

Take Five



Serious' hugely successful professional development scheme **Take Five** will again 'take over' during the **London Jazz Festival in association with BBC Radio 3**.

This year **Take Five** has two reasons to celebrate. First, we will announce the artists who will participate in **Take Five Edition VIII** and second, audiences will be treated to a performance by the participants in **Take Five: Europe**, the inaugural European edition of the scheme, which has been supported by the Culture Programme of the European Union, as well as the original funding partners for Take Five, Jerwood Charitable Foundation and PRS for Music Foundation.

Take Five: Europe Live! is a free performance that starts at **5.30pm on Saturday 17 November** in the Front Room of the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre, London. The set will showcase the talents of 10 composer-performers from France (Céline Bonacina and Benjamin Flament), the Netherlands (Oene Van Geel and Bram Stadhouders), Norway (Ole Morton Vågan and Gard Nilssen), Poland (Maciej Garbowski and Maciej Obara) and the UK (Tom Arthurs and Fraser Fifield) with material that has been honed in workshops and performances across the continent.

During the evening, the participants in **Take Five Edition VIII** will also be announced to the public. **Take Five** – the professional development scheme for emerging creative jazz musicians which is supported by Jerwood Charitable Foundation, PRS for Music Foundation, Arts Council England and the Musicians Benevolent Fund - is designed to give some of the UK's most talented young jazz musicians the unique opportunity to take 'time out' to develop their craft. It provides each artist with the chance to discuss, explore and strengthen all aspects of their future careers.

The eight creative jazz musicians who have been selected for **Take Five Edition VIII** are:

- Yazz Ahmed (Trumpet/London)
- Andy Champion (Double Bass/Gateshead)
- Gwyneth Herbert (Voice/London)
- Cevanne Horrocks-Hopayian (Voice and Harp/Suffolk)
- Dominic Lash (Double Bass/Bristol)
- Chris Montague (Guitar/London)
- Rory Simmons (Trumpet/London)
- Paul Towndrow (Saxophones/Glasgow)

"This year's "Take Fivers" reflect the growing diversity of the UK's jazz scene and the continuing relevance of the unique professional development opportunity that Take Five offers. With more applications than ever before and the extremely high quality of musicians coming forward, it was difficult to select just 8 participants.

Those selected are exceptional and distinctive and I'm particularly pleased that more talented women came forward than in recent years." (Vanessa Reed, Executive Director, PRS for Music Foundation)

"Take Five UK Edition VIII has reignited with a bang following a resting year and the new development of Take Five Europe. Applications came from a wide field of talented, motivated players and composers; diverse both stylistically and in their geographical location. This fresh wave of new faces indicates we can feel hugely optimistic about the future of jazz. I'm delighted that Take Five continues to contribute to the development of an alumni of artists who are proving they are taking responsibility for shaping this future in the UK and Europe." (Shonagh Manson, Director, Jerwood Charitable Foundation)

Take Five Edition VIII will run from October 2012 to June 2013 and comprises a number of sessions under the collective areas of Talk Time, Learning Time, Focus Time, Time Out and Creative Time. Each artist will benefit from one-to-one mentoring sessions to identify their particular areas of interest and need, as well a residential period exploring areas such as composition, performance, communications, business infrastructure and strategic direction.

"Serious is committed to providing professional development opportunities to musicians of all ages and from all backgrounds, and we are delighted that two of our current programmes - Take Five and Take Five: Europe - are converging at the Southbank Centre on 17 November during the London Jazz Festival. The ongoing success of Take Five in all its forms is a continuing source of pride for our organisation and we are thrilled to be working with so many inspirational and talented artists and partners - both producing and funding - on both schemes." Claire Whitaker, Director, Serious

Previous participants in **Take Five** commented:

"Take Five is vital! It is very difficult to convey how privileged I feel to be involved. I would like to think that I am a willing learner and without even 24 hours reflection on the residency, I have a completely overhauled sense of direction, ambition and confidence in the entire enterprise of making and sharing music. I would hope that it is also important beyond those who have participated: it stands as something aspirational for everyone and as a model that it can be done." (Alexander Hawkins, Edition VII, 2011)

"When you look at the people that have been through the scheme and what they've since gone on to achieve it's evident that Take Five is a very important thing. For me it was invaluable for many reasons – first of all it was a massive confidence boost and an indication that people respected and enjoyed my music. Then the Bore Place week was an amazing chance to meet people and share ideas; obviously it was invaluable to meet the amazing panellists and learn from them more about what they do in terms of the business side but also it was a great opportunity to meet and work with John Surman and the seven other musicians that I had not met before, each working in very different areas with different methods that will be artistically influential in my own work in the future." (Ben Cottrell, Edition VII, 2011)

A panel of industry experts contributed to the selection process, taking into account the following considerations for each participant: creativity, future potential, style of music, range of influences, geography, cultural background and distinctive contribution to the community. The panel included representatives from Jerwood Charitable Foundation, PRS for Music Foundation, Musicians Benevolent Fund and Serious, as well as Graham McKenzie (Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival), Steve Mead (Manchester Jazz Festival) and Jason Yarde (composer, saxophonist and producer).

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www.serious.org.uk/about/artists/artist-development/take-five
www.takefiveeurope.com



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Music Center
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north sea Jazz

moldejazz
molde international jazz festival est. 1981 norway

jazztopad

NFM
NATIONAL FORUM
OF MUSIC

Notes for Take Five Edition VIII:

1. The Jerwood Charitable Foundation is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. It works with artists across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts. For more information on the Jerwood Charitable Foundation visit www.jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org.
2. The PRS for Music Foundation (PRSF) is the only independent funder dedicated to new music of all genres across the UK. Since March 2000 it has supported over 4,250 new music initiatives to the tune of over £16 million. Widely respected as an adventurous and proactive funding body, PRSF supports an exceptional range of new music activity - from unsigned band showcases, festivals and promoters to composer residencies, commissions and professional development. We achieve this through open grants and programmes run in partnership with like-minded funders. Recent initiatives include New Music 20x12, a commissioning programme for the Cultural Olympiad, Women Make Music – a special fund for women music creators and Musicians in Residence China in partnership with British Council. See www.prsformusicfoundation.com
3. Arts Council England works to get great art to everyone by championing, developing and investing in artistic experiences that enrich people's lives. As the national development agency for the arts, Arts Council England supports a range of artistic activities from theatre to music, literature to dance, photography to digital art, carnival to crafts. Great art inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2008 and 2011 Arts Council England will invest in excess of £1.6 billion of public money from the government and the National Lottery to create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country.
4. For more than 90 years the Musicians Benevolent Fund has been supporting musicians of all ages and musical genres. Each year it provides crucial help and support to professionals when a crisis such as an accident or illness hits. It also helps musicians in later life and retirement with the challenges that growing older can bring and supports talented emerging artists, playing a part in shaping a new generation of rising stars. The Fund is independent and relies on donations and gifts in wills to underpin its vital work. For more information visit: helpmusicians.org.uk
5. **Serious** is one of the UK's leading producers and curators of live jazz, international and new music. Its events range from major concerts, festivals and national and international tours through to learning and participation programmes, conferences and specially commissioned bespoke events. Alongside the production of live music, Serious works in artist and rights management and produces a suite of acclaimed professional development programmes for emerging creative musicians in the UK and Europe. Serious produces the London Jazz Festival which celebrates its 20th edition in 2012. For more information visit: serious.org.uk, londonjazzfestival.org.uk

Notes For Take Five: Europe

The Culture Programme of the European Union aims to encourage and support cultural cooperation within Europe in order to bring the European common cultural heritage to the fore. The programme mainly promotes trans-national mobility of cultural players; trans-national circulation of artistic and cultural works and products; and intercultural dialogue and exchanges.

ec.europa.eu

Serious - serious.org.uk, londonjazzfestival.org.uk

Banlieues Bleues is an annual jazz festival that has taken place since 1984 in 15 towns in Seine-Saint-Denis, a district of banlieues (suburbs) on the outskirts and north east of Paris. Focused on jazz in the very sense of the word, but also on blues, contemporary and world music, the Festival offers an artistic platform of international repute. Banlieues Bleues also runs its own venue; La Dynamo.

banlieuesbleues.org

Jazz sous les Pommiers is one of the most important jazz festivals in France and takes over the town of Coutances in Normandy every May. The Festival has been running since 1982, and in that time has featured a huge range of international stars and up-and-coming talent. The 31st edition takes place 12-19 May 2012.

jazzsouslespommiers.com

Music Center the Netherlands (MCN) is the resource and promotion center for the professional music world. Its mission is to propagate and enhance the position of Dutch music (culture), both nationally and internationally. MCN core tasks are promotion, information, documentation and synchronization/coordination.

mcn.nl

North Sea Jazz Festival: The first edition of the North Sea Jazz Festival took place in 1976 in the Netherlands Congressgebouw in The Hague. In 2006, the festival moved to its current, bigger, location in Rotterdam. North Sea Jazz Festival is one of the largest in Europe and one of the most significant jazz festivals in the world and takes place every July.

northseajazz.com

Molde International Jazz Festival is a week-long festival that takes place every July, presenting all kinds of jazz from New-Orleans style to freejazz, electronic and noise, a mix of international and Norwegian artists. A festival with a great deal of history, Molde International Jazz Festival has an enviable reputation way beyond Norway and northern Europe.

moldejazz.no

Jazztopad Festival is an annual jazz Festival in Wroclaw, Poland. It presents unique projects and world premieres of pieces composed exclusively for the festival. Jazztopad showcases Polish and international jazz artists and its 9th edition is taking place in November 2012. Jazztopad is organised under the umbrella of Wroclaw Philharmonic and from 2013 will be a part of National Forum of Music - one of the world's most prestigious concert halls is going to have its grand opening in Spring 2013 in Wroclaw, Poland. jazztopad.pl / www.nfm.wroclaw.pl

The **Jerwood Charitable Foundation** - jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org

PRS for Music Foundation - prsformusicfoundation.com

Sacem is pleased to be a partner of Take Five: Europe. Sacem develops cultural programs to sustain creation, production and distribution of new works. Renewal of repertoires, sustain of live shows and support professionalisation of young creators constitute priorities of its commitment where jazz and improvised music play a large part. www.sacem.fr

MusicXport.nl is a program of Music Center the Netherlands to improve the international position of Dutch bands and to enlarge their possibilities abroad. The program focuses on promotion and support of artists and increased international expertise for artist managers. MusicXport.nl

Adam Mickiewicz Institute is a state cultural institution whose task is to promote Polish culture around the world and actively participate in international cultural exchange. IAM realised over promotional projects in 26 countries in Europe, Asia and Africa. As part of these projects IAM organized over 3,500 cultural events which gathered an audience of 20,000,000 people on three continents. www.iam.pl

National Forum of Music - one of the world's most prestigious concert halls is going to have its grand opening soon in Wroclaw, Poland. NFM will include among others: the main concert hall with 1800 seats and three chamber halls. NFM will surely become a symbol of the city and a magnet for incredible artistic events. It will be the home venue for Philharmonic ensembles and festivals. www.nfm.wroclaw.pl

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