

22nd Istanbul Jazz Festival Programme

- **The Festival Hosts Young Jazz Prodigy Tigran Hamasyan in Two Projects**
Tuesday, 30 June, 21:00, Hagia Eirene Museum
Wednesday, 1 July, 19:00, Cemal Reşit Rey Concert Hall

Young musical prodigy **Tigran Hamasyan**, born in Armenia in 1987, will be at the festival with two special concerts. Hamasyan started the piano when he was three and won the piano competitions of both the Montreux Jazz Festival and the Thelonious Monk Institute when he was 18, the same age when he released his debut album *World Passion*. Then in 2011, he won the Victoires de la Musique, which is considered to be the French Grammy's, with his album *A Fable*. The Guardian describes him as, "a multi-stylistic jazz virtuoso and a groove-powered hitmaker simultaneously." Herbie Hancock has already told him, "You are my teacher now!" and Hancock is not alone in his admiration of the young musician, but rather joined by others like Brad Mehldau and Chick Corea.

On **Tuesday, 30 June, Tigran Hamasyan** will render traditional Armenian music at the **Hagia Eirene Museum**, where he will be joined by the **Yerevan State Chamber Music Choir**, directed by **Harutyun Topikyan**, for his chamber choir project **Luys i Luso**. This project will be performed at a hundred different churches around the world and its album will be released under the title of ECM in September.

Hamasyan will meet jazz-lovers a second time the next evening and this time it will be for a lilting and melodic concert with his trio at the **Cemal Reşit Rey Concert Hall**. Resembling indie-rock musicians for his energy on stage, Hamasyan will be joined by **Sam Minaie** on the bass and **Arthur Hnatek** on the drums. Hamasyan's second concert will feature pieces from his latest album *Mockroot*, which was released in February.

- **Joan Baez at the Cemil Topuzlu Open Air Theatre Again After 11 Years**
Wednesday, 1 July, 21:30, Cemil Topuzlu Amphitheatre

The legendary folk musician **Joan Baez** has already left half a century behind in her music career with more than 30 albums, acclaimed as one of the leading female vocals in popular music also known for her activism. Joan Baez will be in Istanbul again after 11 years within the scope of the festival and she will be singing her unforgettable ballads like *Diamonds & Rust*, *Donna Donna*, *Queen of Hearts*, along with other classics like *House of the Rising Sun*, *Let it Be*, and *Forever Young* at the **Cemil Topuzlu Amphitheatre** on Wednesday, 1 July at **21:30**.

Joan Baez's protest standing, which she has kept since the 60's, won her a place among the symbols of the 68 generation and made her one of the headliners in Woodstock in 1969. Her songs have been sung as marches in student movements ever since. A pioneering symbol in folk music, Baez was awarded with the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007 and celebrated the 55th year of her career in 2013. She was last at the Amphitheatre in 2004, as a guest of the 11th Istanbul Jazz Festival.

- **Marcus Miller's Musical Excursion through Africa to America, "Afrodeezia"**
Thursday, 2 July, 21:00, Cemil Topuzlu Amphitheatre

The bass genius **Marcus Miller**, well-known to the Turkish audiences for his impressive technique and brilliant albums, is back at the festival with his latest project **Afrodeezia**, which will also be released as his 10th album in April. Inspired by the route the black music has followed, Marcus Miller will now return to the roots of his legacy and together with his new band take his audience on a musical excursion through jazz to Latin music, afro-beat, and to reggae at the **Cemil Topuzlu Amphitheatre**.

A regular guest at the Istanbul Jazz Festival, **Marcus Miller** has worked with many distinguished musicians in his career spanning over 30 years, including Aretha Franklin, Roberta Flack, and David Sanborn, along with his childhood idol Miles Davis, and has played the bass guitar in more than 400 albums for musicians like Joe Sample, McCoy Tyner, Bill Withers, Elton John, Bryan Ferry, Jay Z, and LL Cool J. A multiple Grammy-winner, Marcus Miller was designated UNESCO Artist for Peace in 2013 and was appointed spokesman for UNESCO's project against slavery, "Slave Route".

- **“Network” Night with Bass Virtuoso Charnett Moffett**
Friday, 3 July, 21:00, Sakıp Sabancı Museum

Charnett Moffett, a true bass legend who has played with many other legends such as Wynton Marsalis, McCoy Tyner, and Ornette Coleman and has featured in 200 recordings, will be at the festival with an all-star band. Moffett will make his Istanbul debut at the **Sakıp Sabancı Museum** on **Friday, 3 July** with his latest project **Network** that brings together the virtuosos he has been in close contact throughout his career.

In the **Network** night, **Charnett Moffett** will be joined by the guitar virtuoso **Stanley Jordan**, a 4-time Grammy nominee and the inventor of the tapping technique that uses both hands, pianist **Cyrus Chestnut**, renowned for combining contemporary and traditional jazz with genres like gospel, Latin, and samba, and drummer **Jeff “Tain” Watts**, the only musician to have featured in all the Grammy-winning recordings of both Wynton and Branford Marsalis and whose performances on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno has garnered a great following.

- **A Night with Songwriter and Singer Melody Gardot**
Monday, 6 July, 19:30, Sepetçiler Pavilion

After her captivating performance that left the audience in awe of her at the 20th Istanbul Jazz Festival in 2013, **Melody Gardot** returns to the festival to sing her latest songs in her elegant yet powerful and very authentic voice. One of Poland’s best jazz musicians, **Wojtek Mazolewski** and his quintet will be on stage as the opening act of this concert at the **Sepetçiler Pavilion** on the night of **Monday, 6 July**.

Born in the United States in 1985, **Gardot** started the piano at the age of 9. Her debut album **Worrisome Heart** (2006) blended jazz and blues and her second album **My One and Only Thrill** (2009) that combined Latin rhythms with blues tunes was nominated for the Grammy. Her next album **The Absence** (2012) was met with great acclaim in Europe, as well as entering the American Jazz Albums list right from number one. Melody Gardot’s voice that reflects a spectrum of musical colours, with a feel of jazz and blues along with country and folk, and her exquisite interpretation that has given life to her many hits like *Baby I’m a Fool*, *Your Heart is as Black as Night*, and *If the Stars were Mine* have gained her world-wide reputation. Gardot will release her new album in June.

- **Jools Holland, Star of BBC2’s Cult Show, with his Rhythm and Blues Orchestra featuring Marc Almond at the Amphitheatre**
Tuesday, 7 July, 21:00, Cemil Topuzlu Amphitheatre

Pianist **Jools Holland** who has garnered a great following by his cult show **Later... with Jools Holland** on **BBC2** will make his Istanbul debut with his extensive ensemble of 20 musicians. Singer and songwriter **Marc Almond** will guest star to perform with Jools Holland & His Rhythm and Blues Orchestra at the **Cemil Topuzlu Amphitheatre** on **Tuesday, 7 July**.

A true music aficionado since childhood, **Jools Holland** first joined a pop music band named Squeeze, which was influenced by the 70’s new wave, and played a great part in the band’s million-selling hits. He left the band in 1981 to launch a solo career; his great breakthrough came in 1992 with the music programme *Later... with Jools Holland* on BBC2. Jools Holland worked with such distinguished vocals as Imelda May, Joss Stone, Amy Winehouse, and Emeli Sande in his latest album *Sirens of Song*. His festival performance promises an upbeat musical journey that passes through jazz, R&B, soul, gospel, and funk classics, as well as his own works. Irish singer **Imelda May**, who has revived the genre of rockabilly, will take to the stage before Jools Holland and his orchestra to bring the verve of Dublin streets to the concert.

- **Jazz Pianist Roberto Fonseca of the Buena Vista Social Club's World Tour Meets Malian Fatoumata Diawara who rose to international stardom with her 2013 Glastonbury performance**
Wednesday, 8 July, 21:45, Feriye Restaurant

Cuban jazz pianist **Roberto Fonseca** who tours the world with the **Buena Vista Social Club** will get together with Malian musician and singer **Fatoumata Diawara** who has worked with numerous musicians, including Damon Albarn, Herbie Hancock, Amadou and Mariam, Paul McCartney, and Roots, for a warm and rhythmic Afro-Latin music night at the **Feriye Restaurant** on **Wednesday, 8 July**.

Roberto Fonseca started the piano at the age of eight and made his first major appearance at the Havana International Jazz Festival when he was only 15. He joined Ibrahim Ferrer's orchestra in 2001 and played in more than 400 concerts throughout the world, performing with such leading musicians as Ruben Gonzales, Cachaito, Guajiro Mirabal, among many others. Musician and dancer **Fatoumata Diawara** made her name with the films *La Genese* (1999) and *Sia, le reve du python* (2001); then took part in the musical *Kirikou et Karaba* with the world-renowned street theatre company Royal de Luxe. She released her debut album, the EP titled **Fatau and Kanou** that showcased her skills in percussion, guitar and vocals, in 2011 and gave an unforgettable performance at the Glastonbury Festival in 2013.

- **This Year's "Encounters with Masters" reaches from Iran all the way to Norway: Mahsa Vahdat, Tord Gustavsen, and Fahrettin Yarkin meet on the same stage**
Thursday, 9 July, 19:30, Garden of Istanbul High School

The "**Encounters with Masters**" series have been bringing world-renowned musicians whose inspiration comes from Turkish music among other resources together with virtuosos from Turkey, with a view to producing new and original projects, since 2006. This year's "Encounters with Masters" that will take place in the garden of the **Istanbul High School** on **Thursday, 9 July** will feature Iranian musician **Mahsa Vahdat**, Norwegian pianist **Tord Gustavsen**, and Istanbulite percussionist **Fahrettin Yarkin**.

A contemporary interpreter of traditional Iranian music and an ardent advocate of freedom of speech, Tehran-born **Mahsa Vahdat** started taking music and singing lessons in her early ages. Despite the ban on women's singing of the period, she released the album *Songs from the Persian Garden* with her sister and received great critical acclaim. She has performed in festivals across the world with many renowned musicians. A distinguished representative of Norwegian jazz, pianist and composer **Tord Gustavsen** performed in joint projects with musicians like Silje Nergaard and Kristin Asbjørnsen, before he went on to realise his own projects like the Tord Gustavsen Trio, Tord Gustavsen Ensemble, and Tord Gustavsen Quartet. **Fahrettin Arkin's** performance, together with his ensemble, in the *Lyrical History Show*, which was staged at the Topkapı Palace in 2005, was a great success. Arkin pursues an international career with concerts, lessons, and seminars across the world, while also working on his book that focuses on rhythms in Turkish music.

The American trumpeter of Iranian origins, **Amir El Saffar** will take to the stage at **19:30**, right before the "Encounters with Masters" concert. El Saffar combined Arabic modal music with jazz improvisation in his debut album *Two Rivers* (2006), which was met with great acclaim. He has since released three more studio albums and has performed with renowned musicians such as Randy Brecker and Cecil Taylor.

- **A Strange Place for Jazz: The Bad Plus and Joshua Redman**
Friday, 10 July, 19:30, Eşref Denizhan Amphitheatre (ENKA)

Known for its creative and entertaining renditions, the avant-garde jazz trio **The Bad Plus** joins forces with one of the most charismatic saxophone virtuosos of our day, **Joshua Redman**. The opening act of this concert at the **Eşref Denizhan Amphitheatre (ENKA)** on the night of **Friday, 10 July** will be French accordionist **Vincent Peirani**, who is regarded as one of the rising stars of European jazz, together with his quintet.

The American jazz band **The Bad Plus** made its first appearance in 1989 as a trio with **Reid Anderson** on the acoustic bass, **Ethan Iverson** on the piano, and **David King** on the drums. Their

debut album bearing the trio's name was released in 2001 and was followed by four more, which featured Abba, Blondie, Nirvana, Neil Young, and Ornette Coleman songs performed in the trio's distinctive style that has a certain feel of rock and pop music. Charismatic jazziest and saxophonist **Joshua Redman** released his debut album in his own name in 1993. Many leading musicians he collaborates with include Brad Mehldau, Christian McBride, and Kurt Rosenwinkel. And now Joshua Redman will take his special collaboration with The Bad Plus to Istanbul within the scope of the festival.

- **Jazz Heat vs. Northern Lights: Sly & Robbie meet Nils Petter Molvaær**
Saturday, 11 July, 19:00, KüçükÇiftlik Park

The leading bass and drums duo in Reggae music with 200 thousand albums so far to their credit, either as producer or performer, **Sly & Robbie** will get together with Norwegian jazz trumpet virtuoso **Nils Petter Molvaær** at the festival for an exceptional concert. Jamaican groove masters who are recognised as one of the world's best bass and drums duos, Grammy-winning drummer **Sly Dunbar** and bassist **Robbie Shakespeare** are known for their collaborations with many international stars like Grace Jones and Mick Jagger and for bringing their authentic groove approach to every project they participate in. The duo will be joined by one of Norway's leading figures in electro-jazz, **Nils Petter Molvaær** and the band will be complemented with an active figure from Norway's jazz scene, guitarist Eivind Aarset and an electronic music genius Vladislav Delay. This project, specifically tailored for the summer of 2015, will get all the musicians together on stage for the first time and will take the audience on a delightful journey from jazz to dub and from electronic music to world music. The opening act of the concert to be held on **Saturday, 11 July at KüçükÇiftlik Park** will feature **Korhan Futacı and Kara Orchestra**, portraying Istanbul's chaos and telling the musical story of insanity in their own style. Follow us on the festival web site and social media to find out about surprise names to take part in the "Northern Lights" event.

- **A Quartet of Super-Stars:**
Chris Potter, Dave Holland, Lionel Loueke, Eric Harland
Monday, 13 July, 21:00, Cemal Reşit Rey Concert Hall

This concert brings the stars of jazz on stage together: **Chris Potter** on the saxophone, **Dave Holland** on the bass, **Lionel Loueke** on the guitar, and **Eric Harland** on the drums. **Chris Potter** is very well known as the leader of various accomplished jazz bands like the **Underground**; **Dave Holland** is the recipient of numerous awards including the Grammy for his recent quartet and big band projects and he has played with some of the greatest names in jazz music such as Bill Evans and Miles Davis; **Lionel Loueke** is a Blue Note recording artist; and **Eric Harland** is one of the most active figures on the jazz scene lately, performing regularly with Charles Lloyd and Stefan Harris, among others. This concert promises a totally fulfilling, truly unique experience to jazz-lovers.

European Jazz Club Nights at Salon İKSV

The European Jazz Club series that bring accomplished figures of the Turkish jazz scene together with European virtuosos, thus creating a jam-session atmosphere with musicians otherwise unlikely to come together, continues to present all new projects at **Salon İKSV** in the 9th edition. The series will spread through the course of the Istanbul Jazz Festival.

WeeD feat. ERNST REIJSEGER, Tuesday 30 July, 21:30

Şenol Küçükyıldırım's band **WeeD**, with **Çağlayan Yıldız** and **Şevket Akıncı** on the guitar and **Murat Çopur** on the bass guitar, strolls on the borders of sounds in search of the yet undiscovered. **Şenol Küçükyıldırım** has performed and gave premieres with the iconic John Cage at the Harvard University and other destinations in America. In this concert, the WeeD will feature Dutch cellist **Ernst Reijseger**, a virtuoso renowned for his creative use of the cello in many genres and styles, from classic to modern and to the scores of Werner Herzog films.

DAVE ALLEN BAND feat. MICHAEL GRIENER, Wednesday 8 July, 21:30

Renowned for his impressive technique and powerful tunes, guitarist **Dave Allen** enjoys an international career spanning not only the United States, but also Europe and Asia, where he collaborates with many jazz musicians, including David Liebman, Mark Turner, Jeff Ballard, and Marcus Gilmore. Dave Allen has been living in Turkey for many years now and at Salon İKSV, he will take to the stage with his band and German jazz musician **Michael Griener**.

BAŞAK YAVUZ BAND feat. VINCENT PEIRANI, Thursday 9 July, 21:30

Jazz vocalist **Başak Yavuz**, familiar to the Istanbul Jazz Festival stage as well as to jazz clubs in New York, Montreal, and Istanbul, will perform with her band comprising **Tamer Temel**, **Adem Gülşen**, **Alper Yılmaz**, and **Erdem Göymen**, and they will be joined by French accordionist **Vincent Peirani**. Peirani will also be the opening act in The Bad Plus and Joshua Redman concert at the ENKA Eşref Denizhan Amphitheatre on Friday, 10 July.

BURAK BEDİKYAN EUROPEAN QUARTET, Tuesday 14 July, 21.30

Pianist **Burak Bedikyan**, who is in high demand as a “sideman” in Turkey, and his quartet get together with **Andy Middleton**, who is regarded as one of the most prolific saxophonists of his generation, double-bassist **Johannes Strasser**, who is very popular in jazz circles for his creative improvisations, and drummer **Joris Dudli**, who was a long-time member of the *Art Farmer Quintet*.

EDİZ HAFIZOĞLU NAZDRAVE

Ediz Hafizoğlu works primarily with jazz musicians, along with many others from a wide variety of genres. His album **Nazdrave**, released in late 2014, has drawn much attention for the collaborations he had with musicians such as Ülkü Aybala Sunat, Elif Çağlar, Kolektif İstanbul, Korhan Futacı and Kara Orchestra, and Alp Ersönmez. The details of Ediz Hafizoğlu’s concert can be found on the festival website soon.

GÜÇ BAŞAR GÜLLE

Güç Başar Gülle is renowned for his profound knowledge in Ottoman-Turkish music as well as in classical-jazz music that manifests itself in his genuine musical language and highly creative projects. His debut album **İki Renk** was released in 2010. His second album **Bensiz**, released in 2013, differed from the first in its musical conception. Also a leading researcher in his field, Gülle teaches in distinguished schools throughout the world. Güç Başar Gülle’s band with Volkan Hürsever along other musicians will also feature a guest artist for this occasion. The guest artist as well as the date and time of the concert can be found on the festival website soon.

Surprise Names In The Final Week Of The Festival

The festival's final week will become even more colourful with the addition of concerts to be announced soon. The festival is in preparation of a **spectacular concert to celebrate the centenary of Frank Sinatra’s birth in 2015**. Details of the line up and date of this very special concert that will take place at the **Embassy of Germany Tarabya Summer Residence** will be announced very soon.

Another treat of the final days of this year's festival will be the Australian band **Hiatus Kaiyote**, which was nominated for a Grammy in 2013 with the song Nakamarra. The band earned great success with its debut album **Tawk Tomahawk** in 2012 and its second album **Choose Your Weapon** is due for May 2015. The date and venue for Hiatus Kaiyote concert will soon be announced.