

Courtney Pine | John Etheridge | Tanita Tikaram
Orphy Robinson & CUJO | Theon Cross x NYJO | Fergus McCreadie
Shirley Smart & Robert Mitchell | Tim Boniface & James Pearson Quartet
Evan Parker | Little North | Stella Cole | The Brass Funkeys
Alex Ridout | Ted Morcaldi | Nigel Price Trio | oreglo | Offbeat Science
....AND MANY MORE...



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Welcome to the Cambridge Jazz Festival!

Our 11th edition of the Cambridge Jazz Festival brings together some of the finest UK and international jazz artists alongside exceptional local talent. Spanning 15 days from Sunday 9th to Sunday 23rd November, the festival brings a huge range of music celebrating the diversity of jazz and in a range of venues from College chapels, world class concert halls to bars, pubs and social clubs. All set in the beautiful city of Cambridge and in Saffron Walden's Saffron Hall.

Our many highlights include *Courtney Pine*, whose *House of Legends* project celebrates the influence on the UK from the many and varied people of the Caribbean (Saffron Hall 21st November). Experience the future of UK jazz as the innovative *Theon Cross* leads a band of emerging artists at Cambridge's newest venue: Arts Club Cambridge (9th November). *Robert Mitchell & Shirley Smart* bring their piano / cello duet to the beautiful surroundings of St Catherine's College Chapel (14th November). We also welcome rising stars of Scandinavian jazz, *Little North*, who bring their cinematic sound to Hidden Rooms (14th November). The venue also hosts the *Alexandra Ridout Quartet*, young prominent voices on the buzzing New York contemporary jazz scene (20th November) and closing the festival at Churchill College Chapel is *Fergus McCreadie*, blending jazz with the spirit of Scottish folk (23rd November).

We also celebrate the immense talent within our city. These include the trailblazing brass band *The Brass Funkeys*, appearing at the Junction (15th November); US guitarist *Ted Morcaldi* at the Geldhart (18th November); and exceptional saxophonists *Tim Boniface* and *Sam Miles*, (19th and 20th November) to name but a few. We also have regular jam sessions at the Tram Depot and La Raza, and a jazz Speakeasy at Newnham Sports and Social Club. The world of jazz shows its many varied forms as we use fire to make music at *Offbeat Science* (16th November), and fuse jazz and electronica with *Heart of Noise* (12th November), both at Cambridge Junction.



Orphy Robinson, MBE Artist in Residence

We are honoured to welcome *Orphy Robinson* as this year's artist in residence. Orphy is an award-winning multi-instrumentalist, composer, producer, and educator. One of the few UK musicians to record for the legendary Blue Note jazz label, he has been a driving force in music for over four decades.

Orphy will be leading *Cambridge University Jazz Orchestra* (CUJO) with his own arrangements and compositions, from his position as vibraphonist and musical director of this performance (West Road Concert Hall 16th November). He will also lead a workshop at a special event at Jesus College (15th November) where he is a Visiting Fellow.

The City of Cambridge welcomes you to celebrate another exciting two weeks showing the power of jazz to thrill, to unite and to inspire.



§ At A Glance

Artist	Time	Venue	Ticket Price
Wednesday Nov 5			
PRESS NIGHT: Phil Stevenson Trio	20:00	The LAB Cambridge	FREE entry
Sunday Nov 9			
OPENING NIGHT & HEADLINER: Theon Cross x NYJO	Doors 19:00 Music 19:30	Arts Club Cambridge	£15 / £12
Wednesday Nov 12			
FRINGE: Heart of Noise Cambridge #13	20:00	Junction J3	£18.50
Thursday Nov 13			
HEADLINER: John Etheridge Blue Spirits Trio	Doors 19:00 Music 19:30	Cambridge Modern Jazz, Hidden Rooms	£22 / £16.50
FRINGE: Vij Prakash / Phil Stevenson Duo	20:00 - 22:30	The Architect	FREE entry
JAM: Cambridge Funk Jam	20:30 - 0:00	La Raza	FREE entry
Friday Nov 14			
HEADLINER: Shirley Smart & Robert Mitchell	Doors 18:30 Music 19:00 - 20:00	St Catharine's College Chapel	£15/£12
HEADLINER: Little North	Doors 19:00 Music 19:30	Hidden Rooms	£18/£15
FRINGE: J.A.M. String Collective	Doors 18:00 Music 19:30	Hot Numbers, Gwydir Street	£13
Saturday Nov 15			
WORKSHOP: "Freedom – the art of improvisation" Where do ideas come from - a practical workshop on improvisation with Orphy Robinson MBE	11:00 - 13.30	Frankopan Theatre, Jesus College	£15/£10
HEADLINER: Stella Cole	19:30	Saffron Hall	from £22
HIGHLIGHT: Evan Parker	Doors 19:00 Music 19:30	Queen's College Chapel	£15 adv / £18 otd
HEADLINER: The Brass Funkeys	19:00	Cambridge Junction J2	£17.50/£14.5
Sunday Nov 16			
FAMILY: Offbeat Science	13:00	Cambridge Junction J2	£18.50
LATIN: Chora Cambridge	15:00	The Devonshire Arms	FREE entry
HEADLINER: Orphy Robinson with CUJO	Doors 18:45 Music 19:30	West Road Concert Hall	£18 / £15 / £1 £10 / £8
HEADLINER: Tanita Tikaram	19:30	Saffron Hall	from £18
FRINGE: Downpipe	18:30 - 20:30	Elm Tree	Donation
FRINGE: Andy Bowie Quartet plays 'Wayne & Trane'	19:30 - 22:00	The Tram Depot	FREE entry
Tuesday Nov 18			
JAM: Cambridge Jazz Jam	19:30	The Tram Depot	FREE entry
HIGHLIGHT: Ted Morcaldi	20:00 - 22:00	The Geldart	£10/£5

At A Glance

Artist	Time	Venue	Ticket Price
Wednesday Nov 19			
HEADLINER: Tim Boniface & James Pearson Quartet	Doors 19:00 Music 19:30	Old Hall, Girton College	£20 / £12 student / £10 U18
FRINGE: Pop-up Speakeasy	19:30	Newnham Social Club	£10/£5
FRINGE: Q3	20:00	The Tram Depot	£8/£5
Thursday Nov 20			
DINNER JAZZ: Robin Phillips' 'Harry, New Orleans, & Me'	18:15 - 21:30	Gonville Hotel	Dinner & Conc £49.50 Concer only: £19.50
HEADLINER: Alexandra Ridout Quartet	Doors 19:00 Music 19:30	Cambridge Modern Jazz, Hidden Rooms	£22 / £16.50
HIGHLIGHT: Sam Miles & Tim Boniface's Hard Bop Hang	19:30	The LAB Cambridge	£15/£12
JAM: Cambridge Funk Jam	20:30 - 0:00	La Raza	FREE entry
Friday Nov 21			
FRINGE: Flanagan / Creese / Brown	Doors 18:00 Music 19:30	Hot Numbers, Gwydir Street	£13
HIGHLIGHT: Nigel Price Trio	Doors 18:00 Music 19:30	The Roastery, Shepreth	from £15
HEADLINER: Courtney Pine	19:30	Saffron Hall	from £20
HIGHLIGHT: oreglo	Doors 20:00	Clare Jazz, Clare College Cellars	£13/£9
Saturday Nov 22			
WORKSHOP: Phil Meadows	10:30 - 13:00	Cambridge Jazz Coop, William Collyn Community Centre	£20
HIGHLIGHT: Schools' Jazz Ensemble Concert	12:00 - 13:00	Storey's Field Centre	£5 / FREE U18
BIG BAND BONANZA!	16:00 - 18:30	Storey's Field Centre	£5 / FREE U18
LATIN: Cores Do Samba	Doors 19:00 Music 20:00	Newnham Social Club	£15 / £12
Sunday Nov 23			
WORKSHOP: Choir Workshop with Andi Hopgood	14:00 - 16:00	Storey's Field Centre	£15 / 12
FRINGE: The Geldart Sessions	Doors 19:00 Music 19:30	The Geldart	£12/£10
FRINGE: Andy Bowie Quartet plays 'The Sax Tradition'	19:30 - 22:00	The Tram Depot	FREE entry
CLOSING NIGHT & HEADLINER: Fergus McCreadie Trio	Doors 19:30 Music 20:00	Churchill College Chapel	£20 / £18

ADVANCED BOOKING is available for most events (+ booking fee) with the exception of those indicated as tickets that can only be purchased at the 'Door'. We recommend **booking in advance** to avoid any disappointment at the door should tickets sell out on the night.

All tickets can be purchased ONLINE via the Cambridge Jazz Festival website: www.cambridgejazzfestival.info
Most tickets are available to purchase from online ticketing site WeGotTickets: www.wegottickets.com/camjazzfest

BOX OFFICE contact for events at following venues:

Cambridge Junction Tel: 01223 511511 or tickets@junction.co.uk
Cambridge Modern Jazz Tel: 07827 012875 or info@cambridgejazz.org
Saffron Hall Tel: 0845 548 7650 or info@saffronhall.com

For all other enquiries: camjazzfestival@gmail.com

BOOKING FEE: All tickets purchased over the phone or through the website are subject to a booking fee (minimum of 10% depending on venue) and these may vary.



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WEDNESDAY 5

PRESS NIGHT:

Phil Stevenson Trio

The LAB Cambridge | 20:00 | FREE entry

Join us with our friends and partners at the festival's press night with music from Phil Stevenson Trio.

The Phil Stevenson Trio play funk-infused originals influenced by 60s R'n'B, New Orleans music, Blues, and African guitar styles such as Mbalax and Chimurenga. The band combine these influences into a high energy blend of melodic grooves.



SUNDAY 9

OPENING NIGHT & HEADLINER:

Theon Cross x NYJO

with support from Judah Daniel's Trio

Arts Club Cambridge

Doors: 19:00; Music: 19:30 | £15 / £12

Experience the future of UK jazz at NYJO's residency at Cambridge's newest venue: Arts Club Cambridge. Expect bold, original music and boundary-pushing improvisation from the top emerging jazz talent in London.

Theon Cross - Tuba Fee Buckton - Trumpet Benjy Sandler - Alto Sax / Flutes Jude Lane - Keys Hani Elias - Bass Miles Pillinger - Drums

"Theon Cross is bringing Tuba to Jazz's Center" Rolling Stone
"A Prodigous Young Talent" The New York Times

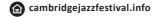




Downbeat Magazine's 'Rising Star' Theon Cross rose to fame as a core member of the Mercury-nominated Sons of Kemet and has collaborated with the likes of Kano, Theo Croker, The Smile, Little Simz, Stormzy, Jon Batiste and many more. He is one of those rare musicians whose vision has redefined their instrument. Through his combination of technical mastery, studio smarts, deep musical knowledge and expansive vision, the power and originality of Theon's playing has reinvented the tuba's place in modern music. He has released 2 highly acclaimed albums - Intra-I and FYAH - under his own name as well as the Affirmations EP and 'Wings' single.

Birmingham multi-instrumentalist Judah Daniels leads a dynamic trio with Liz Blackwell (bass) and Wynn Tasker (drums). Performing lyrical originals and inventive takes on standards that blend tradition, RnB, and contemporary jazz, their shows are alive with rhythm, spontaneity, and joy.





FRINGE: Heart of Noise #13

Cambridge Junction J3 | 20:00 | £18.50

Heart of Noise Cambridge is an event series for live leftfield electronic music and aims to promote this and related genres, as well as local, national and international acts in this field, both solo and in collaboration. It presents varied and immersive performances: from abrasive energy to celestial beauty.

Featuring as a headliner prolific percussionist and free jazz improviser Eddie Prévost, joined by double bassist Jordan Muscatello who has been active in various scenes including free improvisation in London.

The exciting bill also includes American composer and tenor saxophonist Kevin Flanagan, a longstanding figure in theinternational jazz scene. Flanagan will be joined by Lisbon-based musician and sound designer André Nascimento.

Also on the bill is the fresh contemporary jazz and ambient collaboration of UK-based Turkish artists Philameilan (piano) and Elif Yalvaç (electronics).





EXECUTE STAY 13

FRINGE:

Vij Prakash / Phil Stevenson Duo The Architect | 20:00 - 22:30 | FREE entry

Long-time musical collaborators, Vij Prakash and Phil Stevenson, have worked extensively in the jazz, funk and pop worlds alongside artists such as Myles Sanko, Yolanda Brown and All Saints. They will be bringing a mix of Jazz, Funk, Samba and Original Music to the Architect in an intimate duo setting.





HEADLINER:

John Etheridge Blue Spirits Trio

Cambridge Modern Jazz, Hidden Rooms Doors 19:00; Music 19:30 | £22 / £16.50

John Etheridge - Guitar Pete Whittaker - Organ George Double - Drums

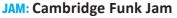
Led by internationally renowned Guitar Legend John Etheridge, 'Blue Spirits' is completed by Pete Whittaker (organ), and special guest, George Double (drums)

Blue Spirits Trio, came about through John's love of the perennially attractive combination of Electric Guitar and Organ. Blue Spirits have a take on this well-known combination in a way that connects with the bluesier, intense side of John's playing. There are plenty of typical swing elements, augmented by soulful ballads and fiery funk outings. The aim is to groove and move! This band has been popular on the club circuit for many years and always delivers.

Drawing on a vast reservoir of musical experience spanning 54 years, Etheridge distils the bluesier side of his musical world in a repertoire that manifests intensity and emotion as its main quality, with subtlety, fluidity and interaction as central. Pete Whittaker is a superb accompanist and soloist and drummer George Double is celebrated for his drive and invention.

The repertoire is edgy and engaging with a forceful drive and bravura performances....A must!

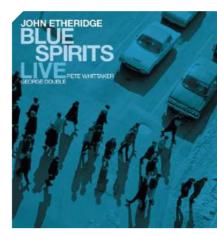
'No doubting his awesome authority whenever he touches the guitar' (The Guardian)



La Raza | 20:30 - midnight | FREE

All instruments and singers welcome - just turn up & play your favourite tune or just come along and watch the fun! House band will open then jammers can participate for most of the night with the house band closing the night.











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Sip away at our signature cocktails and swing out with the Sam Miles Trio and the Tim Boniface Trio.

ALL WELCOME!



SCAN TO SEE MORE



HEADLINER: Shirley Smart & Robert Mitchell

The Kellaway Concert Series | St Catharine's College Chapel Doors 18:30; Music 19:00 - 20:00 | £15 / £12

This duo developed out of conversations between Robert and Shirley whilst working on Robert's Invocation project in 2014. Their discussions explored the varied paths of their respective backgrounds, and different relationships of all aspects of those musical paths to improvisation.



Robert is long established as one of the UK's finest jazz pianists and composers, and finds expression also through the medium of poetry to explore themes of his background. He also debuts here as a narrator of his own poetry, focussing on a response to the Windrush scandal and tribute to his mum and the search for global peace. Shirley spent many years in the Middle East, where she also became involved with both jazz and Middle Eastern regional traditions and their forms of improvisation. Since returning to the UK, she has established a formidable reputation as one of the most versatile and creative cellists on the scene.

Their album Zeitgeist brings together these different strands in each musicians journey, linked through the dialogic act of improvisation, to explore and re-explore their pasts and present.

HEADLINER: Little North

Hidden Rooms | Doors 19:00; Music 19:30 | £18 / £15

Danish Trio, Little North, signed to prestigious label ACT Music, consists of Lasse Jacobsen on drums, Martin Brunbjerg Rasmussen on bass, and Benjamin Nørholm Jacobsen on piano. Since 2020, the trio has gained recognition for their unique sound and has released five critically acclaimed albums. With their strong feeling for melody, harmony and dramaturgy, these three young musicians create a cinematic sound, music which can at times be melancholic, at others enchantingly beautiful, and which is full of twists and turns.



"These young players have good taste, chameleonic talent and voices of their own. Familiar Places is Little North's fourth album in six years, further defining and investigating a sound all their own based on twisting everything around them." *** DownBeat Magazine (USA)

FRINGE: J.A.M. String Collective

Hot Numbers, Gwydir Street | Doors 18:00; Music 19:30 | £13

All female London-based jazz string trio will present music from their upcoming debut album 'She Looks Up at the Trees' featuring music for 'improvising string trio & loop pedals' on themes of the Climate Crisis. The music features original compositions, as well as a collaboration with composer Oleta Haffner, funded by the Peter Whittingham Developmental Award. J.A.M. String Collective are Jan Halen on Violin, Julia Dos Reis on Viola, and Miranda Lewis-Brown on Cello.

"pushing at the boundaries of jazz... delivering walking lines, heavy riffs and rattles and taps, are thoroughly contemporary..." ★★★★ Financial Times









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WORKSHOP: "Freedom – the art of improvisation" Where do ideas come from - a practical workshop on improvisation with Orphy Robinson MBE

Frankopan Theatre, Jesus College | 11:00 - 13.30 Participants: £10/£15 (Student - Senior - Unwaged / General public 18+) | Spectator gallery: £10

Suggested ability: grade 5+ (registration form to follow after purchase)

Orphy Robinson MBE, Visiting Fellow at Jesus College Cambridge, is Cambridge Jazz Festival 2025's Artist in Residence and will be leading this exclusive workshop on improvisation. This workshop will offer a neutral space to improvise, welcoming instrumentalists and singers from all genres and all abilities, from seasoned jazz players to complete newcomers to jazz.

The session will begin with a plenary to establish themes and then break out into groups to work independently, bringing this back for a culminating performance and reflection.

All musicians (Singers & Instrumentalists) from all genres and disciplines welcome.





HEADLINER: The Brass Funkeys

with support from Lost Projects

Cambridge Junction J2 | 19:00 | £17.50 / £14.50

The Brass Funkeys are a trailblazer in the new generation of UK Brass Bands. Formed in 2011, this 9-piece collective has a unique sound forged from their strong personalities and eclectic individual tastes, whilst still paying homage to their New Orleans Brass Band roots. The Brass Funkeys have honed their skills over 14 years playing the club and festival circuits in the UK and Europe, always exploring new musical directions while refining their exciting, eclectic and energetic live show, bursting at the seams with ideas and infectious energy. Fresh from Winning the Haizetera International Festival 2025 and previewing material from their upcoming album,

"Brass has not been this good since that time Reel Big Fish covered A-Ha... The Brass Funkeys are my favourite band. 10/10"

VICE MAGAZINE: Noisey Music

"Terrific... what a band" James Morrison, BBC Radio 2

this show is not to be missed.

Lost Projects is a Cambridge Hip Hop/RnB collective, blending originals with reimagined classics through creative mashups, tight grooves, and soulful arrangements. Their performances balance musicality and flow, delivering a fresh energy firmly rooted in the spirit of Hip Hop and RnB.







Autumn Highlights

Saffron Hall



Sat 15 November, 7.30pm Stella Cole



Sun 16 November, 7.30pm Tanita Tikaram



Fri 21 November, 7.30pm Courtney Pine





HEADLINER: Stella Cole Saffron Hall | 19:30 | from £22

To watch Stella Cole perform is to be transported back in time. One is immediately struck by her rich tone and extraordinary vocal control.

However, it is her ability to interpret songs from the Great American Songbook in a direct and personally vulnerable way that places her in the lineage of the greatest interpreters of the repertoire. On her highly anticipated debut recording, Stella presents a collection of classics in a variety of settings.

Featuring songs made famous by everyone from Barbra Streisand (When the Sun Comes Out) and Judy Garland (The Boy Next Door) and a classic re-interpretation of Over the Rainbow to Billie Eilish (My Future) and Audrey Hepburn (Moon River).

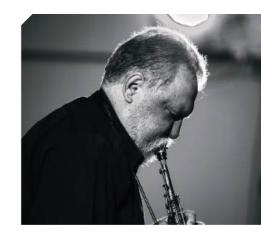


HIGHLIGHT: Evan Parker

Queens' College Chapel | Doors 19:00; Music 19:30 £15 adv / £18 otd

Evan Parker is a true pioneer of freely improvised music and a genuine innovator on the saxophone. His mastery of circular breathing, multiphonics, harmonics, and much more besides never fails to be dazzling, but still more remarkable is his sustained dedication to the possibilities of spontaneous music creation.

As well as collaborating with all the greats of free jazz and free improvisation, Parker has worked with musicians such as Scott Walker, Robert Wyatt, and David Sylvian, and can be heard on the soundtrack of the recent Oscar-winning film The Brutalist. Stewart Lee has said that "if you've ever been tempted by free improvisation, Parker is your gateway drug".







HEADLINER:

Orphy Robinson & The Cambridge University Jazz Orchestra (CUJO)

West Road Concert Hall | Doors 18:45; Music 19:30 | from £8 - £18 + booking fee

Cambridge Jazz Festival are proud to welcome multi-award winning multi-instrumentalist, composer, producer, and educator, Orphy Robinson MBE as Artist in Residence.

Orphy Robinson is one of the few UK musicians to record for the legendary Blue Note jazz label, and has been a driving force in music for over four decades. His honours include the 2022 Paul Hamlyn Composer Award, the 2020 Jazz FM Gold Award, and an MBE in 2018 for services to music. In 2024 he was appointed Visiting Fellow at Jesus College, University of Cambridge.

A self-described "genre-fluid" artist, Robinson has appeared on more than 100 recordings and collaborated with leading names including Carleen Anderson, Nigel Kennedy, Courtney Pine, The Jazz Warriors, Joss Stone, Robert Plant, Thurston Moore, Robert Wyatt, Evan Parker, Marshall Allen, Henry Grimes, David Murray, James Brandon Lewis, The Rotary Connection, Junius Paul and many more. His work as a composer spans film, television, dance, and theatre.

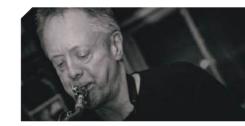
Cambridge University Jazz Orchestra (CUJO) is an assemblage of the top student jazz musicians in Cambridge. CUJO prides itself on being a fully student-led ensemble that strives to bring underrated and unique styles of big band music to a public audience. CUJO's collaboration with Orphy Robinson will feature a set list that explores the fascinating legacies of iconic vibraphonists like Lionel Hampton, Red Norvo, Terry Gibbs, Roy Ayers and a host of contemporary vibists.

A special highlight of the evening will be a deep dive into the Blue Note albums of Bobby Hutcherson, offering an unparalleled perspective on the vibraphone's lasting influence on the jazz world.

FRINGE:

Andy Bowie Quartet plays 'Wayne & **Trane'** | The Tram Depot | 19:30 - 22:00 | FREE entry

The Andy Bowie 4tet plays 'Wayne and Trane'. The music of Wayne Shorter and John Coltrane will be the Jazz Fest focus of our first Sunday gig.







§ SUNDAY 16

FAMILY: Offbeat Science SCIENCE – JAZZ – MAYHEM

Cambridge Science Centre

Cambridge Junction J2 | 13:00 | £18.50 | Ages 7+

It's always better live - whether we're talking music or science, nothing beats the feeling of it happening right in front of you. An exhilarating collaboration between Cambridge Science Centre and Upbeat Big Band, Offbeat Science brings together an electrifying Big Band sound, explosive science, and a healthy dose of mayhem to create an uproarious show like you've never heard or seen before.



Set against the pulse-raising sounds of jazz, soul, funk, and blues, join us as we explore sound using fire, test the periodic table's explosive predictions, experience how bowling balls may affect a trumpet player's pitch, discover why metals are effective (if unexpected) pyrotechnics, and much more. Is it jazz? Is it science? It could be both but it'll definitely be mayhem.

HEADLINER: Tanita Tikaram

Saffron Hall | 19:30 | from £18

The album Ancient Heart made Tanita Tikaram a star whilst still in her teens, its hit single Twist in My Sobriety an ever-present soundtrack to the late 1980s.

The album sold over four million copies, garnering a legion of loyal fans worldwide. Her music may be constantly and subtly evolving, her themes broadening, more politicised, but the vibrant blend of folk, pop, jazz and blues and even minimalism, coupled with sharply etched lyrics and a bewitching voice is still as captivating a live experience over three decades on. Defying stereotypes and genre classifications, this is a rare chance to witness a truly individual talent.

TANITA TIKARAM

LATIN: Chora Cambridge

The Devonshire Arms | 15:00 | FREE entry

Chora Cambridge is a vibrant musical collective dedicated to Choro—a rich and joyful Brazilian genre that blends European music forms with Afro-Brazilian rhythms. Born in 19th-century Rio, Choro is known for its lyrical melodies, lively improvisation, and subtle syncopations, often drawing parallels with early jazz. Chora Cambridge brings this tradition to life with authenticity and flair.









FRINGE: Downpipe | The Elm Tree | 18:30 - 20:30 | Donations

Blues, funk, soul and swing featuring four familiar faces on the Cambridge music scene, with Cath Coombs (vocals/fiddle), Louis Thorne (guitar), Pete Newman (bass saxophone) and Malek Hyde-Smith (drums). Obscure and not-so-obscure songs from C.W. Stoneking to Allen Toussaint to Ella Mae Morse, tackled in an innovative instrumentation, underpinned by the enormous bass saxophone!



BETUESDAY 18

HIGHLIGHT: Ted Morcaldi's Celestial Stranger

The Geldart | 20:00 - 22:00 | £10 / £5 students

Ted Morcaldi - Guitar Chris Diamand - Bass Josh Walker-Martin - Drums

American Guitarist Ted Morcaldi from New Haven, Connecticut, is making a name for himself in the UK music world. "A talent to catch," according to Jazzwise magazine, he has forged a distinctive musical voice on electric, classical, and twelve-string guitars enhanced with loops and electronics creating otherworldly textures. His new dynamic trio explores compositions inspired by the open forms and sonic architectures of Jon Hassell's "Fourth World" music contrasted with the foundational element of jazz improvisation and the experimental spirit of Krautrock.



His latest album Celestial Stranger, released 30 May 2025 on the Clonmell Jazz Social label, has garnered positive reviews from both Jazzwise and MOJO magazine. It also has been featured on BBC Radio 3, Radio 6, Jazz FM, Worldwide FM, and others. The 12 tracks take the listener on an odyssey through varying orchestrations of multilayered guitars, often creating a dialogue amongst acoustic instruments and electronics "rendered with the delicacy of a Manfred Eicher production," - MOJO. Intimate duos with drummer Joshua Blackmore and bassist Joel Humann exemplify the strong musical bond Morcaldi has with each member of the trio. The only non-original composition on the album is David Bowie's Berlin-era instrumental Art Decade, which features the sonic stamp of Bowie's Blackstar bassist Tim Lefebvre alongside Morcaldi and Blackmore.

"Morcaldi's adventurism pays dividends throughout" - MOJO ★★★ "Thoughtful, considered, and a talent to catch" - Jazzwise ★★★

JAM: Cambridge Jazz Jam The Tram Depot | 19:30 | FREE

Come along and bring your instrument(s) or voice - drums, bass and keyboards will be there already, courtesy of the house band - it's a great way to meet other local jazz musicians, beginners or pros!





HEADLINER:

Tim Boniface & James Pearson Quartet Oscar at 100: Oscar Peterson and the Saxes part 2

Old Hall, Girton College | Doors 19:00; Music 19:30 £20 / £12 (student) / £10 (under 18)

Following their two sellout gigs at the Festival in 2023 and 2024, the Tim Boniface/James Pearson Quartet return with a fresh set drawn from the legendary pianist Oscar Peterson's collaborations with saxophonists. With music from Oscar's recordings with Stan Getz, Ben Webster, Lester Young, Sonny Stitt and more, this top-class ensemble bring an infectiously swinging evening not to be missed. Charismatic collaborators Tim Boniface (saxophones) and James Pearson (piano) will be joined by two stalwarts of the international jazz scene, Jeremy Brown (bass) and Steve Brown (drums) - a more swinging band you'll struggle to find anywhere! Early booking advised.

"James Pearson...proves his worth with piano solos that make the moment live. Pianistic perfection." Bebop Spoken Here

"Boniface has a joyous bouyancy in his playing." Jazzwise

FRINGE: Pop-up Speakeasy

Newnham Croft Social & Sports Club Doors 19:00; Music 19:30 | £10 otd (members £5)

Come and experience great live music in a truly intimate jazz club atmosphere (without the smoke) at the Newnham Croft Social & Sports Club in Hardwick Street Newnham.

FRINGE: Q3

The Tram Depot | 20:00 | £8 / £5

Cambridge-based modern jazz quartet Q3 returns with their unique blend of contemporary melodic jazz with latin, funk and arabic influences, and featuring some of the finest musicians in the region.

The set features original tracks from their highly acclaimed recent album, Water Speckled Midnight, as well as music from their back catalogue. They will also be performing music by Michael Brecker, Pat Metheny, Christian McBride and Bheki Mseleku.

Tiago Coimbra - Bass | Chris Diamand - Drums Martin Hallmark - Piano | Kevin Flanagan - Sax

*** "Alongside the top-notch musicianship from the quartet, Hallmark's engaging compositions share the spotlight" AllAboutJazz

















WEEKEND JAZZ NIGHTS AT THE LONG BAR

Join us for live jazz every weekend at The Gonville Hotel.

Piano Jazz on Friday 7pm - 9pm

Live duo jazz with piano and upright bass. Programmed by repmusic, featuring Robin Phillips and other top musicians from the Cambridge jazz scene.

Vocal Jazz on Saturday 6:30pm - 9pm

Live vocal jazz duo. Programmed by repmusic, featuring Robin Phillips and other top vocalists from across the South East, including Caru Lins, Charlie Pyne, Kate Williams, and Sarah Ellen Hughes.

Free to enjoy for hotel residents and local guests at The Long Bar.

EVENTS

Cambridge Jazz Festival 2025

DINNER JAZZ 'Harry, New Orleans, & Me'

ROBIN PHILLIPS

20th November 2025 6:15pm - 9:30pm



Scan QR to book your ticket

Festive Gin & Jazz Night with
Robin Phillips Trio
6th December 2025 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Festive Gin & Jazz Night with
Ruth Applin Trio

13th December 2025 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Look out for our special Jazz Afternoon Tea



Scan QR to book your ticket

DINNER JAZZ:

Robin Phillips' 'Harry, New Orleans, & Me'

Gonville Hotel | Two-course meal, arrival drink & performance (Time: 18:15): £49.50

Performance only (Time: 19:30): £19.50

Jazz singer/pianist Robin Phillips brings together some vital pieces of his musical inspiration all the way up to his latest album, which is currently receiving airplay around the world. Starting by paying tribute to the music Harry Connick Jr, Robin will show how New Orleans is a fundamental part of Harry's music. He will follow this by singing songs about New Orleans including one he recorded with Harry's long-term trumpet player, and New Orleans legend, Leroy Jones



Oil Painting Artist: Musa Hamwala

Related music to hear whilst viewing by: Robin Phillips

The exhibition will be free to view throughout Gonville Hotel, during the month of November, as part of the Cambridge Jazz Festival 2025.

This art & music exhibition will feature 10 original pieces of art by Cambridge-based artist, Musa Hamwala. Each piece of art, in oils, interprets a different song from Robin Phillips' latest album, which itself was created after inspiration from a motorbike trip from Chicago to New Orleans, to retrace the path of jazz & blues, and see how these music cities look today.

Musa had already created many pieces of art inspired by jazz music and jazz musicians, which is how the creative pair first met, and Robin's originals album became a powerful source of inspiration for this project taken on by Musa.

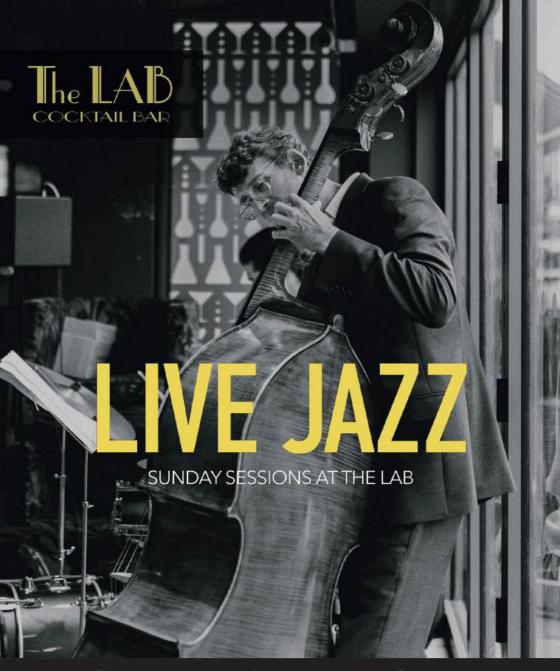
The songs themselves tackle subjects such as the cities of Clarksdale Mississippi and New Orleans, Muscle Shoals Sound Studio, Sam Phillips (Founder of Sun Studio, Memphis), a book called South Of Haunted Dreams, the International Jazz Scene, and returning to England after this life-changing trip. However, Musa was given free reign to interpret the songs any way he chose.











20th NOVEMBER | 21st DECEMBER | 19th JANUARY 22nd FEBRUARY | 29th MARCH | 19th APRIL





HEADLINER:

Alexandra Ridout Quartet

Cambridge Modern Jazz, Hidden Rooms Doors 19:00; Music 19:30 | £22 / £16.50

Alexandra Ridout - Trumpet Yvonne Rogers - Piano Simón Willson - Bass David Sirkis - Drums

UK-born multi award winner Alexandra Ridout is a trumpeter, bandleader, composer and educator based in Harlem NYC. At only 26 years old she is already one of the most talented young trumpet players on the international scene. Since winning the UK's prestigious BBC Young Jazz Musician in 2016 she has been captivating audiences in the UK and USA.

HIGHLIGHT:

Tim Boniface & Sam Miles 'Hard Bop Hang' The LAB Cambridge | 19:30 | £15 / £12

Sam Miles and Tim Boniface return for their ever popular 'Hard Bop Hang' at The LAB. Perfectly matched and always showing mutual love for one another's playing, these two top sax players at the heart of Cambridge's jazz scene host an evening of outstanding music and relentless energy in this classy and intimate setting of The LAB Cocktail Bar and Kitchen - home of the popular monthly Sunday Jazz Sessions. A sellout for the last three years, early booking is advised!

"Sam Miles is making a memorable impression on the UK jazz scene... a talented, creative saxophonist. You would do well to try and catch him live" Sandy Brown.

Tim Boniface is a saxophonist, pianist and composer whose latest album 'Psalter: Themes for Peace' has received critical acclaim in the UK and overseas. He collaborates regularly with many of the UK's very best jazz musicians, both as artistic director of Girton Jazz and as the host of the Sunday Sessions at The Lab.

"A joyous buoyancy in his playing" (Jazzwise). "Boniface has a fine melodic sense both as a composer and improviser and makes a wonderful focussed sound on his vintage horns." (UK Jazz News)

JAM: Cambridge Funk Jam La Raza | 20:30 - midnight | FREE

All instruments and singers welcome - just turn up & play your favourite tune or just come along and watch the fun! House band will open then jammers can participate for most of the night with the house band closing the night.













HEADLINER: Courtney Pine Saffron Hall | 19:30 | from £20

No musician more embodies the dramatic transformation in the British jazz scene over the past thirty years than saxophonist Courtney Pine OBE CBE.

The ground-breaking, multi-instrumentalist has led a generation of exciting and innovative players who have broadened their styles to take jazz out to a wider audience. Now with an OBE and CBE for services to music, he continues to break new ground with a string of highly acclaimed recordings and numerous prestigious Industry awards.

His House of Legends revisits a very special project. It's a celebration of the influence on - and contributions to - the UK from the many and varied people of the Caribbean. Featuring musicians from the region, and from Africa and Europe, it's a unique cultural meeting point and musical exchange. It's steeped in tradition - an exhilarating mix of Merengue, Ska, Mento and Calypso - but refracted through the lens of this charismatic and trailblazing UK-born jazz musician with proud Afro-Caribbean roots.

- "Courtney Pine was once hailed as British jazz's saviour.... he still is." The Independent
- "Nothing short of breathtaking" The Telegraph
- "A walking encyclopaedia of advanced saxophony" The Guardian

FRINGE: Flanagan / Creese / Brown

Hot Numbers, Gwydir St | Doors 18:00; Music 19:30 | £13 Kevin Flanagan – sax; Simon Brown – piano; Malcolm Creese - bass US sax player Kevin settled in the UK in the early 80's and worked around the London jazz and pop scene, playing as a sideman and with his own group, Riprap, plus the Tommy Chase Quartet, and the Flanagan-Ingham Quartet at festivals in the UK (Glastonbury, Brecon, Edinburgh, Glasgow, TS Eliot Festival, Brighton) and festivals in Europe (Milan, Paris, Poland, Portugal, Sweden and the North Sea Jazz Festival).

He has been collaborating with David Gordon, putting out two CD's, Riprap and Snow-Blue Night, plus being commissioned by poets, filmmakers, painters, and choreographers.







HIGHLIGHT: oreglo + support

Clare Jazz, Clare College Cellars | Doors 20:00 | £13 / £9

Signed to legendary jazz label Brownswood Recordings, London four-piece jazz collective oreglo met through the kind of musical youth club championed by Ezra Collective's Femi Koleoso. It's a musical upbringing that instils a discipline and knowledge like no other, which is why the group take such a fluid approach to the jazz genre, suffusing it with everything from psych rock, French dance, rap, and David Bowie. It's also why they're a live band first and foremost, improvisatory and feelings-based.

After meeting in Secondary school and Tomorrow's Warriors youth club, oreglo began carving out their expansive sonic palette, endeavouring to push the boundaries of the jazz scenes that birthed them. 'Not Real People', their debut EP, chronicles what it's like to be young and searching for an identity in London today. Here, the sweetness of first kisses shaded by its skyscrapers intertwine with the feeling of chasing creative dreams in a relentlessly chaotic environment. To press play is to be introduced to their version of the city - one you won't want to leave.



HIGHLIGHT: Nigel Price Trio

The Roastery, Shepreth | Doors 18:00; Music 19:30 | from £15

The Nigel Price Organ Trio, nominated for the 2021 Parliamentary Jazz Award for 'Best ensemble' (they won in 2010) and winners of the 2016 British Jazz Award for 'Best Small Group' will be playing selections from their vast back catalogue as well as the recently released and critically acclaimed album 'That's it. Right there.'

Nigel is known for his clear, no nonsense, driving approach to jazz guitar and has steadily become one of the UK's foremost exponents of the instrument. Ross Stanley is not only one of the greatest ever UK musicians, he also plays a real B3 Hammond Organ complete with two Leslie speakers. Joel Barford is the man of the moment and has been causing a stir across the UK and further afield with his incredible drumming ability. Together they form perhaps the most hard hitting, dynamic and exciting jazz group on the scene today.

Nigel Price - Guitar Ross Stanley - Hammond Organ Joel Barford - Drums

> "Inventiveness, originality and ensemble playing are terrific." ★★★★ The Observer



"For me, this is how jazz should be; communicative and inclusive. Jazz performed this way feels like a gift, a 'here, this is for you' scenario." London Jazz News





§ SATURDAY 22

WORKSHOP: Phil Meadows

Cambridge Jazz Coop, William Collyn Community Centre 10:30 - 13:00 | £20

Phil Meadows is a multi-award-winning saxophonist and composer whose music fuses jazz improvisation with cinematic harmony, global rhythms, and contemporary grooves.

Known for his expressive sound and collaborative spirit, he leads acclaimed projects including Engines Orchestra, Beware of the Bear, and Future Movers—creating music that bridges tradition and innovation.

Suitable for all ages and instruments with Grade 5+ 14 and under must me accompanied by an adult



Newnham Croft Social & Sports Club Doors 19:00; Music 20:00 | £15 / £12

Establishing themselves as one of the most exciting acts on the Cambridge music scene, Cores Do Samba brings the uplifting rhythms of Brazil—Samba, Bossa Nova, and MPB (Brazilian popular music).

The band celebrates the music of icons such as Gilberto, Jobim, Donato, Mendes, Gil, Buarque, Joyce, and the recently departed Hermeto Pascoal, Brazilian music legend known as "The Sorcerer". Renowned for drawing music from anything—nature, the human body, everyday objects—Hermeto left us the powerful idea that absolutely everything can become sound, and that Brazil is an endless engine of invention thanks in part to his genius.

Fronted by Caru Lins, who has graced prestigious stages across the UK (Ronnie Scotts, Spice of Life, Pizza On The Park, Brown's Hotel) and worldwide (No Black Tie in Kuala Lumpur, Platea Jazz in Panama, Stampen in Stockholm, and many more in Malaysia, Italy, and Brazil), the band features Paul Stubbs (trumpet), Vicki Kenny (piano), Giulio Isacco Lampronti (double bass), Micky Astor (guitar), and local jazz legend Les Cirkel (drums).











BIG BAND BONANZA! Upbeat Big Band + **Linton Jazz Orchestra**

Storey's Field Centre | 16:00 - 18:30 | £5 / FREE U18s Coffee and cake will be available to purchase on site.

Come and party through the decades from swing to funk with two fabulous Big Bands!



Upbeat Big Band features the full 17 piece line-up, and along with their fabulous vocalist Chloe Grimes, they play an exciting mix of modern and classic charts, including arrangements by members of the band.

Established in 1998, Linton Jazz Orchestra plays a variety of Big Band Music focusing mainly on fun and recognisable songs whether that be jazz standards, big band versions of pop and funk, classics or anything else. Apart from their annual concert, Linton Jazz Orchestra only do gigs in support of charities and many local charitable organisations. Over the bands 25 year history they have raised £306,000 for good causes.

SCHOOLS JAZZ ENSEMBLE CONCERT

Storey's Field Centre 12:00 - 13:00 | £5 / FREE (under 18)

Three local school jazz orchestras will be taking to the stage to showcase their considerable talents. This fresh and sparky, collaborative event is a chance for young musicians to kick off an exciting day of jazz at the Storey's Field Centre, with arrangements of everything from standards to funk and ragtime to swing.

This year the schools big band workshop will be led by trombonist and educator Vij Prakash (NYJO / Brass Funkeys).







SUNDAY 23

WORKSHOP:

Choir Workshop with Andi Hopgood

Storey's Field Centre | 14:00 - 16:00 | £15 / 12

In association with Cambridge Jazz Choir.

Communal singing is one of the most uplifting and accessible ways to connect with others through music.

Join vocalist and musician Andi Hopgood, Musical Director of the Cambridge Jazz Choir, for an all-abilities singing workshop. You'll warm up your voice and explore the basics of groove and feel. Then, together, we'll learn a song by ear with harmonies in a relaxed and supportive setting. No singing experience or music reading required.

Whether you're an experienced singer or trying it for the first time, this is your chance to connect, explore and enjoy the power of group singing.

Andi Hopgood is a respected vocalist and musician who graduated with an MMus in Jazz from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 2005. Her interests include jazz, blues, pop and soul, with a strong passion for improvisation. And is also a member of the London Vocal Project led by Pete Churchill, one of the UK's leading contemporary vocal ensembles, specialising in jazz and groove music.

Andi has years of experience as a vocalist, workshop leader, musical director, and arranger. She currently leads Suffolk Soul Singers and Cambridge Jazz Choir. She also facilitates weekly wellbeing singing groups called Singing for the Soul in Ipswich. Andi is also a vocal coach providing guidance and support for all levels of singers.











CLOSING NIGHT & HEADLINER: Fergus McCreadie Churchill College Chapel | Doors 19:30; Music 20:00 | £20 / £18

"The most beautiful music that can be heard in jazz at the moment" WrittenInMusic

A giddying fusion of Scottish culture and jazz history' The Times

With a unique blend of jazz and Scottish folk inspired by his country's sublime landscapes, pianist Fergus McCreadie's music captures the hearts and minds of audiences worldwide, with an appeal that extends far beyond the constraints of genre.

Released to instant critical acclaim, Fergus's 2022 album "Forest Floor" catapulted him into the international spotlight. The album topped the UK Jazz & Blues charts, prompted sold-out performances across the UK, praise from BBC 6Music, The Times, NME and earned him a 2022 Mercury Prize shortlist nomination, the 2022 Jazz FM Instrumentalist of the Year Award as well as the 2022 Scottish Album of the Year Award - the first jazz artist ever to be awarded the prize.

Following the success of his three albums - "Cairn", "Forest Floor" and "Stream" - pianist Fergus McCreadie returns in 2025 with "The Shieling", an album that marks a change in process for him and his longstanding trio.

"The Shieling" reflects a deeper sense of space, rootedness, and stillness, recorded in a remote cottage studio on North Uist in the Scottish Outer Hebrides, and produced by celebrated musician Laura Jurd.

FRINGE: The Geldart Jazz Sessions The Geldhart | Doors 19:00; Music 19:30 | £12 / £10

The Geldart Jazz Sessions is a monthly concert hosted by locally-grown guitar and bass player Chris Diamand, featuring new high-profile guests each month. Come along for an uplifting evening of great music played by some of the finest musicians around.

George Garford - Saxophone | Leo Morland - Guitar Josh Walker-Martin - Drums | Chris Diamand - Bass

FRINGE:

Andy Bowie Quartet plays 'The Sax Tradition' | The Tram Depot | 19:30 - 22:00 | FREE entry

Andy Bowie 4tet plays 'The Sax Tradition' with music by Johnny Hodges, Coleman Hawkins, Charlie Parker, Dexter Gordon, Sonny Rollins and others, will be the second Sunday gig.

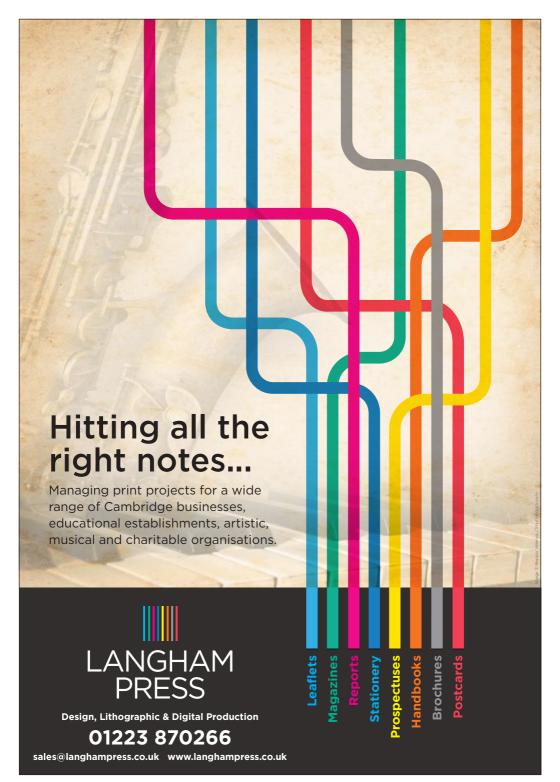












Thank You

The Cambridge Jazz Festival is a community interest organisation and there would be no Festival or Educational Programme without the generous support of our funders, sponsors, partners, friends, family and volunteers.

For Information on How to Get Involved, Become a Volunteer, Artists Submissions, Make a Donation or Become a Sponsor please visit our website.



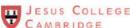














































Where To Stay

The Festival's Hotel and Dinner & Jazz partners, Gonville Hotel and the University Arms Hotel, are both set in a lively neighbourhood just a 15-minute walk from Cambridge Railway Station and 20 minutes on foot from the Cambridge University Botanic Garden. With only a 2 min walk to the town centre, it's a great location for Festival events and for seeing Cambridge. For more details visit:

Gonville Hotel, Gonville Place, Cambridge CB1 1LY; Tel: +44 (0)1223 792888 www.gonvillehotel.co.uk

Regular live jazz every Fridays & Saturdays 7:30-10:00pm

University Arms Hotel, Regent Street, Cambridge CB2 1AD; Tel: +44 (0)1223 606066 www.universityarms.com
Regular live jazz every Fridays 9:00-11:30pm

Suggestions on how to Plan Your Visit including listings for Places to Eat & Stay, ranging from first class hotels, guest houses to hostels, to suit all tastes and budgets can be found on our website.





