

**FESTIVAL
REPORT
2023**

**MELB
INT'L
JAZZ
FEST**





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Principal Public Partners:



Acknowledgement of Country

Melbourne International Jazz Festival respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which our festival takes place, the people of the Eastern Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, as well as to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the wider Melbourne community and beyond. We are honoured to contribute to the rich history of music-making and storytelling that has taken place on these lands.

Festival Overview

Image by Will Hamilton-Coates



The 2023 Melbourne International Jazz Festival was the most bold and ambitious program in our 26-year history. With a deep through-line of connection and collaboration, MIJF 2023 saw artists and audiences unite both in the heart of Melbourne and well beyond.

This year, over 10 incredible days, audiences of 56,000+ witnessed the extraordinary talent of 571 artists from 17 countries—including the US, UK, Ghana, Venezuela, South Africa, Italy, Japan, Canada, Poland, Zimbabwe and more. MIJF showcased 137 eclectic performances and events in 33 different venues and civic spaces across the city—stretching from Werribee in the west to Monash in the south, and of course in the heart of Melbourne's CBD. We welcomed a host of international, interstate and Victorian artists and audiences, commissioned more new works and Australian/international collaborations than ever before, celebrated the next generation of jazz, and continued the festival's most recent tradition: *Jazz at the Bowl*—featuring icons Chaka Khan and Nile Rodgers & CHIC performing for a 9,800+ crowd at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

We were delighted to see growing and diverse audiences from a wide range of demographics experiencing MIJF—immersing themselves in musical experiences of a lifetime. These included inspired performances from international luminaries such as Cécile McLorin Salvant, SFJAZZ Collective, Ingrid Jensen, Lisa Simone, Ebo Taylor, Makaya McCraven and GoGo Penguin; an immersive jazz journey through the Melbourne City Baths; an Australian Headline Series supported by the Federal Government's Live Music Australia initiative; and special commissions such as musician and composer William Barton collaborating with acclaimed South African pianist Nduduzo Makhathini in a performance that embraced their mutual and profound connection to culture, identity and Country. Across the breadth of the program audiences saw 19 new works and premieres, 5 commissions, and 18 incredible Australian/international artistic collaborations.

Maintaining our ongoing commitment to ensuring music and culture is accessible to more people across our community, we were proud to present 45% of the 2023 program free of charge—including an incredible line-up of performances in our Jazz Westside program, thanks to State Government support through the Creative West Fund. Free events were also enjoyed by audiences in the heart of the city, with expanded programming at Fed Square and University Square, free lunchtime jazz sessions, our Close Encounters talks and panel sessions, and an unforgettable Second Line Parade featuring New Orleans' own Hot 8 Brass Band alongside Melbourne's Horns of Leroy.

We continued to strengthen our year-round artist and sector development programs with the third year of our First Nations Artist Residency Program, in partnership with the Australian Art Orchestra—this year led by Naarm-based singer-songwriter, composer and Noongar woman, Bumpy; as well as the fifth year of our Take Note gender equity initiative, led in 2023 by saxophonist, composer and bandleader, Cheryl Durongpisitkul.

MIJF enhanced our dedicated secondary and tertiary educational programs in 2023 through both the Take Note program—facilitating workshops across 8 metro and regional high schools—and our ongoing partnerships with the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, University of Melbourne and the Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and Performance, Monash University. Student performances, showcases and festival collaborations between international artists and the next generation of jazz were once again significant festival highlights.

2023 saw MIJF expand our international engagement activity on behalf of the sector—hosting international delegates from jazz festivals around the world and ensuring they were able to engage with the outstanding work created by Australia's jazz musicians during the festival. MIJF also supported mid-career Australian artists to showcase their work at major global music events, including the London Jazz Festival, Jazztopad Festival (Poland), Wellington Jazz Festival, Perth International Jazz Festival and SXSW (Austin, USA).

Our festival would not be possible without the support of our Principal Government Partners, Creative Victoria and Creative Australia, alongside our local government, philanthropic and corporate partners, and our growing community of donors. Your sustained support is invaluable. I also want to express my sincere gratitude to our generous team of volunteers, our dedicated Board, and our passionate team of staff who put so much energy and heart into presenting both the festival itself and delivering our year-round activities and initiatives.

And lastly, a huge thanks to each and every person who came out and enjoyed all the magic moments of MIJF 2023—from the extraordinary artists to our amazing audiences. We're incredibly proud to have showcased some of the very best of jazz from across our country and the globe, as we continue to champion the future of this ever-evolving art form.

We're already counting down to next October. See you then.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hadley Agrez".

Hadley Agrez
CEO & Program Director

MIJF In Numbers: 2023 at a Glance

56,890

total attendees
across 10 days

26,306

attendees at ticketed
events

571

artists

137

live performances and
events over the 10-day
festival

33

venues

\$2.11M

total box office

3,799

attendees at sector development &
international touring outcomes

45%

free programming

19

premieres and commissions

18

Australian/International artistic
collaborations

9

cultural partnerships

6

outbound tour opportunities
presented

504

artists and students engaged
through sector development
programs

1,142

media breaks

428,000+

broadcast engagement

“Over ten days, and nearly a hundred events, MIJF exposed audiences to new artists... helping to shape jazz’s future. It mounted memorable, large-scale productions; it highlighted the overwhelming diversity of contemporary jazz. It delivered world-class acts... It offered up unique events... programmed a healthy mix of free and paid events, spread across the city and suburbs. More importantly, it demonstrated a preparedness to push boundaries and challenge assumptions. It did, in short, what great festivals should do.”

– Australian Book Review





Special Events

97

artists

25,141

attendees

Jazz at the Bowl feat. Chaka Khan, Nile Rodgers & CHIC, Kaiit and Horns of Leroy (US/Aus)

Two global music icons took to the stage at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl for a full six hours of funk, jazz, disco and soul in the sun. Featuring Chaka Khan in her only Australian performance, and Nile Rodgers & CHIC as headliners, audiences of 9,800+ enjoyed a stellar showcase including a First Nations-led performance by Kaiit, alongside roving performances by Horns of Leroy.

Second Line Street Party (US/Aus)

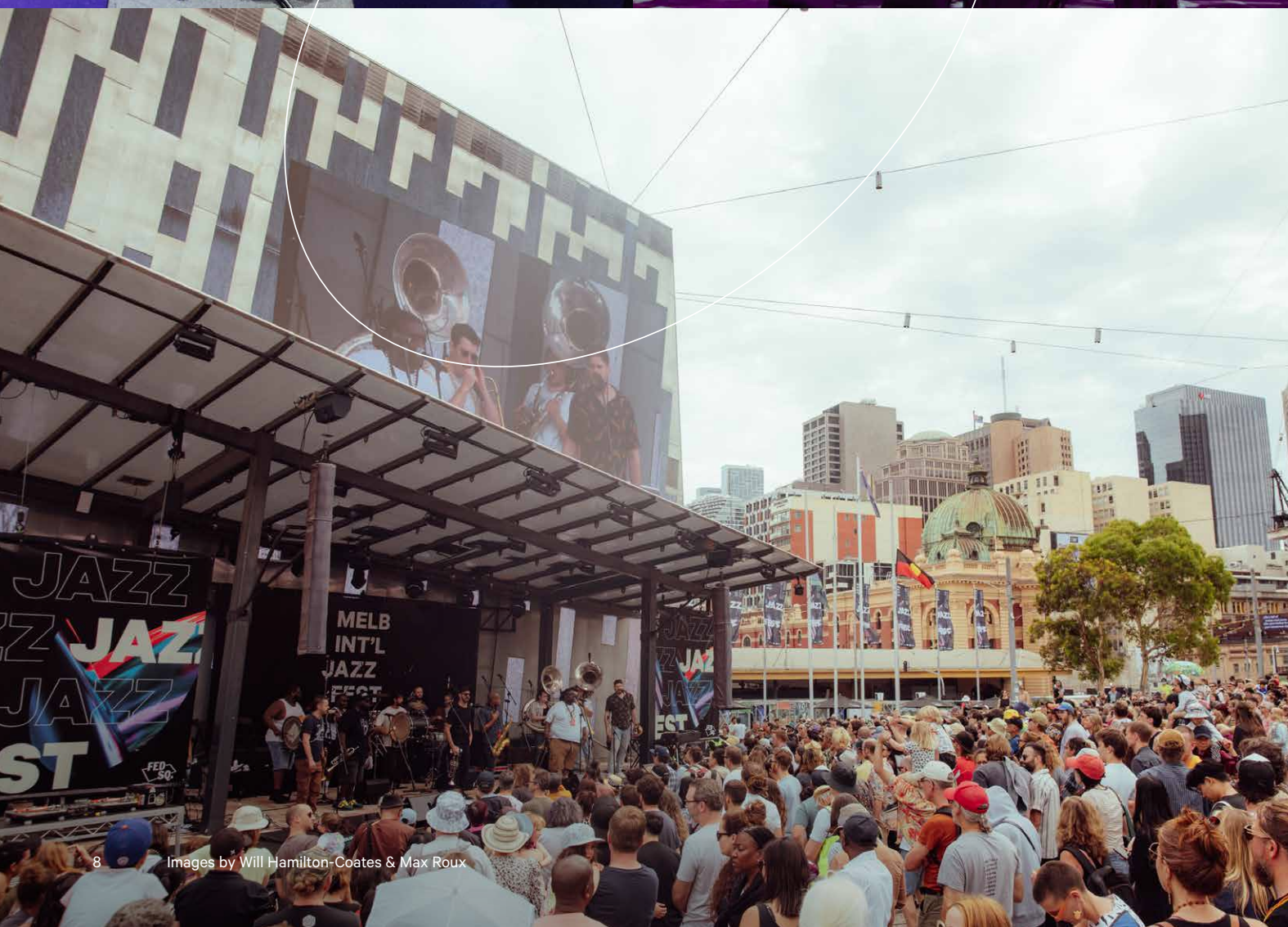
MIJF presented a celebration of the jubilant energy of the quintessential New Orleans artform—the Second Line Parade—as a mobile street party weaved its way along the Yarra and through Southbank, collecting a growing throng of all-ages participants as it progressed. Featuring New Orleans’ own Hot 8 Brass Band alongside Melbourne’s Horns of Leroy, this was a celebration of everything we love about jazz: inclusivity, freedom of expression, and pure joyousness.

Free Jazz at Fed Square

Kicking off the festival with a bang, MIJF presented a huge line-up of international legends and local favourites over two days of free performances in the Fed Square precinct, with crowds of all ages soaking up the sights and sounds of jazz.

“The Hot 8 Brass Band and Horns of Leroy were leading a New Orleans-style street parade along the banks of the Yarra... This delightfully entertaining show was one of many events taking place across town during the opening weekend of this year’s Melbourne International Jazz Festival, emphasising the inclusiveness and accessibility of the festival program.”

– The Age



Proudly supported by:



Presenting partners:



“Spirit. That’s the word that kept springing to mind during this year’s Melbourne International Jazz Festival...”

– The Age

Second Line Street Party, MIJF 2023 | Image by Will Hamilton-Coates





Premieres, Commissions & Collaborations

19

premieres

5

commissions

18

Australian/International artistic collaborations

5

album launches

9

cultural partnerships

15,640

attendees

Providing an annual platform for the presentation of new works that continue to push the boundaries of the genre, MIJF presented 19 premieres across the 2023 program.

Continuing the festival’s history of dynamic, cross-cultural exchanges which foster artistic relationships between Australian musicians and the world’s leading jazz artists, in 2023 MIJF presented 18 Australian/ International collaborative performances—including extraordinary commissions such as legendary Ghanaian guitarist Ebo Taylor with Melbourne’s 18-piece The Public Opinion Afro Orchestra; award-winning First Nations-led ensemble, Hand to Earth, in collaboration with Amalia Umeda (Poland—co-commissioned with Jazztopad Festival); the Australian Art Orchestra with Japanese hip-hop artists; and leading First Nations musician and composer William Barton with acclaimed South African pianist Nduduzo Makhathini in a performance that embraced their mutual and profound connection to culture, identity and Country.

Partnership and collaboration between MIJF and leading cultural institutions is also central to our strategic vision and in 2023 MIJF engaged with 9 Australian arts organisations to form presenting partnerships.

Proudly supported by:



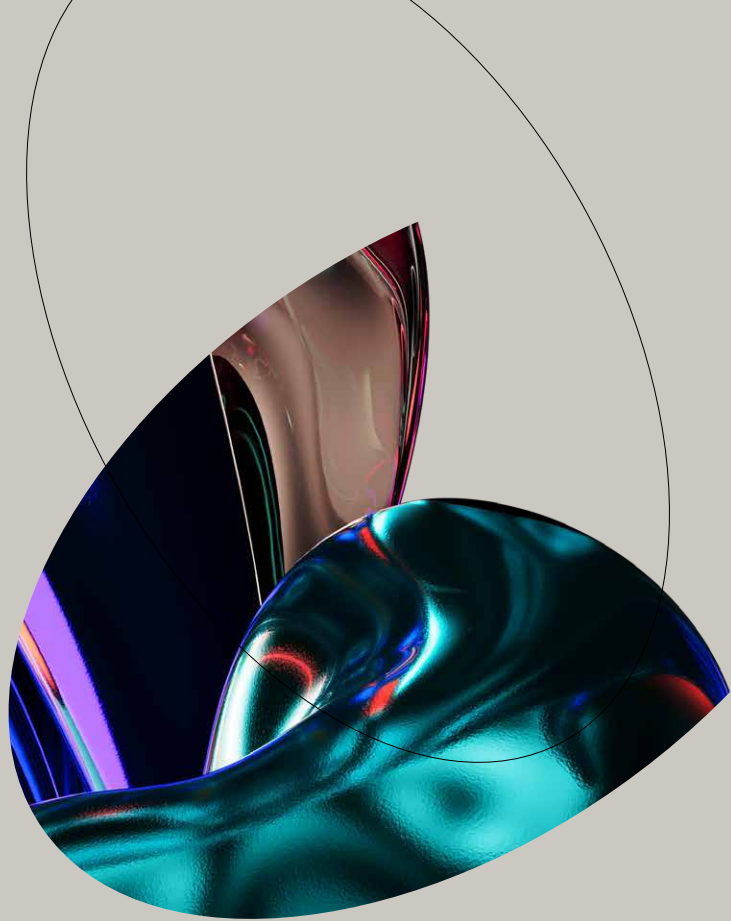
Cultural partners:



Highlight premieres, commissions and collaborations included:

- William Barton & Nduduzo Makhathini (Aus / South Africa)
- Celebrating Nina Simone (US / Aus)
- Ebo Taylor with The Public Opinion Afro Orchestra (Ghana / Australia)
- Second Line Street Party feat. Hot 8 Brass Band and Horns of Leroy (US / Aus)
- Hand To Earth feat. Amalia Umeda (Aus / Poland)
- Australian Art Orchestra: Raw Denshi feat. Kojoe and Hikaru Tanaka) (Aus / Japan)
- Ingrid Jensen (Canada / Aus)
- Marike van Dijk (Netherlands / Aus)

Headline International Performances



17

countries

11,793

attendees

Proudly supported by:



Presenting partners:



MIJF presented a diverse array of international artists from 17 countries across the globe to capacity crowds in 2023.

In addition to the opening weekend highlights led by Chaka Khan, Nile Rodgers & CHIC, and the Hot 8 Brass Band, some of the many international headline performances included luminaries such as multi-GRAMMY award-winning US jazz vocalist Cécile McLorin Salvant, Lisa Simone celebrating her mother’s incredible legacy at Hamer Hall, Ghanaian founding father of Highlife, Ebo Taylor at the Wyndham Cultural Centre, UK cinematic jazz trio GoGo Penguin at The Forum, US jazz supergroup SFJAZZ Collective celebrating 20 years at the Melbourne Recital Centre, Chicago-born beat scientist Makaya McCraven at The Croxton, trumpet virtuosos Ingrid Jensen and Marquis Hill at The JazzLab, and formidable South African Blue Note pianist Nduduzo Makhathini, taking audiences on an unforgettable journey into the realms of spiritual improvisation alongside his acclaimed trio.

“To my mind, the 2023 MIJF ranks as the most far-reaching, and exciting to date, establishing it without doubt as the pre-eminent jazz event in the country.”

– Australian Book Review



Images by Max Roux & Will Hamilton-Coates

*“Totally absorbing and transcending performances
of searing intensity and always great joy.”*

– 2023 audience survey respondent

GoGo Penguin, The Forum, MIJF 2023 | image by Will Hamilton-Coates





Major Australian Works

13

ensembles

2,216

attendees

A centrepiece of the MIJF program, the Australian Headline Series saw the presentation of major Australian works showcased with the purpose of promoting diverse local artists who are actively shaping the definition and future of Australian jazz. Some of the highlights of a vast array of homegrown artistry included MIJF’s 2023 Take Note commission by Cheryl Durongpisitkul, album launches from the Vanessa Perica Orchestra and Katie Noonan’s Elixir, a site-specific journey through a fitness studio inside the Melbourne City Baths with Shannon Barnett’s Dead Weight; a stunning improvised collaboration between Mindy Meng Wang 王萌 and Paul Grabowsky, and an exciting triple-bill at Max Watt’s bringing together three bands at the forefront of 21st century dance/groove-focused jazz.

Featured artists and works:

- Vanessa Perica Orchestra: *The Eye is the First Circle* (VIC, SA, WA, NSW)
- Cheryl Durongpisitkul: *I Still Miss You* (VIC)
- Kristin Berardi (with Ingrid Jensen) (QLD, WA)
- Elixir: *A Small Shy Truth* (QLD, VIC)
- Mindy Meng Wang 王萌 & Paul Grabowsky (VIC)
- TEYMORI + Supernatural Dirt + Alexander Flood (VIC, SA)
- Shannon Barnett’s Dead Weight (VIC)
- *Empty Voices* (Hamed Sadeghi) and *Ghosts Between Streams* (Tom Avgenicos) (NSW)
- Michelle Nicolle (VIC)
- Daniel Gassin Crossover Band (VIC)

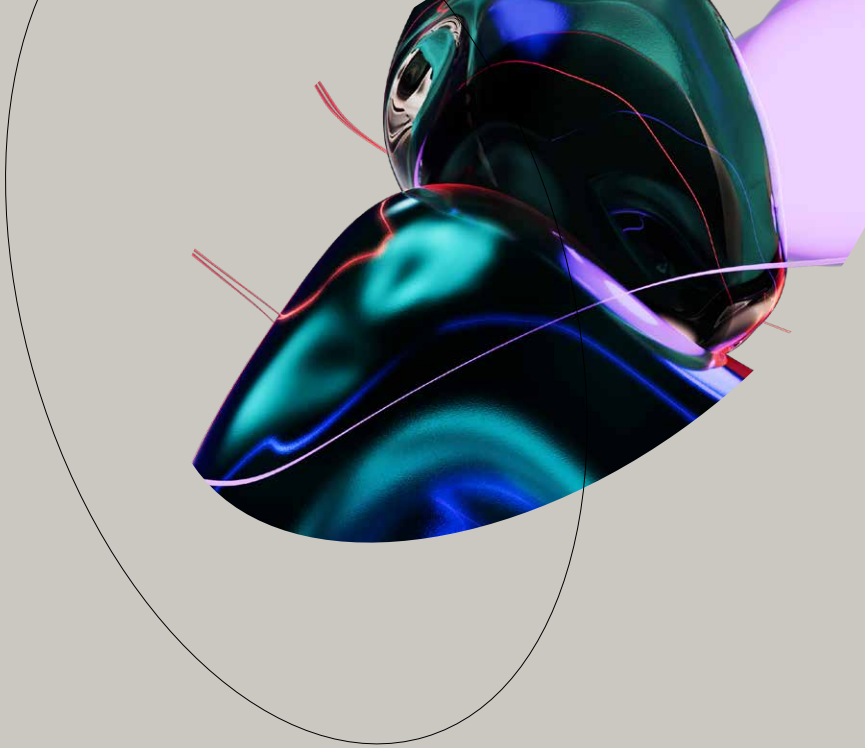
Proudly supported by:



Presenting partners:



Images by Max Roux & Will Hamilton-Coates



Club Sessions

30

performances

72

artists

4,149

attendees

Proudly supported by:



Australian Government

Presenting partners:



Jazz

Experiencing festival performances in the surrounds of a jazz club are a unique and much-loved component of our annual program. MIJF's Club Sessions capture the immediacy of jazz and connect artists and audiences like no other events across our 10 days. The 2023 Club Sessions at The JazzLab featured a diverse mix of homegrown stalwarts, ex-pats, and international icons of the genre.

Providing audiences with an unparalleled opportunity to get up close to artists and experience truly intimate performances, some of the highlights of the 2023 Club Sessions included unforgettable sets by Ingrid Jensen (Canada/Aus), Marquis Hill (US), Marike van Dijk Quintet (Netherlands/Aus), Nduduzo Makhathini (South Africa), and Shannon Barnett (Aus/Germany).

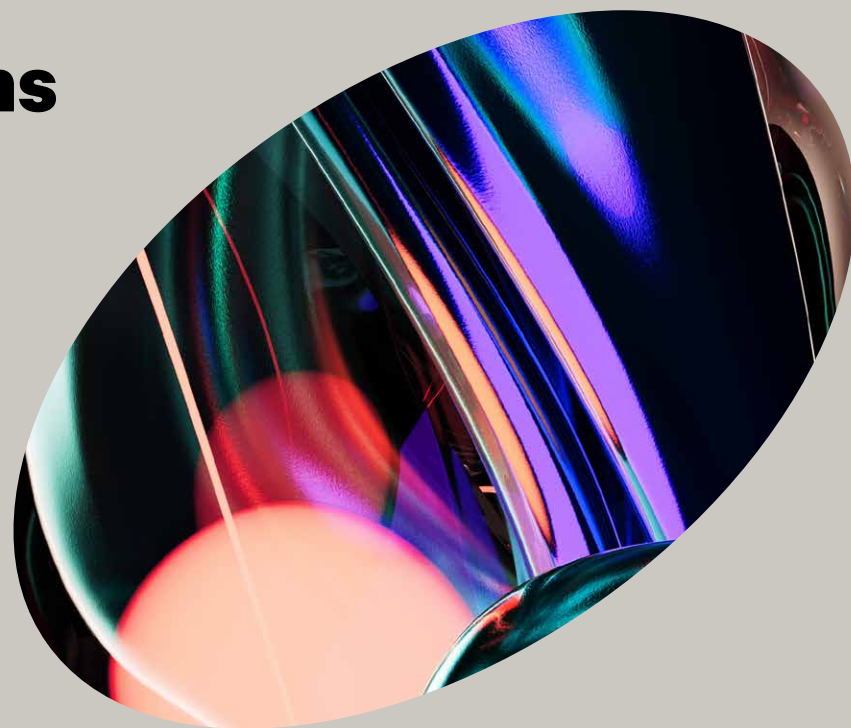
Late Night Jams

An open and inclusive site where the jazz community comes together for sharing and connection at the end of each jam-packed day, the ever-surprising nightly improvised sessions of the Late Night Jams led by The Rookies continued to shine. An opportunity to both build connections in the industry and be thoroughly inspired, these nights saw international headliners share the stage with local legends and the next generation of jazz.



Images by Max Roux & Will Hamilton-Coates

Community & Family Programs



62

free performances & events

30,243

attendees

Proudly supported by:



MIJF proudly presented 45% of our 2023 program free of charge—with world-class performances in the heart of Melbourne’s CBD and an expansion of the festival’s geographic footprint to Footscray, Spotswood and Moonee Ponds in the city’s west.

MIJF’s community program stream focuses on fostering connected communities through the presentation of free and family programming across greater Melbourne—drawing on a range of partnerships to showcase the artform and invite new audiences, including a focus on audiences from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, to engage with the festival experience in an easy and accessible way.

Free and family programming continues to be a central component of the festival, with 36 performances and events spanning across Melbourne’s north, west and CBD, engaging 30,243 attendees—including large-scale opening weekend events in the CBD such as our Second Line Street Party and Free Jazz at Fed Square, and our lunchtime jazz series at St James Courtyard and University Square, Carlton.

Presented in partnership with the City of Maribyrnong and Moonee Valley City Council, and supported by Creative Victoria’s Creative West Fund, the 2023 Jazz Westside program brought live music to unexpected places—including a 3-day takeover of foodie playground, Grazeland, a pop-up stage street party in Moonee Ponds alongside performances in a range of local businesses in Hall Street; and an outdoor stage in Footscray’s Maddern Square featuring some of the best in Melbourne’s thriving afro-jazz scene.



Images by Will Hamilton-Coates & Max Roux

Sector Development



Image by Will Hamilton-Coates

1

new work in development

1

interstate creative residency

First Nations Artist Residency Program

MIJF acknowledges the incredible contribution First Peoples make to art and music-making, and strives to foster an environment and a sector in which First Nations musicians play a central role in shaping the unique sound and style of Australian jazz and improvised music.

Aiming to increase First Nations artists’ participation in jazz, MIJF’s annual First Nations Artist Residency Program, presented in partnership with the Australia Art Orchestra (AAO), supported the career development of singer-songwriter, composer and Noongar woman, Bumpy.

Providing a dedicated context for First Nations artists to shape their unique sound and style, this year-round artist development program is providing Bumpy with:

- A cash bursary and creative development mentorship to develop a new suite of music
- A personalised professional development program
- MIJF producing support
- Participation in the AAO’s Creative Music Intensive in Tasmania
- A major performance opportunity to showcase the commissioned work at the 2024 Melbourne International Jazz Festival

Supported throughout the 18-month creative development period by MIJF and AAO, Bumpy is currently developing a commissioned work that will premiere at MIJF 2024. Bumpy also opened the 2023 festival with a stunning performance at Fed Square.

“The time, space, financial support and professional guidance that this program is offering me... is invaluable. That MIJF have also extended the creative development period for this program to enable me... to further explore my culture and Country, consult with Elders and community members, and to learn language in order to present my commissioned work next year, is greatly appreciated.”

– 2023/24 First Nations Artist Residency Program recipient, Bumpy

Proudly supported by:

The Harry Kestin Foundation



Presenting Partner:



Image by Max Roux

1

new work created

215

high school students engaged from 8 secondary schools

Take Note – Gender Equity & Artist Development Initiative

As a national sector leader, MIJF seeks to shape a diverse, equitable, creative, innovative and thriving Australian jazz and improvised music sector. *Take Note* is MIJF’s annual artist development and gender equity initiative—developed in response to the significant under-representation of women and gender-diverse instrumentalists in the Australian jazz sector.

2023 marked the fifth year of the program, featuring saxophonist Cheryl Durongpisitkul as Jazz Leader. Championing women and gender-diverse artists on stage and in schools across Victoria, 2023 saw Durongpisitkul lead workshops in 8 regional and metro high schools, as well as contribute to *Gender Defying Jazz* workshops at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, University of Melbourne. Durongpisitkul also attended a creative residency at Bermagui, NSW with the support of our partners at Four Winds Festival.

Durongpisitkul performed her commissioned work *I Still Miss You* to a sold-out audience at The JazzLab on the festival’s opening night—supported by the *Conjure* ensemble from Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, University of Melbourne.

“I loved it and felt supported the entire way. I was able to form relationships through Take Note that I don’t think I would have had access to without it. It opened doors for me, and I hope it continues to do so for future musicians!”

– 2023 Take Note Jazz Leader, Cheryl Durongpisitkul

Proudly supported by:

The Harry Kestin Foundation



Sector Development



4

showcase performances

1,950

attendees at touring outcomes

29

artists

6

touring outcomes generated

Proudly supported by:



International Engagement and Touring

Spotlighting the strength of the Australian jazz scene and creating opportunities for artists to expand their markets is a central tenet of MIJF's sector development activity. In 2023 our international export strategy focused on both inbound and outbound industry engagement with very strong outcomes. Combining the presentation of a major international jazz event with our strong connections in the global industry, MIJF is uniquely placed to advocate for, facilitate and subsidise export activity for Australian musicians.

A highlight of our export activity this year was a November showcase event featuring two mid-career Australian ensembles (Zela Margossian and Brekky Boy) at The Barbican Centre as part of the 2023 London Jazz Festival. Accompanying the showcase was an industry reception and networking event involving presenters, agents, label representatives and press from the UK and European jazz industry.

In addition to the London Jazz Festival showcase, we supported and brokered touring opportunities for 2022 MIJF artists at the Wellington Jazz Festival, Perth International Jazz Festival, and South by Southwest (Austin, US). Hand to Earth featuring Amalia Umeda, was also presented by our commissioning partner, Jazztopad Festival (Poland), to a sold-out concert hall audience during their festival in November.

Our inbound international engagement activity leverages the annual Melbourne International Jazz Festival as a context for interconnectivity and linked engagement between the domestic and international industry. In 2023, major presenters and industry from around the world (New York, London, San Francisco, Chicago, New Zealand and Poland) visited the festival and were exposed to some of the incredible Australian work in the 10-day program, including the following artists who comprise MIJF's core group of participants for export activity in 2024:

- Mindy Meng Wang 王萌
- Kristin Berardi
- Hamed Sadeghi
- Alexander Flood



2

international educational residencies

18

workshops & student rehearsals delivered in universities and secondary schools

475

students engaged in performances and workshops

Proudly supported by:



Education Partnerships

- University of Melbourne: Masters and Apprentices & Conjuress
- Monash University: Jazz Futures

MIJF has been proud to deepen our relationships in the tertiary sector in 2023 through our education partnerships with both the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, University of Melbourne and Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and Performance, Monash University. Through these partnerships, MIJF aims to nurture the next generation of local jazz talent in Australia—actively engaging students through workshops, masterclasses, Q&A sessions and instrumental workshops with leading international artists, alongside providing prominent performance opportunities within the annual festival.

MIJF 2023 featured Melbourne Conservatorium of Music student ensemble, Masters & Apprentices, performing with acclaimed South African pianist Nduduzo Makhathini—and Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music and Performance student ensemble, Jazz Futures, performing with Canadian trumpet virtuoso Ingrid Jensen at the 2023 festival. The culmination of a series of intensive rehearsals between students and leading international artists, these performances—in addition to University of Melbourne's *Conjuress* ensemble performing the opening set for MIJF's Take Note commission at The JazzLab—were a celebration of improvised music showcasing Melbourne's next generation of jazz.

2023 Artist Line-up

An incredible line-up of world-leading jazz artists performed at MIJF 2023 alongside some of the brightest lights of Australian jazz and improvised music, and the next generation of talent.

Alanna & Old Hat

Alexander Flood

Astral Flex

**Australian Art Orchestra:
Raw Denshi** (Aus / Japan)

Bumpy

Cécile McLorin Salvant (US)

Cheryl Durongpisitkul

**Conjuress (Melbourne
Conservatorium of Music,
University of Melbourne)**

**Cookin' on 3 Burners feat.
Stella Angelico**

Daniel Gassin Crossover Band

Ebo Taylor (Ghana)

Edward Simon (Venezuela / US)

Elixir feat. Katie Noonan

Emma Volard

Empty Voices: Hamed Sadeghi

Ex-Olympian

**Ghosts Between Streams:
Tom Avgenicos**

GoGo Penguin (UK)

Hand to Earth with Amalia Umeda
(Poland)

Horns of Leroy

Hot 8 Brass Band (US)

Ingrid Jensen (Canada)

ISEULA

IZY

Jake Amy Trio

James Bowers Trio

**Jazz Futures (Sir Zelman Cowen
School of Music & Performance,
Monash University)**

JAZZPARTY

Kaiit

Kekko Fornarelli (Italy)

Kendrick Scott (US)

Kristin Berardi

**Lachlan McLean's Colourful
Plumage Quartet**

Lah-Lah's Jazzy Playground

Lisa Simone (US)

Louisa Rankin Septet

Louise Goh Quartet

Makaya McCraven (US)

Marike van Dijk (Netherlands)

Marquis Hill (US)

**Masters and Apprentices
(Melbourne Conservatorium of
Music, University of Melbourne)**

Matthew Sheens

Michelle Nicolle Quartet

**Mindy Meng Wang &
Paul Grabowsky**

Monash Art Ensemble

Nduduzo Makhathini (South Africa)

NIASHA

Olivia Chamoun Canavan Trio

Oscar Bruten Quartet

Partridge String Quartet

Rita Satch

SFJAZZ Collective (US)

Shannon Barnett Quartet
(Aus / Germany)

SOLUNE x3

Stella Anning Trio

Supernatural Dirt

Sylent Nqo & The Experience
(Zimbabwe)

TEYMORI

The CB3

The Georgia Brooks Swingtet

The NOLA Get Down

The Pearly Shells Big Band

**The Public Opinion Afro
Orchestra**

The Rookies

The Sugarfoot Ramblers

The Tamil Rogeon Electric Band

Thndo

Two for Tea
(Benji & Oscar Neyland)

Vanessa Perica Orchestra

Various DJs across the program

William Barton

Yael Zamir

Yusupha Ngum & the Affia Band

Our Audience

\$2.11M

at box office

93%

audience satisfaction

Average spend
\$385.86

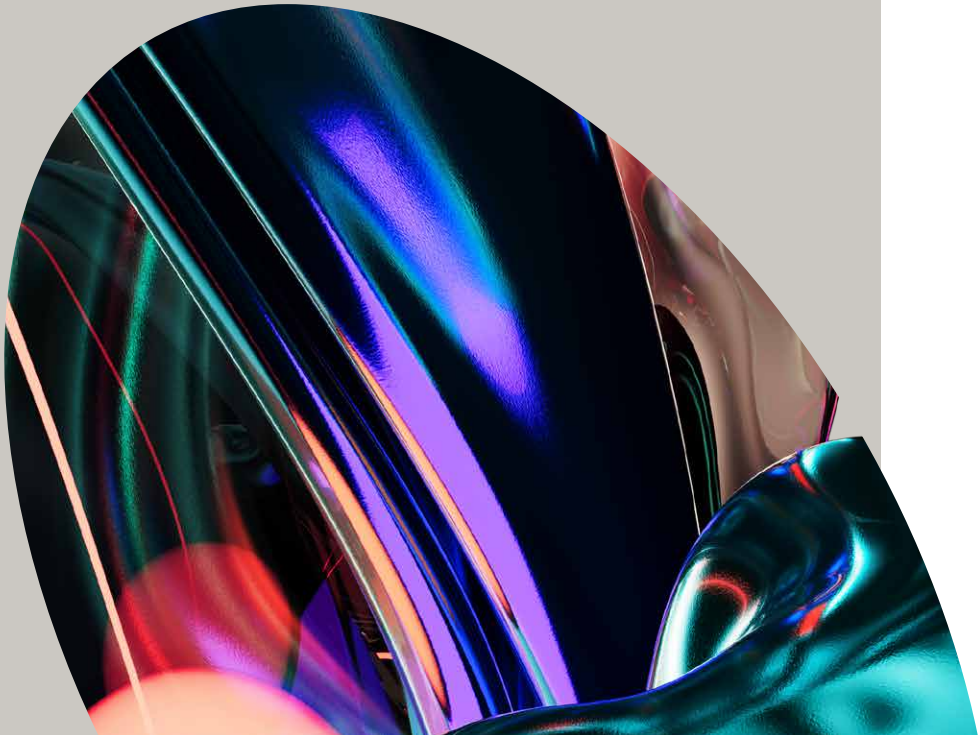
95% would consider
attending future MIJF
events

94% said they would
recommend MIJF to
family and friends

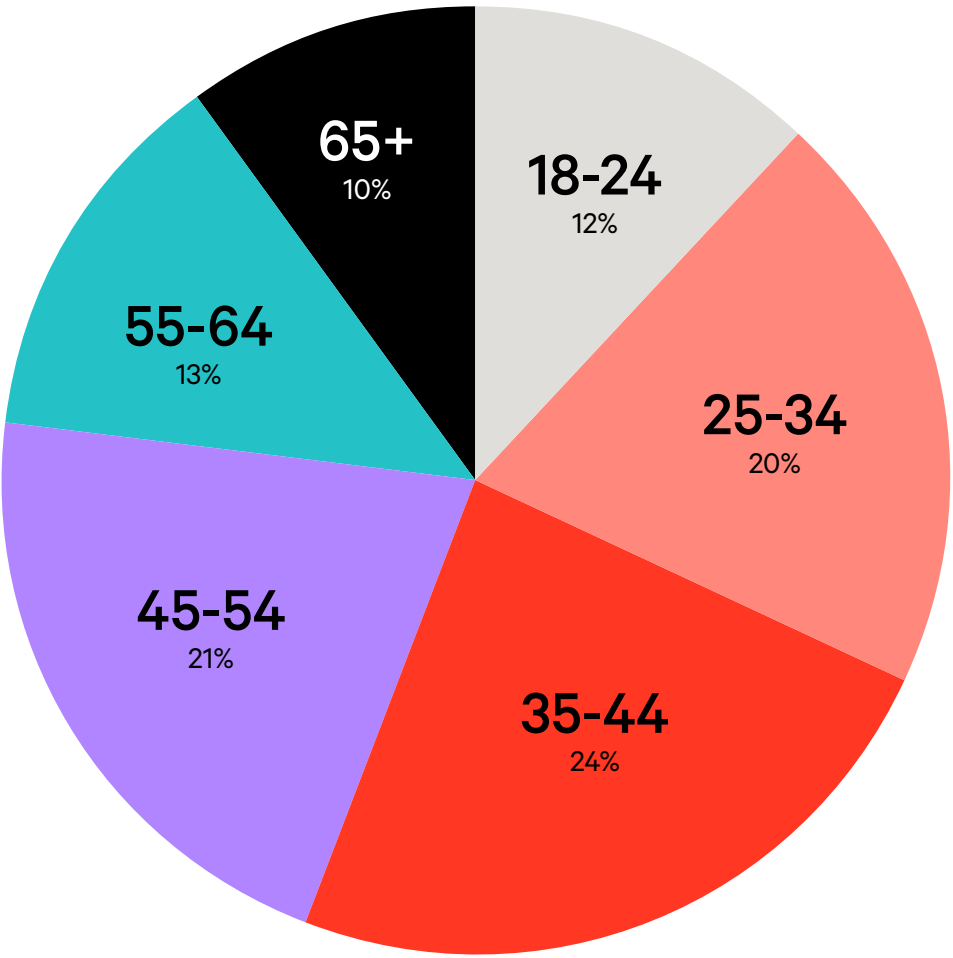
88% said they trust
MIJF to create
compelling a program
of events

*“It’s a remarkable experience
to see such world class
performers in endearingly
small and intimate venues
where it almost feels like the
observer is encompassed in
the rendering and articulation
of each composition.”*

– 2023 Audience Survey Respondent



Age Breakdown:



Audience demographics: **59,613 attendees**

43% Female
54% Male
3% Non-binary
22% CALD
2% Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander
14% LGBTQIA+
6% Identify as D/deaf, disabled
and/or neurodiverse

Artist demographics: **571 artists**

30% Female
66% Male
4% Non-binary
29% CALD
3% Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander
8% LGBTQIA+
7% Identify as D/deaf, disabled
and/or neurodiverse

“This year’s Melbourne International Jazz Festival (MIJF) hosted a bold and ambitious program of more than 100 performances in the last 10 days of October. Staged across multiple and varied city venues, the festival confirmed its pre-eminent status in Australian jazz, and made significant headway towards its aspiration to be recognised among leading international jazz festivals.”

– Jazz Journal (UK)

Makaya McCraven, The Croxton, MIJF 2023 | image by Max Roux



Impact & Reach

*Jan 1 – Dec 1 2023

\$7.5M

Media Value



790M

Media Reach



26,572

Subscribers
13% ↑



238,880

website sessions



27,230

Facebook followers
3% ↑



11,177

Instagram followers
39% ↑



Our Team

Board

John Stanhope AM (Chair)
Michael Tortoni (Artistic Director)
Rebecca MacFarling (Company Secretary)
Sarah Bradly-McKay
Toby Chadd (until May)
Jennifer Darbyshire
Liza Maimone
Kat McGuffie
David Valmorbida

Staff

CEO & Program Director:
Hadley Agrez

Deputy CEO & Development Director:
Alexandra Murphy

Senior Producer & Programmer:
Tom Browne

Festival & Programs Coordinator:
Merinda Dias-Jayasinha

Development Coordinator:
Katherine Lee

Marketing & Communications Specialist:
Hamish Kirkpatrick

Program Administrator:
Michael Kellett

Special Events Producer:
Alexina Coad

Production Manager:
Fiona Murray

Production Coordinator:
Emil Freund

Production Manager (Music Bowl):
Cain Horton

Hospitality & Production Coordinator:
Josh Vuglar

Volunteers Coordinator:
Zoe Marshall

Transport Coordinator:
Maree Cations & Tessa-Marie Wilkinson

A huge thank you to MIJF’s incredibly dedicated festival volunteers.

Our Supporters

As a not-for-profit organisation, the Melbourne International Jazz Festival relies on the support of the community to deliver Australia’s leading international jazz festival each year, alongside delivering our year-round artist and sector development programs. Your support helps bring jazz and improvised music to life—showcasing the power of music to connect and inspire—and enables the presentation and promotion of the highest calibre of jazz performance in Australia, all while fostering the next generation of talent.

Your sustained support helps bring the Melbourne International Jazz Festival to life—and we cannot do it without you. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our entire community of passionate supporters, and especially all donors who supported MIJF throughout 2023.

\$10,000+
John Stanhope AM and Sue Bailey
Jennifer Darbyshire and David Walker

\$5,000+
Tim Danielson and Athalie Williams

\$1,000+
David Valmorbida
David & Juliet Walker
Greg & Tricia Currie
Greg Shalit & Miriam Faine
Mark Dipnall
Michael Tortoni
Peter Outhred
Rebecca MacFarling and Paul Warnes
Robert Macfarlane
Small and Co
Steven Carew
Anonymous (1)

\$500+
Campbell Spence and Christina Sirakoff
Heidi Victoria
Ian Court & Sue Walpole
Liza Maimone
Nagle Family
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