

## **Brenda Gifford's 'Dundun Firestick' featuring Sandy Evans and Friends**

<https://sima.org.au/event/brenda-giffords/>

Date: Feb 11, 2023 – 7:30 – 10:30pm

Venue: Bondi Pavilion

*Bonniesongs creates music to drift to - dreamy, summery harmonies for a water-front concert – alongside Brenda Gifford who brings together a jazz supergroup of talents who explore and transcend country, culture and experience.*

From ethereal indie-folk to music that transcends culture and country

### Brenda Gifford's 'Dundun Firestick' featuring Sandy Evans and Friends

First Nations composer and saxophonist Brenda Gifford's work is deeply connected with her relationship to country, community and culture.

Bringing the concert to life, alongside Gifford are leading Australian jazz musicians Sandy Evans, Gary Daley, Chloe Kim, and Jacques Emery. In a moving exchange of artistry and precision, together they'll beautifully breathe life into a stunning collection of original compositions.

Each musician is a virtuoso in their own right, each with their own distinct lived experience. This music will have a transcendent resonance with people from all cultures, as the musicians explore themes of country, culture, lived experience and reconciliation.

Brenda Gifford, originally from Wreck Bay, NSW says "My country is Yuin country. It is beautiful, coastal and abundant, especially during Galaa (Summer in Dhurga - language of the Yuin people). The barra barra (sea) is at the core of country. It guides me and inspires me, in my music".

### Bonniesongs

"spartan dream-folk drifts into unexplored areas, borrowing from jazz improvisation while delving into the sub-conscious." Clash Music

Beguiling and ethereal, Bonniesong's lifting vocals float over gentle peaks of acoustic and electronic instruments. Layered with an enchanting loop pedal, she draws you into a dreamlike trance in the style of contemporary folk/alternative artists such as Joanna Newsom and Bjork.

Under the spell of thrumming guitar, Stewart renders her arrangements with a fidelity of performance that seems to amplify an almost spectral presence. She'll play loudly whilst making you ridiculously aware of silence and then go some way to reminding you how music is at its most basic, mere vibration moving through air. This is Bonniesongs.

## **Double Bill: Surfing Soundwaves + Cameron Deyell/Laurence Pike**

<https://sima.org.au/event/surfing-soundwaves-deyell-pike/>

Date: Feb 18, 2023 7:45 – 10:30pm

Venue: The Great Club

*Beside the sea: cool surfing sounds, intense rhythms and beats*

*Cameron Deyell and Laurence Pike present sounds inspired by the sea with rhythmic echoes from 70s jazz futurism, while Freya Garbett creates bridges between music and surfing – ambient and with hints of the cool.*

Jazz in the summer - two creative projects inspired by the ocean, nature and being free.

### Cameron Deyell/Laurence Pike

The record reflects not only on Australia's remoteness but the profound influence of the open ocean, with Deyell having recently sailed the boat he was living in from California to Fiji just prior to making the album.

Drawing from their 20 plus year history as collaborators, Melbourne's Cameron Deyell and Sydney's Laurence Pike have recently combined forces as a duo with their debut album 'Isola'.

'Isola' echoes the jazz futurism of the 1970s – Joined by multi-instrumentalist Jasper Leak, this concert delves into spiritual improvisation using both acoustic instruments and electronics.

Italian for island, Isola represents the geographical isolation of their home in Australia - a continent renowned for its vastness and subsequent poetic responses to its natural singularity.

### *Surfing Soundwaves*

Freyja Garbett's latest project 'Surfing Soundwaves' is an immersive journey through rich bio-sonic textures inspired by the ocean. The physical, mental and emotional link between musical improvisation and surfing are concepts that have long been pondered by musicians and lovers of waves. Many surfers have drawn a philosophical connection between these disciplines.

Freyja Garbett's 'Surfing Soundwaves' is the first step in her journey to creating music that encapsulated and audiates the synthesis between music and surfing.

Freyja's ambient, dreamlike and soothing compositions empower her talented band with the space and freedom to drastically manipulate the music live on stage. Join us, as they "surf the changes".

"Just as no two jazz solos are alike, neither are two waves ever identical, and good surfers or jazz musicians find renewal and inspiration in the spirit of improvisation" - Tom Schnabel, 2014

## **Double Bill: Lucy Clifford + Another Green World [Album Launch]**

<https://sima.org.au/event/lucy-clifford-agm/>

Date: Feb 23, 2023 7:30 – 10:00pm

Venue: Johnston St Jazz

*Stories of empowerment, dedication to growth and love in all its forms.*

Lucy Clifford's new sextet and distinctive sound pushes against the boundaries of genre. Lush harmonies and lyrical phrasing create an expansive and urgent sound with raw grooves and a longing for summer. Another Green World are an exciting new duo, that challenge the role of each instrument in a drum-free setting.

Fresh out the studio at ABC Jazz, bassist Lucy Clifford premieres her sextet at the acoustic splendour of Johnston St Jazz.

The 2022 Jann Rutherford Memorial Award recipient's music optimises Wollongong's distinctive sound within the Australian jazz scene – lush and textural harmonies, contrasted by lyrical melodic phrasing.

Through her music, Clifford creates an encouraging space for exploration, via way of raw grooves, lyrical arrangements and an igniting spirit.

Although rooted in jazz expression, this band explores beyond the fringes of genre, building symbiotic rhythms and pulses that interlock with all things motion, stillness and freedom in between.

“this concert is a sneak peak listening experience for you, ahead of my upcoming 2023 album debut.”

Deeply connected improvisation from an exciting new duo, that challenge the role of each instrument in a drum-free setting through pulsatile, ostinato based compositions where the improvisation is informed by the architecture of each piece.

Another Green World is a contemporary jazz and improvised music duo, whose debut album, released via Peoples Music, is due out February 2023.

**Chris Cody - Astrolabe “A Summer Voyage” + Julien Wilson - Meditations & Mutations**

<https://sima.org.au/event/astrolabe-julien-wilson/>

Date: Feb 26, 2023 – 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Venue: The Great Club

A vibrant and exciting musical odyssey, exploring cultures new and old.

Recounting the summer voyage of French explorer La Perouse through the musical lens of Astrolabe, alongside Julien Wilson’s solo saxophone adventures without maps.

Chris Cody - Astrolabe ‘A Summer Voyage’

Astrolabe is a musical account of the voyages of French explorer La Perouse, who landed in Botany Bay during the Summer of 1788.

Chris Cody’s work draws upon jazz, classical and world music to take audiences on a vibrant and exciting musical odyssey.

Inspired by La Perouse’s amazing voyage through the Pacific regions of North and South America, Asia and Australasia, the music delves into differently imagined times, cultures and places to convey the emotions Chris felt after reading the ship journal.

“Cody builds improvisational space into the work, and such gifted players inevitably lead us to uncharted lands,” - John Shand, Sydney Morning Herald

Julien Wilson - Meditations & Mutations

Julien Wilson’s Sydney premiere of his spontaneous solo adventures without maps, taking listeners to places both wild and peaceful.

Recorded during Melbourne’s interminable lockdowns, the pair of solo albums called ‘Meditations’ and ‘Mutations’ are melodic electroacoustic cinematic soundscapes created using just woodwinds and electronic effects.

Renown music critic John Shand calls the music “as close to directly communing with another human soul as art can contrive. Light shines through this music – muted, like afternoon sun through a high window”; and he observes that the electronic effects create “environments in which the saxophone unfolds its stories (of fathomless humanity), rather as birds sing in trees.”

## **Sydney Improvisers Composers Kollektiv Orchestra**

<https://sima.org.au/event/sicko/>

Date: March 9, 2023 – 7:30 – 10:00pm

Venue: Johnston St Jazz

*“A dynamic and entertaining show, we were riding on the edge of their seats watching the music take shape”*

Lead by Trevor Brown, this 10–15-piece ensemble features Sydney’s finest improvisers, focusing on improvised conduction and open free-form music creation.

Led by Trevor Brown, this 10–15-piece ensemble features Sydney’s finest improvisers, focusing on improvised conduction and open free-form music creation.

With each musician from across all spectra of music, classical, jazz, electronic, traditional and exploratory styles, this group is truly one of a kind.

The art of improvisatory conducting is based on various systems created by Karlheinz Stockhausen, Butch Morris, Frank Zappa, John Zorn and Walter Thompson.

## **Ten Part Invention Celebrate John Pochée OAM (1940 - 2022)**

<https://sima.org.au/event/ten-part-invention/>

Date: March 12, 2023 – 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Venue: The Great Club

Looking back – Looking forward. Don't miss their warm, uplifting summer spirit music.

Ten Part Invention was formed in 1986 by John Pochée and shaped an era in Australian music. Now the band pays tribute to its founder and the many compositions he commissioned. It'll be colourful, thrilling and adventurous.

Formed in 1986 to be a flexible medium for Australian jazz composers and improvisers, Ten Part Invention quickly became renowned for their colourful, thrilling and adventurous performances.

In this concert, Ten Part Invention will honour the remarkable life and legacy of Australian jazz drummer, and bandleader John Pochée OAM.

Pochée formed and led the band until 2011 when he retired, entrusting the brilliant Dave Goodman with the reins.

The group will perform favourites by Roger Frampton, Miroslav Bukovsky and Sandy Evans, plus a lesser-known selection from the incredible 80+ compositions that John commissioned. Along with the music, the band will recount stories from the many special experiences they shared with John.

Until his passing in November 2022, John remained an active participant with the band - as a leader and mentor. He was a creative visionary who had the passion, intelligence and perseverance to build communities, inspire and support others. He shaped an era in Australian music with generosity of spirit, good humour and brilliance.

Please join us to celebrate the memory of this truly great musician.

## **DOUBLE BILL: PRECIOUS ENERGY + GODTET**

<https://sima.org.au/event/precious-energy-godtet/>

Date: March 16, 2023 – 7:30 – 10:30pm

Venue: The Lansdowne

*A kaleidoscopic journey through soul and jazz with a dancefloor energy fit for summer*

*Precious Energy is Barney McAll's latest project features music written as a heartfelt call for the positive, for the sun and for love. GODTET is an electrifying, dreamy hypnotic, instrumental journey with a band of huge and diverse talents.*

### Precious Energy

Precious Energy is the most recent project from Barney McAll which fuses all Barney's band-stand experience with the likes of Gary Bartz, Sia, Dewey Redman, Maceo Parker, Billy Harper and Fred Wesley into a hybrid of avante-funk, soul and improvisation.

"I wanted to make an album that spoke to positivity, sun rays and love during the pandemic, when all these things seemed to be on some kind of cosmic precipice. Blending my mentor Gary Bartz with some of the sounds and players I have been delving into of late, has created the happiest deepest album I have ever made". – Barney McAll

"It is a magnum opus that belongs alongside the kaleidoscopic 21st century jazz-inspired sounds emerging from London, Chicago, and Los Angeles, though it towers above most of them." - ALLMUSIC.COM

### GODTET

GODTET play hypnotic improvised instrumental music taking listeners on psychedelic, trancelike journeys which are "a very honest document on letting players play".

GODTET is a true band where "you can't deny the tangible sense of cohesion amongst the players, their interaction with each other is both subtle and electrifying"(4ZZZ Radio).

Coming from backgrounds as disparate as their personalities, it is the listening and chemistry between each of its 5 uninterchangeable members that explains how GODTET's sum is greater than that of its parts.

## **The Three Seas**

<https://sima.org.au/event/the-three-seas/>

Date: March 19, 2023 – 4:00 – 6:00 pm

Venue: Riverside Theatres

*Indian folk song meets Sydney and Kolkata beats, alongside Veronique Serret redefining the sounds of the violin*

The Three Seas are a lively musical marriage of Himalayan folk song and the contemporary beats of Sydney and Kolkata. Veronique Serret and her acoustic and electric violins, take us to an ever shifting landscape of loops, delays, reverbs and percussive elements.

Already online. No need to edit.

Audiences will be transported into the supernatural world of The Three Seas – an international, cross-cultural ensemble that fuses West Bengal and Himalayan folk song with contemporary sounds from Sydney and Kolkata.

Soaring Baul vocals and majestic sounds from North Indian traditions are combined with Bengali beats and the deep groove of the baritone saxophone in an energetic, uplifting musical alchemy.

The remarkable members of The Three Seas were drawn together by their distinct and diverse background and their passion for creating music that resonates universally.

### Veronique Serret.

Véronique's own music blends loops, delays, reverbs and vocals redefining the expression of the violin. Utilising both her acoustic and 6 string electric violins, various percussive elements and field recordings she orchestrates her ever shifting landscape.

Véronique merges sounds of old and new to create her flow, a nod to the past, yet firmly planted in the present day.