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RED-HOT WINTER JAZZ: New NYC progressive outfit ERIMAJ HEADLINES SIMA'S INTERNATIONAL WINTER SERIES

SIMA is pleased to announce the line-up for its annual International Winter Series this June. Showcasing artists from the USA, ITALY and SWITZERLAND, the Series will also feature young New York-based Australian guitar virtuoso **Quentin Angus** and New Zealand ex-pat **Mike Nock**. Headlining the series is **ERIMAJ** playing one show only at the Sound Lounge, Seymour Centre Theatre on Tuesday 11 June at 8:30pm.



Spearheaded by the collaborative writing style of world-renown drummer **Jamire Williams** and **Corey King**, **ERIMAJ's** sound has recently been described by the New York Times as "properly new, part of something larger, and still unnamed" and combines fluid narrative improvisation, hypnotic grooves and off-kilter beats in a smart and delicate synthesis of 70s jazz-funk, 90s R&B and 00s neo-soul.

Renowned for his work with Christian Scott and Robert Glasper, Williams has also performed and recorded with the likes of John Mayer and electro-dance band Cubic Zirconia and has set-out to make **ERIMAJ** a genuine blend of all these experiences, assembling a lineup from the vanguard of next generational jazz. The band's critically acclaimed first release, *Conflict Of A Man*, debuted last year at #1 on the iTunes Top 10 Jazz Albums.



Opening the Series, charismatic vocalist and seasoned performer Swiss-born New Yorker **Beat Kaestli** (Saturday 1 June) brings a profound sense of musicianship and magnetic style to the stage. He regularly performs at iconic venues such as The Blue Note, Birdland, BAM, The Jazz Standard and The Stone with jazz greats like Esperanza Spalding, Jon Hendricks and Gregoire Maret.



Italian piano/composer **Keko Fornarelli** (Friday 7 June) unites acoustic instruments and electronics to blend classical influences and contemporary dance rhythms into his visceral mood-jazz that is winning acclaim across Europe. Alison Gunn from the Financial Times describes his music as "A near-perfect balance of tension and freedom. **Fornarelli's** (jazz) music has a pared-down yet catchy style that draws on his classical roots, with influences from pop to trip-hop to gospel". This performance is also part of VIVID 2013.

New Zealand born pianist/composer **Mike Nock** is one of the acknowledged masters of jazz in Australasia. His reputation rests partly on his imposing international experience which includes twenty-five years working in the USA with many of the world's top jazz musicians including Coleman Hawkins, Yusef Lateef, Dionne Warwick, and Michael Brecker. Mike's Trio-Plus (Friday 14 June) comprises of his long-time collaborating trio and generation-next trumpeter Ken Allars and saxophonist Karl Laskowski.

The New York Times describes the music of guitar virtuoso **Quentin Angus** (Saturday 15 June) as "alluring and approachable post-bop". And at just 25 years old, Angus is building an international reputation with his brilliant compositional work that has gained him an APRA Art Music Awards for excellence in jazz last year. He tours Australia in June with his New York band.

Tickets from \$20, Bookings and more information 9351 7940 or www.sima.org.au

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