

# PERTH JAZZ SOCIETY NEWS

September 2011



5 Sept	Vaslav Jelonek Trio	8pm
	Jazz Chat Sean Little Tenor Sax (during the interval)	9pm
12 Sept	thumpR - Echo Papa Alphabet	8pm
19 Sept	Dale Boaden Quartet Tribute to Pat Metheny	8pm
26 Sept	Johannes Luebbers Dectet	8pm

## VASLAV JELONEK TRIO



## VASLAV JELONEK TRIO

Monday 5 September @ 8:00pm  
Members \$10, Student members \$5, Non-members \$15

PIANIST and composer Vaz Jelonek has been away from the Perth jazz scene for almost 20 years but will return to Perth for a short while to perform for a limited season. Very active in the 1980s with his jazz quintet, Vaz received a travel grant from the Department of Arts that allowed him to relocate to New York City in 1992, where he was involved in various jazz projects - including playing in a piano trio, a fusion band, and a jazz and poetry ensemble. He was later invited to work with the Charlie Mingus Big Band, and today, plays globally with his international trio. This is a long awaited return by this highly acclaimed pianist and former resident of WA.

Vaz will be joined tonight by Djuna Lee (bass) and Jacob Evans (drums). Vaz will also have a special guest on a night of music '...from Monk to Beatles and beyond'.

## JAZZ CHAT #10 – Sean Little – Tenor Saxophone

Monday 5 September 2011 @ 9:00pm - during the interval  
Admission FREE

SEAN completed his Bachelor in Jazz Performance with Honours and currently plays in the Mace Francis Orchestra, the Johannes Luebbers Dectet and The Retrosomics as well as being in demand in smaller groups.

(Sponsored by Healthway supporting Mentally Healthy WA's Act-Belong-Commit health message.)



## thumpR - 'Echo Papa Alphabet'

Monday 12 September 2011 @ 8:00pm

Members \$12, Student members \$8, Non-members \$18

An evening of music from the EP by the well known and highly regarded jazz/fusion trio – thumpR – a Simon Jeans trio. The title refers to it being an EP (Echo Papa) and that ‘.. due to sheer laziness the songs are in alphabetical order...’ - Simon.

‘I have been meaning to record some of my music for about 15 years and although I have had some of my tunes on bands’ albums and compilations, I have yet to release something under my own steam. A lot of my music had been written for performances at the Perth Jazz Society over this time frame, due to the nature of the PJS and wanting to present something new and unique each time I performed there, so lots of pieces would be played only once then shelved to make way for the next one. Many pieces originally began with more traditional acoustic jazz groups, however the strength of personality and virtuosity of the thumpR rhythm section has made it possible to play virtually anything from the repertoire and make it sound accessible to a contemporary audience. With the friendship and rapport in this trio it seemed timely to get organised and document some of these songs, and although finances and time constraints restricted it to an EP, hopefully there will be more to come from this group.’ – Simon Jeans

The lineup for tonight is as always Simon Jeans (guitar), Dane Alderson (bass), Andrew Fisenden (drums).

‘Echo Papa Alphabet’ – The EP track by track rundown by Simon:

### *Feline*

Written for our debut gig at the PJS in March 2008. The three of us played (and still do when we ‘re-unite’ periodically at the Ellington Jazz Club) in the group Sly which up until mid-2009 held a 4 year residency on Thursday nights at the Llama Bar in Subiaco. I had brought in a song called “Canine” written by the bassist Gary Willis (from a Tribal Tech album) that was originally recorded as a trio, so essentially that song was the catalyst for thumpR – as much as I love the Sly line-up with keys and sax, the guitar-bass-drums trio definitely makes one play differently and allows for certain freedoms. When I organised the PJS gig I needed some material of my own and “Feline” was a response to “Canine”. It is a fairly simple piece structurally, basically a funk jam with no actual melody until towards the end of the form. It features a solo from every member so has served as our flagship piece, so to speak’.

### *Jus’ Wonderin’*

Although also written for the debut gig, the catalyst for this was the tragic death of the beloved Alan Corbet. I wanted to pay tribute to him and this was composed just a few days after his passing. It is a simple song inspired by folk music and perhaps one may detect a Celtic influence. Originally written and performed on nylon string guitar, I didn’t have an acoustic in the studio when we recorded the rhythm section tracks so I did a rough guide on slide guitar for something different which ended being the take we hear on the album. Consequently there are some tuning issues listeners may notice with all of the instruments because it was just intended as a demo to get the drums recorded, however the emotion and vibe was captured and re-recording it may not have worked as well. I later over-dubbed some steel string acoustic guitar chords.

When we play it we aim to be as pure, heartfelt and concise as possible with no pretension, as a consequence you will not hear complex jazz chords or chromatic lines. The title comes from my memory of Alan when he would start a conversation on the phone. ‘Hi Simon... it’s Aaaahlan. Erm, I was jus’ wonderin’.....”

### *Mountain Man Pt II*

Probably the hardest tune to pull off live as it is very syncopated and it still sounds wrong even when it is played properly. Yet we persevere.

There actually is a Pt I, which may even be included on the forthcoming CD from a newish group I’m a member of - Memory of Elements (with Jamie Oehlers, Carl Mackey, Tom O’Halloran, Pete Jeavons, Ben Vanderwal). The two pieces were written in 2003 for a Bob Berg tribute I put together at the PJS. They were filed away with the rest my songs that get only played once or twice, always writing new tunes for every gig, now I’m trying to clear the backlog by recording them which brings us to ....

### *Showtime!*

Written in 1993 when I was a student at WAAPA, taking a ½ – whole diminished scale John Scofield derived lick and making it into a rocking Bb rhythm changes (with an extra 8 bars F pedal at the end of each chorus). It is the shortest piece on the disc, although none of the songs are particularly lengthy - we save the long solos for when we perform live.

### *Sneaky*

This was originally played at the PJS in Sep 2000 with my group with Carl Mackey ‘Sneaky J Mace’, now played a lot faster and featuring lots of overdubs and studio trickery on the various instruments. This was one of the hardest to conceive because it involved recording lots of parts that had no correlation to one another, then editing it down to something that hopefully makes sense. It is also another hard one to play properly live although Dane and Andy make it look easy.

### *Whiskey Tango*

Written for the 2008 thumpR gig, it features a somewhat heavy rock unison bass and guitar riff in shifting time signatures, before the guitar solo over some jazzier chords in a completely different waltz feel and tempo. Originally it was called Whiskey Tango Foxtrot, which is code for WTF? (code for something else that I decided to tame down a bit), which is the response I was expecting from the contrasting styles in the song. The use of the military alphabet in this song is reflected in the album title as well.

### *Worth Holding Onto*

This song was written in 1998 upon returning from a year spent in the USA. The title could possibly be considered a romantic one but it actually refers to (a) the difficult chord shapes it was based on; I liked them so they were worth holding onto (geddit?), and (b) they reminded me a bit of the sound (and tricky stretches) of the great Allan Holdsworth (geddit?!?!?!?). This track nearly didn’t make the album, as although it was written to feature the bass solo, I also recorded a guitar solo that I ended up hating. I was going to fade the song out at the guitar solo but it would have been too short, so I re-did the solo on slide guitar with some extra studio effects and ended up liking it again.

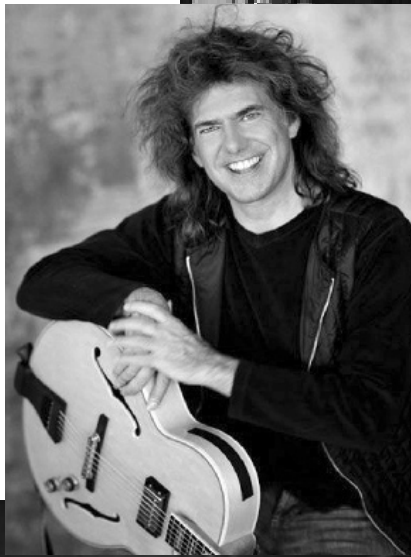
thumpR



**DALE BOADEN QUARTET** - A tribute to Pat Metheny  
Monday 19 September 2011 @ 8:00pm  
Members \$10, Student members \$5, Non-members \$15

FOR the last 30 years, Pat Metheny has helped to shape the voice of modern jazz with his innovative compositions and immediately recognisable improvising language. Tonight, hear a tribute to this modern jazz giant performed by some of Australia's most exceptional musicians Dale Boaden (guitar), Tom O'Halloran (piano), Karl Florrison (bass), and Chris Tarr (drums).

Dale Boaden



Pat Metheny

**JOHANNES LUEBBERS DECTET**  
Monday 26 September 2011 @ 8:00pm  
Members \$12, Student members \$6, Non-members \$18

Winner of the 2011 'Young Australian Jazz Artist of the Year' (Australian Jazz 'Bell' Awards) and the 2011 'Jazz Work of the Year' (APRA/AMC Art Music Awards), Johannes Luebbers has emerged as one of Australia's most exciting young composers, with the outstanding players of the Dectet at his side. Graduating from the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) in 2006, Johannes studied arranging with Graeme Lyall and piano with Graham Wood and was awarded the 'Bob Wylie Scholarship' for the most outstanding graduate. Throughout his short career he has been the recipient of numerous other awards including the 2009 'Youth Arts WA Citizen of the Year', 2009 'Best Australian Jazz Composition of the Year' (Bell Awards), 2008 'Jazz Song of the Year' (WA Music Industry Awards) and the 2006 'APRA Professional Development Award' for jazz. Featuring some of Perth's finest young players, the Johannes Luebbers Dectet will be performing work from their 2 albums. Don't miss the opportunity to see this award winning group live.

Performing on the night will be:

Johannes Luebbers (music director),  
Emily Thomas (flute), Steph Nicholls (oboe & cor anglais),  
Ben Collins (alto sax & clarinet), Sean Little (tenor sax),  
Callum G'Froerer (trumpet), Doree Dixon (french horn), Tilman Robinson (trombone), Chris Foster (piano), Nick Abbey (bass), Ben Falle (drums).



Johannes Luebbers



## **Perth Jazz Society High School Jazz Workshops**

*(Sponsored by Healthway supporting Mentally Healthy WA's Act-Belong-Commit message)*

THE third metropolitan school workshop was held at Greenwood Senior High School on Thursday 18 August. The lunchtime performance was heard by 74 students and the workshop presentation was to a group of 55 music students. Marc Osborne (saxophone), Karl Florrison (bass) and Pete Evans (drums) outlined the history of jazz and demonstrated the profound influences specific individuals had on the art form eg. Louis Armstrong and Charlie Parker amongst many others. A group of 5 students on guitar, bass, saxophone, vocals and drums then jammed a basic blues tune and each 'had a go' – which is what it is all about after all.

A fourth workshop had been scheduled for Belmont City College on Tuesday 13 September. The first regional workshop will be at Albany Senior High School on Friday 16 September and a second regional workshop will be held at Busselton Senior High School.

## **MEMBERS – WE CANNOT OPERATE WITHOUT A COMMITTEE**

As we approach the AGM, current committee members are making decisions about whether to stand for committee for 2011-2012. In the light of falling membership and diminishing audiences the committee held planning sessions discussing the Perth Jazz Society's continued relevance in the Perth music scene. Those sessions and a very lively online Facebook discussion conducted by Johannes Luebbbers produced some great suggestions for changes in the way we operate. We are now proposing to implement many of those changes and invite you to be part of the planning and implementation.

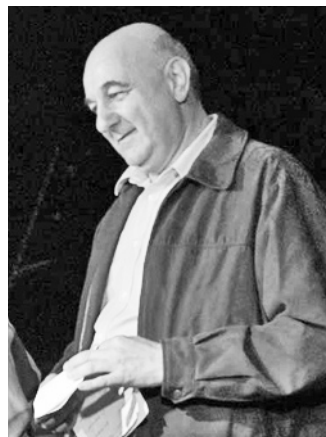
## **Call for Volunteers to fill executive committee positions**

This year we have operated with a number of strategic committee positions vacant including vice president, newsletter editor, treasurer and front of house personnel. Steve Filmer our president has also performed the function of the treasurer. David Collins our administrator has also handled the newsletter role since we brought production back in-house to save costs. The front of house is managed by Marc Osborne; however we desperately need more assistance with the front of house roster. These are all positions which are placing a load on the current committee which would be better spread over new and energetic committee members.

We will be providing assistance to mentor any role that you might be interested in, so you won't be left with unfamiliar tasks to work on. It is an exciting opportunity to try your hand at new skills with assistance to get you going, or to offer your proven skills and be a part of the future of the Perth Jazz Society.

The Annual General Meeting of the PJS will be held on Monday 29 August at 6:00pm at The Charles Hotel, we urge you to think seriously about offering your services in some capacity as we already know the executive members of the current committee will not be re-nominating. This is a critical time for PJS and if you think we are still a relevant contributor to the Perth music scene and you would like to see it continue then PLEASE NOMINATE NOW!

Steve Filmer  
President



## **WHO'S RUNNING THE SHOW**

### **PRESIDENT/Interim TREASURER**

Steve Filmer  
president@perthjazzsociety.com  
accounts@perthjazzsociety.com

### **ARTISTIC DIRECTOR** (For all band enquiries)

Please contact administrator  
program@perthjazzsociety.com

### **MINUTES SECRETARY**

Puano Lee  
secretary@perthjazzsociety.com

### **ADMINISTRATOR/MEMBERSHIP**

David Collins 9284 2578  
admin@perthjazzsociety.com

### **ASSISTANT TREASURER**

Janet Howlett

### **FRONT OF HOUSE & JAZZ CHAT**

Marc Osborne 0416 373 967  
Jazzchat@perthjazzsociety.com

### **EDITOR**

Please contact administrator

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Brendan Grey

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Ryan Long, Johannes Luebbbers,

### **PRODUCTION**

Al Biggin 0407 993 642

Personelle: Pat Bull and John Papadopolous

### **PERTH JAZZ SOCIETY**

PO Box 822, Claremont WA 6910  
Email: admin@perthjazzsociety.com  
Website: www.perthjazzsociety.com