

SWING, SOUL & JAZZ FOR FREE @ SIMA's 2013 OPENING WEEKEND



SIMA Jazz opens its 2013 Season on February 1 & 2 at the Seymour Centre Theatre, Chippendale. The launch features the very best of local and international jazz in club gigs and free events which will include the launch of a new oral history series, *Jazz Voices- Australian Musicians in Dialogue*.

Kicking off festivities on Friday is German/Swiss outfit, the **Andreas Böhlen Band**. Presenting fast, powerful, fiery swing to grooving avant-garde and ballads, Böhlen's musical background as classical recorder player and jazz saxophonist is displayed in his intelligent compositions.

This performance is part of a national tour and is presented in conjunction with the Goethe Institute.

On Saturday afternoon enjoy a **FREE outdoor** performance by **The Swinging Blades** featuring vocalist **Elana Stone** and guest artist Warwick Adler (trumpet). Enjoy an entertaining and humorous afternoon as The Blades stamp their unique style on jazz favourites while you grab a drink or something from the BBQ in the lush surrounds of the Seymour Centre Courtyard. This event *is child and dog friendly!*



After the Blades, head down to the Sound Lounge for the premiere of *Jazz Voices - Australian Musicians in Dialogue*. *Jazz Voices* aims to build an oral history archive of Australian jazz through a series of discussions between notable Australian jazz musicians. Launching the series, acclaimed veteran drummer John Pochee will share his vast experiences as a musician, bandleader and raconteur across a career that spans six decades with MC's Matt McMahon and Andrew Dickeson. This project is an initiative of Andrew Dickeson and supported by SIMA Jazz.

We close the weekend with the sultry vocals of one of Sydney's leading jazz and soul singers, **Virna Sanzone**. Renowned for her passionate delivery and remarkable improvisational approach, Virna delights audiences with her inventive renditions of jazz standards and powerful originals. Expect an evening of smoldering jazz.

This weekend opens SIMA's 2013 season. In addition to its regular weekend performance program at the Sound Lounge, SIMA Jazz will present an international jazz season. It will also tour jazz across NSW, present three *Cool for School* high-school concerts and the eight-week *Young Women in Jazz* program at the Sydney Conservatorium amongst a range of special projects and artist development programs and in 2013 SIMA Jazz will commence an international youth exchange program with the prestigious Aberdeen Youth Festival in Scotland.

Formed in 1984, SIMA is dedicated to the presentation of contemporary Australian jazz through its regular performance program, artist services and education programs. For more information, visit www.sima.org.au.

Friday 1 February 2013

Andreas Böhlen Band - The Sound Lounge (8.30pm)

Tickets: \$20/\$15/\$10 www.sima.org.au or 02 9351 7940

Saturday 2 February 2013

The Swinging Blades, Seymour Centre Theatre Courtyard (2pm – 5pm) FREE

Jazz Voices, Australian Musicians in Dialogue, The Sound Lounge (5pm – 6.15) FREE

Virna Sanzone Band, The Sound Lounge (8.30pm). Tickets \$20/\$15/10

Tickets: \$20/\$15/\$10 www.sima.org.au or 02 9351 7940

****The Sound Lounge and Courtyard are located at the Seymour Centre Theatre, corner Cleveland St and City Rd, Chippendale.**

MEDIA ENQUIRIES: AMY CURL amy@sima.org.au or 0413 237 119