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Cape Town International Jazz Festival brings the sounds of Jazz to Greenmarket Square



10 March 2020: Africa's Grandest Gathering will be celebrating 21 years of jazz, and everyone is invited to experience some of the Festival's top musicians perform at the Cape Town International Jazz Festival's (CTIJF) Free Community Concert.

As the name suggests, the Free Community Concert will this year take place on **Wednesday 25 March** at 16:00 at Greenmarket Square in Cape Town.

In the spirit of making the world's finest jazz and jazz-related music accessible to the Cape Town community, the Festival organisers have held the Free Community Concert annually, with an exceptional number of attendees over the years.

Artists taking to the stage this year will include:

- MF Robots (UK)
- Lady Zamar (South Africa)
- Jonathan Butler (South Africa)
- CTIJF All Star Band (South Africa)
- Wynberg High School (South Africa)
- Scottish Leader Battle of the Bands Winner (South Africa)

Hailing from the UK, this musical duo **MF Robots** (Music For Robots) is a soulful project by the Brand New Heavies founder Jan Kincaid. The drummer, songwriter and producer has teamed up with vocalist and multi-instrumentalist Dawn Joseph.

Homegrown vocalist and songwriter **Lady Zamar** started singing at the early age of six years old. Inspired by music legends such as Tracy Chapman, Lady Zamar was drawn to emerging and aspiring hip hop artists in her hometown of Pretoria. Her latest offering, Monarch, was released in 2019, and combines her hallmark sound of rich vocals with the infectious danceability of a Saturday night in Mamelodi.

No stranger to the urban contemporary and gospel scene, **Jonathan Butler** is just as comfortable singing an R&B song as he is showing off his jazz skills on stage. In concert, the Grammy-nominated Butler draws on a vast repertoire, while constantly exploring new genres. Alongside world-class performances, Festival organisers have empowered the next generation of talent to grow through their robust Sustainable Training and Development programme, and participating learners will appear on stage alongside a stellar line-up. Their first performance in front of a large audience aims to upskill and empower the learners to perform among internationally-acclaimed musicians.

As part of the programme, around 50 learners from six Western Cape schools attended the four-weekend Music and Careers workshops, in which facilitators presented a range of career options, including performing, sound engineering, lighting and festival management. At the end of the four-week programme, learners will participate in a live performance at the Free Community Concert and are selected to join the **CTIJF All Star Band**.

Each year, one school participating in the programme's Music & Careers workshops is chosen to perform at the following year's Free Community Concert. **Wynberg High School**'s band was selected based on their performance and their participation in the 2019 workshops.

“Our Sustainable Training and Development Programme is our legacy initiative and allows us to incubate the next generation of technical, musical and production professionals. Once you're qualified to play on our stage, you can play on any stage in the world! Young people need these skills to go forward in the industry and we are proud to equip them with these tools,” says Festival Director Billy Domingo.

CTIJF will take place on 27 and 28 March 2020 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC). General access tickets for the 2020 festival are on sale now at [Computicket](#) at R999 for a Weekend Pass and R649 for a Day Pass: <http://bit.ly/CTIJF2020>

CTIJF 2020 award-winning VIP hospitality packages are on sale now, with two-day festival experiences starting from R2 999 ex VAT. Contact Samantha Pienaar on 021 671 0506 or email hospitality@espafrika.com. Alternatively visit www.capetownjazzfest.com/hospitality for more information.

ABOUT CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

About the Cape Town International Jazz Festival

The Cape Town International Jazz Festival (CTIJF) is the flagship event for the leading events management and production company espAfrika, which has staged and produced several world-renowned events. Affectionately referred to as “Africa's Grandest Gathering”, the Cape Town International Jazz Festival is the largest music event in sub-Saharan Africa and is now preparing for its 21st year. The annual event will take place on 27 and 28 March 2020 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC).

The festival is renowned for delivering a star-studded line up featuring international and local artists in both jazz and popular music genres. The festival boasts multiple stages with a wide array of world-class artists performing over two nights.

Producers of the festival, espAfrika has recently been awarded the title of Best Event Production & Management Company in South Africa, in the 4th annual Global Hospitality Awards hosted by LUX Life. As an event management and production organisation, espAfrika has over 20 years of expertise in bringing the best musical talent to Cape Town.

The CTIJF Sustainable Training & Development programme aims to educate and upskill the youth, offering them learning experiences that tap into the knowledge of the world's premier musicians and fostering the next generation of jazz talent.

The official sponsors of the 21st annual Cape Town International Jazz Festival are Independent Media, AYO Technologies Solutions, The Department of Arts and Culture, Host City – The City of Cape Town, Engen, Scottish Leader, Coca-Cola Peninsula Beverages, SAB AB-INBEV, Raymond Weil and Heart 104.9FM.

About espAfrika

espAfrika is a global leader in creating and producing unique entertaining experiences. With more than 20 years in the industry, the company has grown into one of the most highly awarded event management and production organisations in South Africa. espAfrika thrives on realising clients' ideas and creating exceptional concepts that are relevant and engaging to today's audiences.

espAfrika produces annual events such as the Cape Town International Jazz Festival which attracts Festinos from around the world. Soon to be announced are new and unique entertainment experiences courtesy of espAfrika.

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See www.espafrika.com for more details.

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