

MEDIA RELEASE

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Noosa Jazz Festival 2009 celebrates traditions with premium Australian jazz artists

19th annual event

Thursday September 3rd - Sunday September 6th, 2009

The 19th annual Noosa Jazz Festival presented by Valad and Ashington today announces a diverse and high quality first line up of talented artists. Celebrating an exciting mix of traditional jazz styles with a few contemporary surprises, the festival is excited to present some of the finest Australian jazz musicians currently performing.

Recognised as one of Noosa's premier events and hands down one of Australia's most popular Jazz industry gatherings, the Noosa Jazz Festival presented by Valad and Ashington brings together over 150 Australian and international artists, producing an impressive 4-day Jazz spectacular. The event will be held between Thursday September 3rd and Sunday September 6th, 2009.

Artist news – first announcement

'Twilight Jazz Sessions' is the Noosa Jazz Festival's premium 'Saturday evening in the Park' concert featuring: **Katie Noonan – Blackbird Project: The Songs of Lennon and McCartney**; **Paul Grabowsky and Megan Washington Project**; and **Carl Risely**.

It promises to be a magical night with Aria award winning pop and jazz vocalist **Katie Noonan** presenting her jazz-inspired versions of timeless John Lennon and Paul McCartney classics. Highly distinguished Australian jazz composer-pianist **Paul Grabowsky** joins exciting up and coming vocalist **Megan Washington** following their musical collaboration which began in 2006 and has since proved to be one of the most fruitful and creative partnerships on the Australian music scene. The evening will be completed with modern day crooner Carl Risely, whose second album *The Stillest Hour* sees the Queensland-born jazz singer and trumpeter take a confident step forward in his musical journey.

Bob Barnard 75th Birthday Celebration

The Noosa Jazz Festival wouldn't be complete without a performance celebration for **Bob Barnard**'s 75th birthday. Bob Barnard is one of the great jazz trumpeters of Australia who dazzles audiences with his blend of traditional and pre-bop jazz, don't miss him live on stage.

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Sunday Mail



THE NOOSA JOURNAL
weekender

The Rooftops, Miguel and Kafka

Additional artist announcements of note include the 'Friday @ Funk' line up which features the soul and funky jazz grooves of **The Rooftops**; the 9-piece smoking big band and swing era dance floor favourites known as **Miguel**; and the unusual and enticing combination of jazz, Afro-beat and funk served up by the infectious **Kafka**.

Beautiful music in beautiful surrounds

Festival Director Rod Lockwood said, "This year, we've decided to present a broad selection of music paying tribute to the traditional roots of jazz, while adding some higher profile names and a few exciting modern touches.

"Ultimately, our major aim this year is to raise the spirits during tough times with a celebration of the wonders of traditional jazz. We want festival goers to come along and enjoy the perfect way to combine their love of fine music with one of Australia's favourite and most beautiful holiday destinations."

Artists will perform in more than 20 of Noosa's favourite restaurants as well as in purpose-built jazz venues. All Noosa visitors and local residents are invited to attend the numerous open-air concerts, performances, historical jazz feature-shows and daily free gigs to experience the huge variety of jazz our musicians have to offer.

Noosa Woods is the feature venue this year; event organisers are planning a fantastic presentation for the venue, overlooking the iconic Noosa River. So come down and enjoy some simply great jazz in these stunning Noosa surrounds.

For more information, visit: www.usmevents.com.au/noosajazz

- Ends -

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