most exciting and versatile young musicians to hit the British music scene in recent years and he is one of only a few artists whose appeal traverses underground and mainstream audiences, and who is equally respected in Jazz and

Hip Hop circles. He has garnered a slew of top awards in the British music industry including Best Saxophonist in the 2007 British Jazz Awards and amongst his mentors have been Courtney Pine and Wynton Marsalis, both of whom have showered praise on him. In collaboration with him tonight is a potent international array of musicians well-versed in conflating musical styles – Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz 2011 **Bokani Dyer** (piano); **Anton Goudsmit** (guitar), winner of Dutch awards for Best Jazz Guitarist and Best Pop Guitarist; Dutch bassist **Jeroen Vierdag**; South Africa's most energetic young drummer, **Kesivan Naidoo**; and the vocally-dexterous **Andreas Schaerer** from Switzerland.

DSG Hall R100

21.00 Wonderbrazz

Repeat performance. See Friday 1 July 17.00.

DSG Auditorium R70

22.00 Cape Guitar Summit

For the first time we hear two of Cape Town's premier guitarists - **Alvin Dyers** and **David Ledbetter** – in concert together. Alvin Dyers makes a welcome return to Grahamstown after an absence of nearly a decade, bringing his fluid style and unmistakable Cape influences; and David Ledbetter, also raised in Cape Town, offers his more cosmopolitan influences gleaned in two decades of international touring. Guitar lovers can't miss this one! They are supported in their explorations by the rock-solid Cape Town rhythm section of **Shaun Johannes** (bass) and **Kevin Gibson** (drums).

DSG Hall R70

23.30 Young Guns

We finish a packed Saturday of jazz with four young musicians who represent the future of South African jazz. All are – in jazz-speak – “seriously burning”! **Chris Engel** (sax) first attended the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival as a 15-year-old schoolboy a decade ago, and was selected five times for National Jazz Bands at school and youth level. He has studied at UCT and is now completing his Masters in Jazz in Oslo, Norway. **Afrika Mkhize** (piano) needs little introduction, performing regularly in both jazz and hip-hop genres with most of the country's leading musicians. **Shane Cooper** (bass) played for the National Schools Band nearly a decade ago and is now a highly sought-after bassist, and **Ayanda Sikade** (drums), twice a member of the National Youth Band and winner of the SAMRO overseas scholarship, is notching up serious performance credentials.

DSG Auditorium R70

Sunday 3 July

12.00 Quattro Fusion

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 trio of **Melvin Peters** (piano), **Hein van de Geyn** (bass) and **Godfrey Mgcina** (percussion). *Quattro Fusion* undertook a tour to Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya late last year, courtesy of Alliance Française and Standard Bank, and there was a very enthusiastic response in each of those countries.

DSG Auditorium R70

17.00 Carine Bonnefoy

Acclaimed Parisian pianist **Carine Bonnefoy** makes her first South African appearance with a stellar collection of musicians. While Bonnefoy's ancestry lies in Tahiti, she embraces a range of musical trends and has worked with African, European and Caribbean musicians. It is for her composition and arrangement that she is best known and her stunning recordings with the Dutch Metropole Orchestra under Vince Mendoza and the German WDR Big Band have received significant critical

attention. Norwegian trombonist **Tarjei Grimsby** is an equally successful composer who has composed predominantly with Scandinavian Big Bands and worked eclectically as a professional trombonist, and their first opportunity to work together should produce an evening of beauty. Joining them are **Marcus Wyatt** (trumpet), Norwegian **Steinar Nickelsen** (Hammond B3 organ) and young Slovenian drummer **Kristijan Krajncan**, who is making a big impact on the Dutch jazz scene.

DSG Hall R70

19.00 School/youth bands II

The **UCT Vocal Group**, led by vocal lecturer and pianist Amanda Tiffin, harnesses the excellent young voices of the next generation of singers studying jazz at university. Sharing the bill is **Útvarp**, featuring Karl Nyberg (sax), Karl-Magnus Andersson (piano), Josefin Runsteen (drums/vocals) and Samuel von BahrJemth (bass). This Swedish youth band won the Swedish Jazz Federation "Young Jazz Comets" competition in late 2010 and they all attend Skurup Folkhögskola, one of the leading precursors to conservatory level in Sweden. The band plays its own music with intensity and creativity and is Swedish youth jazz at its best.

DSG Auditorium R40

19.30 Gavin Minter with Big Band and Sestet

Gavin Minter has been performing professionally for nearly three decades and his warm voice has graced the nation's airwaves regularly during that time, singing all types of music. His first big break came with the pop band *Wired to the Floor* that worked with *Mark-Alex* in the 1990s and he has performed with the likes of Eric Clapton, Joan Armatrading and Jonathan Butler. He has worked – as performer or producer – with many of the leading jazz players in the country and has toured and recorded as special guest with the Stockholm Jazz Orchestra. Tonight he sings the beautiful arrangements written specifically for him by Swedish arranger Goran Strandberg, beginning his show with an intimate sestet of **Buddy Wells** (sax), **Dan Shout** (sax), **Fredrik Norén** (trumpet), **Andrew Lilley** (piano), **Shaun Johannes** (bass) and **Kevin Gibson** (drums). The second half of the gig expands into a Big Band with the addition of a powerful combination of top South African and Scandinavian brass players.

DSG Hall R100

21.00 Afrika's Europeans

Afrika Mkhize (piano) is one of the hip new generation of South African Jazz musicians, combining clear South African roots with excellent technique and the world's music influences. He was pianist and musical director for Miriam Makeba and has played with many South African musicians of her stature, as well as branching out into the production of recordings by musicians such as Themba Mkhize, Kabelo from TKZ and Nokukhanya Dlamini. Tonight he shares the stage with some heavyweight European jazz musos - **Geir Lysne** (sax), is regarded as one of Norway's foremost composers; Swiss bassist **Bänz Oester** has recorded with leading European and American musicians; and Norwegian drummer **Håkon Mjåset Johansen's** international pedigree is impeccable.

DSG Auditorium R70

22.00 Soweto Kinch

Britain's most cutting-edge MC and saxophonist, **Soweto Kinch**, struts his stuff in front of a killer line-up of serious South African jazz players - **Bokani Dyer** (piano), **David Ledbetter** (guitar), **Shane Cooper** (bass) and **Kesivan Naidoo** (drums) – for a unique collaboration spanning the frontiers of jazz and street music. Kinch's performances feature the latest technology and his four South African counterparts have proven themselves equally adept as leaders in musical innovation.

DSG Hall R70

23.30 The World Sounds of Jazz

Efraim Trujillo (sax) is based in Amsterdam and has specialised in the vibrant rhythms of the Caribbean, touring as diversely as Cuba, Tunisia, Jamaica and Senegal. Norwegian **Vigleik Storaas** (piano) has toured to Estonia, China, Indonesia, India and Israel, aside from most of Europe, and has sublime technique and a means of pulling together diverse styles. To this is added the local rhythm

section of **Marc Duby** (bass) and **Lloyd Martin** (drums) for a gig that reflects the diversity of musicians on show at this year's festival, and the way in which Jazz has drawn from the sounds of the world's music.

DSG Auditorium R70

Monday 4 July

12.00 **Mark Ginsburg Quintet**

Mark Ginsburg emerged as a saxophonist of note in Cape Town in the 1970s in his collaborations with Merton Barrow, Nol Klinkhamer and Mike Campbell amongst others. Since migrating to Australia in 1982, Mark has performed and collaborated extensively and the influences that drive his musical explorations range from singing in a synagogue choir as a young boy, listening to the singing of the hazzan (Jewish cantor), hearing strains of Cannonball Adderley and John Coltrane, as well as the contemporary jazz emanating from the highly creative music scene in Australia. His music is thus a representation of his Jewish heritage, ancient folk songs and the influences of current jazz trends. Joining Mark Ginsburg are **David Ledbetter** (guitar/piano), **Shane Cooper** (bass), **Kevin Gibson** (drums) and **Ronan Skillen** (percussion).

DSG Auditorium R70

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. See these newly-selected bands comprising the country's top young jazz players performing together for the first time at 17.00 and 22.00. Tonight we dedicate an entire evening to our country's young jazz musicians, with five performances featuring the cream of our jazz future.

17.00 **Standard Bank National Schools' Big Band – Fredrik Norén**

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 **Fredrik Norén**, who is the conductor and lead trumpet of the Stockholm Jazz Orchestra. He is one of Europe's leading jazz musicians and a jazz consultant for the Swedish Jazz Federation, but is also a conductor of a very successful high school Big Band and has extensive experience with young players. The irrepressible big band sound is the most popular genre in jazz and a wonderful vehicle for educating young players.

DSG Hall R40

19.00 **International Youth Jazz Band**

We try something new this year, extending our youth ensemble programme into the global arena and offering a small international youth jazz band drawn from different parts of the world, including students from South Africa, Europe and Israel. The band is co-ordinated and conducted by master Dutch bassist **Hein van de Geyn**, now resident in Cape Town after a period as artistic manager of the Rotterdam Jazz Academy. He established himself as one of the most sought-after bass players in Europe and was awarded numerous prizes, including the prestigious Prins Bernhard Fonds Music Prize for his role in the development of European Jazz as well as for his stimulating role as mentor and producer of many young musicians in Holland and abroad. His "Comprehensive Bass Method" is rapidly becoming the standard teaching work for the double bass worldwide. The band features South Africans **Sisonke Xonti** (sax) and **Kyle du Preez** (trombone), with Israeli pianist **Milton Michaeli** from Rimón in Tel Aviv and drummer **Ruben Steijn** from the Amsterdam Conservatory.

DSG Auditorium R40

19.30 **North Sea Big Band**

For decades there has been musical interaction between South Africa and Norway and trumpeter Arne Hiorth's North Sea Big Band - an innovative combination of professionals and students from both countries, drawing on compositions and arrangements from the respective music traditions – is a fine example. The band has performed in Oslo – notably in October 2009 at the invitation of

Ambassador Sisulu at the soccer match between Bafana Bafana and Norway at Ullevål Soccer Stadium – and Cape Town and performed in Grahamstown for the past two years, though each time with different personnel. A standard Big Band format is used, drawing on a core of top professional musicians and with 8 of the best students from Scandinavia and South Africa added. This is a Big Band with power and beauty, as well as the intensity of youth. Professionals from South Africa are **Shannon Mowday** (sax), **Chris Engel** (sax), **Melvin Peters** (piano), **James Bassingthwaite** (trombone), **Shaun Johannes** (bass) and **Sepanya Mahlangu** (vocals, percussion); from Norway **Frank Brodahl** (trumpet), **Arne Hiorth** (trumpet), **Geir Lysne** (sax), **Tarjei Grimsby** (trombone) and **Erik Nylander** (drums).

DSG Hall R100

21.00 Youth Jazz Choir + Vocal soloists

South Africa's musical strength lies in our voices - our nation is blessed with a wealth of vocal talent. Unfortunately, much of it lies undiscovered or unpolished. The Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival offers young singers the opportunity to meet their peers and to work with some of the best professional vocalists around, and we first feature a selection of the top young vocalists attending the NYJF and then showcase a festival jazz choir, under the guidance of vocal teacher and performer **Amanda Tiffin**. Most of these young singers are well-versed in performance and receive vocal tuition at home; for some this will be a first-time, life-changing experience. Come and see what gems are to be unearthed tonight.

DSG Auditorium R40

22.00 Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band – McCoy Mrubata

The **Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band** is this year led by one of South Africa's leading jazz musicians and educators – **McCoy Mrubata** – who will put a small elite combo of the nation's very best young players under the age of 26 through their paces. Mrubata has had a significant career in the music industry as a performer and composer locally and internationally and has been involved in youth development projects in Gauteng with the intention of keeping South African jazz vibrant. 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. 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 R40

23.30 Final Jazz Jam - The nightly NYJF jam session concludes the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival 2011.

DSG Auditorium R30

Tuesday 5 July

17.00 Quattro Fusion

Repeat performance. See Sunday 3 July 12.00.

DSG Hall R70

19.30 Tutu Puoane Quartet

The Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz 2004 - vocalist **Tutu Puoane** - now based in Belgium, performs with her Belgian rhythm section, featuring her husband **Ewout Pierreux** (piano), **Nicolas Thys** (bass) and **Lieven Venken** (drums). For more information, see Saturday 2 July 17.00.

DSG Hall R100

Wednesday 6 July

17.00 SBYA – Bokani Dyer Trio

The piano trio is the quintessential vehicle for expression in jazz and pianist **Bokani Dyer**, Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz 2011, is a master in this format. The simplicity of the ensemble allows him the space to show his consummate technique and breadth of musical ideas. His rhythm section tonight is world-class, with Dutch bassist **Hein van de Geyn**, who has toured and recorded extensively with Dee Dee Bridgewater, Chet Baker, Lee Konitz and Toots Thielemans amongst hundreds of others, and has performed on most of the world's great jazz stages and festivals; and on drums **Kesivan Naidoo**, renowned for his performance passion, but with a sensitivity that has led him to play with most of South Africa's top jazz musicians.

DSG Hall R70

19.30 **Selaelo Selota**

Guitarist, composer and producer **Selaelo Selota** grew up in a rural village near Polokwane, and in 1997 he graduated from UCT with a Jazz Degree, majoring in Jazz Composition and Improvisation. In 2001 he collected two South African Music Awards (SAMA's) for Best Newcomer and Best Contemporary Jazz Album, and recently released his fifth CD, *Lapeng Laka*, which again captures the musical depth of his Pedi heritage in the Limpopo province in a mesmerizing Afro-Jazz setting. In the past decade he has shared the stage with Jonathan Butler, Bob James, Kirk Whalum, Richard Bona, Ronny Jordan, Cesaria Evora and Ismael Lo, and has literally toured the world, proving that humble beginnings won't stop real talent. Performing with him tonight are **Darlington Okofu** (keys), **Amaeshi Ikechi Okwarachukwu** (bass) and **Sipho Malinga** (drums).

DSG Hall R100

22.00 **Brian Thusi**

Brian Thusi (trumpet, flugel horn, harmonica, voice) from Umlazi, outside Durban, has a doctorate in Music from the University of Zululand and has been a stalwart in South African jazz for decades. He is known for his poignant performances in places as far afield as Japan and Haiti, with regular tours around Africa, and has performed with an equally diverse range of musicians – the Natal Philharmonic Orchestra, Frank Foster and Kenny Baron to name a few. He has released two CDs of original compositions and received a SAMA nomination, and his Durban-based band is in high demand around the country. His band features the very experienced **Jerry Kunene** (sax), with a collection of talented young players in **Linda Sikhakhane** (sax), **Noluthando Madondo** (trombone, voice), **Vincent Mtetwa** (piano), **Ntuthuko Sibisi** (keys), **Godfrey Seleso** (guitar), **Philani Ngidi** (bass), **Blessing Zondi** (drums) and **Angel Zondo** (voice).

DSG Hall R70

Thursday 7 July

17.00 **Brian Thusi – Tribute to SA Jazz**

Trumpeter **Brian Thusi** has played with most of the greats in South African jazz, including the African Jazz Pioneers, Sipho Gumede, Winston Mankunku Ngozi, Darius Brubeck and Caiphaz Semanya, and he is thus perfectly placed to present a tribute to our jazz heritage. Join him and his band (see Wednesday 6 July, 22.00) as he celebrates our South African jazz standards.

DSG Hall R70

19.30 **Selaelo Selota and Ngwako Manamela (A conversation of Vibes & Guitar)**

Selaelo Selota (guitar) returns, featuring one of South Africa's leading vibraphone and marimba players - **Ngwako Manamela** – who boasts a career of over three decades of performance and recordings with musicians including Hugh Masekela, Miriam Makeba, Zim Ngqawana and Vusi Mahlasela. The rhythm section remains **Darlington Okofu** (keys), **Amaeshi Ikechi Okwarachukwu** (bass) and **Sipho Malinga** (drums) (see Wednesday 6 July, 19.30).

DSG Hall R100

22.00 **Khaya Mahlangu**

The career of tenor saxophonist **Khaya Mahlangu** is a brief lesson in the history of South African jazz. From an early start on trumpet in Soweto he moved onto sax as a teenager and joined the Afro-

pop band *Harari* that toured southern Africa extensively. After time with Johnny Meko's *Jazz Ministers* and Duke Makasi's *Spirits Rejoice* he formed the very successful *Sakhile* with Siphon Gumedede that toured Europe and brought international acclaim to jazz-based African music. In the past three decades he has played and recorded with many of South Africa's most successful musicians – Jonas Gwangwa, Hugh Masekela, Miriam Makeba, Hotstix Mabuse, Sibongile Khumalo – and has become an award-winning producer of musicians like Busi Mhlongo and Tsepo Tsola. He now spends increasing time in Belgium in collaboration with European musicians while preserving the legacy of South African jazz as Director of the Gauteng Jazz Orchestra. He performs tonight with **Mongezi Conjwa** (piano), **Prince Bulo** (bass), **Bernice Boikanyo** (drums) and **Sifiso Bogale** (percussion).

DSG Hall R70

Friday 8 July

17.00 Don Laka

Don Laka (piano) needs no introduction to South African audiences, and he has been a performer, composer and producer for nearly four decades, in that time building the Kwaai-Jazz brand - an eclectic musical fusion of classical, traditional, modern and jazz. He has, as he says, "taken the 'scary' out of jazz and made it accessible to everyone". He has six award-winning albums under his belt, with most of them achieving gold or platinum sales status. He was a member of *Sakhile* and *Sankomota* and an arranger for Sibongile Khumalo and Hugh Masekela, and has collaborated with musicians from across the jazz and Afro-Pop spectrum, creating a strong following throughout South Africa and Europe. His band features **Sidney Mnisi** (sax), **Adam Howard** (trumpet), **Bez Roberts** (trombone), **Oupa Makhubela** (guitar), **Patrick Mokoka** (bass), **Walter Kotu** (drums) and **Julias Nkuna** (percussion).

DSG Hall R100

19.00 Ladysmith Black Mambazo

Ladysmith Black Mambazo is South Africa's top-selling musical group, having released more than 65 albums since their 1970 recording debut. They have been nominated for Grammy awards a phenomenal thirteen times, winning three Grammys for Best Traditional World Album, and they have spent decades presenting their version of indigenous South African music around the world. Ladysmith Black Mambazo was formed in 1960 by Joseph Shabalala and combines isicathamiya with traditional Zulu dance and their success offers a powerful message about the importance of honouring one's culture. Their collaboration with Paul Simon on his *Graceland* album in 1985 launched them onto the global stage and they have collaborated with a fascinating mix of musicians since, including Dolly Parton, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Miriam Makeba, Joe McBride and Thandiswa Mazwai. Joseph Shabalala, now a visiting Professor at the University of Natal, celebrates his 70th birthday and the 50th anniversary of his founding of LBM with a major international tour that includes a performance at the National Arts Festival for the first time. Ladysmith Black Mambazo consists of **Msizi Innocent Shabalala**, **Albert Mdletshe Mazibuko**, **Russel Mdoda Mthembu**, **Thulani Frederick Shabalala**, **Abednego Mphindela Mazibuko**, **Sibongiseni Lucas Shabalala**, **Bekizizwe Joseph Shabalala**, **Thamsanqa Shabalala**, **Mfanafuthi Dlamini**.

Guy Butler Auditorium, Monument R120

21.00 Khaya Mahlangu

Repeat performance. See Thursday 7 July 22.00.

DSG Hall R70

Saturday 9 July

15.00 Ladysmith Black Mambazo

Repeat performance. See Friday 8 July 19.00.

Guy Butler Auditorium, Monument R120

19.30 Don Laka

Repeat performance. See Friday 8 July 17.00.

DSG Hall R100

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-ordinator	Brian Thusi