

MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release

ESPERANZA SPALDING, CHAKA KHAN, GILLES PETERSON & RAY PARKER JR. ADDED TO THE SING JAZZ LINE-UP

A host of new sponsors also welcomed to the fourth, and largest, edition of this annual music festival

2 February 2017, Singapore – From 31 March to 2 April, music lovers can look forward to an unparalleled 30 hours of world class music at the fourth Singapore International Jazz Festival (SING JAZZ) at Asia's leading entertainment destination, Marina Bay Sands. Already billing a star-studded line-up of multiple award-winning artists, SING JAZZ is set to add the likes of Esperanza Spalding, Chaka Khan, Gilles Peterson and Ray Parker Jr., as well as local favourites Aaron James Lee and Ernesto Enriquez.

Aaron James Lee, who has established a glowing reputation drumming with The Steve McQueens, and his trio will kick-off Friday's festivities (31 March), to be followed by pioneering UK-based jazz DJ Gilles Peterson with the Zara McFarlane Band featuring Nubya Garcia and MC Earl Zinger. Multiple Grammy Award winner Corinne Bailey Rae rounds off the evening's musical fiesta under the stars on the stunning outdoor Main Stage at the Event Plaza at Marina Bay Sands.

The action then switches to SING JAZZ'S new indoor VIP party venue, the perfect setting for its 'Late Show', combining scintillating live performances played out in an intimate club atmosphere. Ernesto Enriquez and his jazz-infused Afro-Cuban sounds get the party going, ahead of Al McKay's iconic Earth, Wind & Fire Experience, followed by an all-star jam session led by Incognito's Jean-Paul 'Bluey' Maunick and Citrus Sun. Another UK favourite, electronic duo Basement Jaxx, will complete a whole 12 hours of amazing music.

Saturday opens with Raw Earth presenting a tribute to blues icon BB King, setting the stage for R&B legend Ray Parker Jr. ahead of fellow new addition, virtuoso singer-songwriter and bassist Esperanza Spalding, making a welcome return to Singapore following previous sold-out concerts here. This four-time Grammy Award-winner, who famously eclipsed Justin Bieber in the "Best New Artist" category in 2011, brings her reinvented, fusion-influenced hybrid of rock, funk and jazz to the SING JAZZ stage.

World music icon Youssou N'dour will round off Saturday's Main Stage programme, before another segue into The Late Show, featuring for the first time in Singapore multiple platinum and chart-topping Brit Award winners Rudimental ("Feel the Love" and "Waiting all Night") with their dazzling DJ set. Setting the party vibe are SING JAZZ favourites Incognito, who will also head up another jam session of Festival artists and instrumentalists in one-off impromptu collaborations that are sure to live long in the memory.

Sunday's Main Stage programme promises a fitting climax to one of the biggest weekends of live music that Singapore will have seen in a while. The exciting billing leads off with Adam Hall and The Velvet Playboys from Perth featuring local songstress Alemay Fernandez, with their fusion of up-tempo jump jive and rock and roll. The Sunday evening party continues with funky US bassist Nik West followed by singer songwriter Raúl Midón. HITMAN David Foster & Friends – a line-up of international stars including the multifaceted Brian McKnight, returning superstar Chaka Khan, YouTube sensation Thirdstory, Indonesia's soul sweetheart Dira Sugandi and, from Singapore, Nick Zavior – will then bring the curtain down on this fourth, and largest ever, edition of the Singapore International Jazz Festival, SING JAZZ 2017.

Gilles Peterson is looking forward to introducing his all-star line-up of UK jazz artists to Singapore, "This is such an unbelievably good time for British jazz! Not since my early years listening to the jazz funk of groups like Incognito and Level 42 have I felt such a sense of community around a music scene. We're fortunate to have a very solid buzzing base for jazz and improvised music in the UK – both Nubya and Zara are two of the newer stars of recent times... I'm so excited to share this unique collaboration at SING JAZZ 2017."

"SING JAZZ is fast becoming one of the most prominent and favoured music festivals in the region and this is reflected by the amazing and diverse talent that we are able to attract and present. This is very encouraging and we look forward to growing the Festival to even greater heights," commented David Lyndon Smith, Co-founder and Artistic Director of SING JAZZ.

Sponsors & Partners

In addition to welcoming some of the biggest musical names to Singapore, SING JAZZ is also proud to announce partnerships with some of the most recognised brands in the world.

Returning for the fourth year as Official Venue Partner and strong supporter of the Festival is the iconic Marina Bay Sands, while logistics giant DHL and Coca-Cola® comes on board for the first time as the Official Logistics Partner and the Official Beverage Partner respectively.

Attendees at this year's SING JAZZ may also look forward to sipping on a richer range of spirits and liquors to complement the musical atmosphere.

At the inaugural Lanson Champagne Terrace, spectators can pamper themselves with a premium elevated view of the iconic outdoor stage while sipping on flutes of Lanson champagne. Lanson's winemaker, Hervé Dantan, will also be in Singapore to commemorate their first partnership with SING JAZZ.

PengWine, a boutique wine from the Maipo Valley of Chile, comes on board as Official Wine of SING JAZZ with the launch of its very first vintage bubbly - Chinstrap Sparkling Brut. Made by the Méthode Traditionelle, and named after the famous penguins of South America, this Chilean bubbly is vivacious, festive and yet full of elegance, designed to inspire and celebrate life.

Those who prefer to cool off with lager and cider have a choice to make between Tiger Beer, Erdinger and Strongbow Cider. For the ones more inclined towards the

sweeter cider can look out for Strongbow Cider's Urban Orchard – a dedicated area with deck chairs and a sampling booth – to relax and soak in the golden hour of the festival with a cider in hand.

Other participating sponsors and partners of SING JAZZ are the Singapore Tourism Board and Urban Redevelopment Authority of Singapore.

Ticketing

Tickets for the Singapore International Jazz Festival 2017: Main Stage and The Late Show start from \$108 and are available at www.marinabaysands.com/ticketing and www.apactix.com. Also available is the Full Festival Pass (\$288) which gives access to 30 hours of music at both The Main Stage & The Late Show on all days. For more information, please visit www.sing-jazz.com.

Scheduled line-up for Singapore International Jazz Festival 2017

Friday: Aaron James Lee Trio; Gilles Peterson with the Zara McFarlane Band featuring Nubya Garcia and MC Earl Zinger; Corinne Bailey Rae

Saturday: Raw Earth Blues Tribute; Ray Parker Junior; Esperanza Spalding; Youssou Ndour & Le Super Etoile de Dakar,

Sunday: Adam Hall and The Velvet Playboys featuring Alemay Fernandez, Nik West, Raúl Midón Trio; HITMAN David Foster & Friends (Brian McKnight, Chaka Khan, Thirdstory, Dira Sugandi, Nick Zavior)

The Late Show

Friday: Ernesto Enriquez, Al McKay's Earth, Wind & Fire Experience, Citrus Sun, Basement Jaxx,

Saturday: Saxx in the City, Incognito, Citrus Sun, Rudimental DJ Set

**Line-up is subject to artists' availability and accurate as of 2 February 2017*

For all things social

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About Sing Jazz

Sing Jazz aspires to establish itself as a premier international Festival of jazz and jazz-inspired music. Bringing together world-class artists at the iconic venue of the Marina Bay Sands, *Sing Jazz* seeks to harness the creative energy that is the essence of jazz, and indeed of Singapore itself.

There's an important social and developmental element to *Sing Jazz*, in that proceeds from the Festival go towards supporting the Foundation for The Arts & Social Enterprise in its efforts to help nurture and promote nascent local jazz talent



through a Jazz Academy, in turn creating a 'circle of help and encouragement' to Singapore's up-coming generation of artists.

About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theatres showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

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