



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bainbridge Island Museum of Art Announces Within/Earshot Jazz Festival Lineup – Celebrating the Region’s Finest Jazz Artists This October

(Bainbridge Island, Wash.) — Bainbridge Island Museum of Art (BIMA) is thrilled to announce the return of its dynamic collaboration with Seattle’s Earshot Jazz as part of the acclaimed **Earshot Jazz Festival**—the Pacific Northwest’s most prestigious celebration of jazz. Series passes go on sale August 20 for BIMA Members. General admission tickets go on sale September 2. Ticket information and full event descriptions can be found at www.biartmuseum.org.

Held throughout **October**, the **BIMA Annual Within/Earshot Jazz Festival** transforms the museum’s auditorium into a vibrant hub of creativity and improvisation. More than just a concert series, the festival is a living conversation between music and storytelling—bringing together artists and experts from across the jazz spectrum to explore the genre’s rich legacy and boundless future.

“BIMA is proud to once again partner with Earshot Jazz,” said Sade McInnis, Director of Museum Events. “[Their] commitment to artistic innovation and community connection mirrors our own values, and we are excited to offer a festival that is as intellectually engaging as it is musically inspiring.”

Each performance in the series offers something distinct: from evocative modern compositions that push the boundaries of jazz, to lively tributes to the speakeasy-era swing, and the textured rhythms of Brazilian folk traditions. The festival also highlights fresh, innovative voices from the Northwest, reflecting the cultural diversity and evolution of the genre.

Whether you attend a single event or engage with the full month-long program, the Within/Earshot Jazz Festival promises an unforgettable journey through sound, story, and culture—underscoring jazz’s enduring ability to connect, challenge, and inspire.

“Jazz is still one of the most vibrant and contemporary musical expressions, just like the art hanging on BIMA’s walls,” said Korum Bischoff, BIMA’s Deputy Director. “With the ability to cross between cultures and genres, and do so with improvisation at its core, is like hearing a musical conversation at the crossroads of the world. How lucky we are to bring so many talented regional scenesters to BIMA’s auditorium for our members and neighbors to hear.”

The Within/Earshot Jazz Festival is a PRISM program of BIMA. PRISM programs are cultural catalysts delivering intimate, curated performances, presentations, and cultural celebrations that explore the personal connection between artist and audience. The Within/Earshot Jazz Festival is made possible by Realogics Sotheby’s, Kitsap County, City of Bainbridge Island Cultural Fund, Earshot Jazz, Crosscut, KCTS 9, and KNKX Radio.

WITHIN/EARSHOT JAZZ FESTIVAL 2025 LINEUP

Concerts

Gail Pettis Quartet

Saturday, October 4, 7:00pm

\$23 member / \$25 non-member

Jazz vocalist Gail Pettis returns to BIMA with a powerhouse rhythm section, pianist Bill Anschell, bassist Jeff Johnson, and drummer Jeff Busch. Expect familiar standards and fresh discoveries, each one stretched and re-colored through the band’s shared love of improvisation. It’s an evening of swing, subtlety, and pure musical joy.

Chase Elodia

Friday, October 10, 7:00pm

\$23 member / \$25 non-member

Modern jazz, straight ahead—with a twist. Composer and drummer Chase Elodia brings bold beats, lyrical nuance, and literary inspiration to the stage, creating dynamic rhythms, unexpected turns, and music that explores everything from the intimacy of everyday life to the weight of memory.

Ne Plus Ultra Jass Orchestra

Sunday, October 12, 5:00pm

\$23 member / \$25 non-member

Step back in time with The Ne Plus Ultra Jass Orchestra and experience the irresistible charm of 1920s jazz. Performing from original-era charts, this ensemble brings the syncopated strut, hot horns, and vintage swagger that once filled dance halls from Storyville to Harlem.

Batuque: Journey through Brazil

Friday, October 24, 7:00pm

\$23 member / \$25 non-member

Early Music Seattle continues its BIMA partnership with Batuque, a jazz-infused exploration of Brazil's rich and diverse musical heritage. Experience a journey beyond samba and carnival, revealing the deep currents that shaped samba and bossa nova.

Mark Lewis Quartet

Saturday, October 25, 7:00pm

\$23 member / \$25 non-member

Saxophonist and flutist Mark Lewis brings his distinctive brand of original Northwest jazz to the stage, blending rich improvisation with decades of experience. Known for his captivating performances and prolific compositions, Mark offers an evening of melodic, straight-ahead jazz that resonates with both longtime fans and new listeners alike.

Lectures

Jazz = Culture: Storytelling

Friday, October 3, 7pm

\$20 member / \$23 non-member

Step into the story of jazz as the heartbeat of African-American culture through the insightful lens of Dr. James R. Gore. Discover how this transformative art form has shaped storytelling, identity, and self-expression within the African-American experience. During the talk, Dr. Gore explores how artists across diverse genres—including Harlem Renaissance icon Langston Hughes—have embraced jazz both as a contextual influence and a rhythmic inspiration. The program delves into jazz's cultural, social, and historical significance within African American storytelling traditions, highlighting how it became a transformational art form through which African Americans have expressed self-identity, creativity, and evolving cultural attitudes.

Jazz with Jim: Jazz Gems Past & Present

Thursday, October 16, 7pm

\$12 member / \$15 non-member

Join Jim Cauter as he plays selections and profiles the artistry of instrumentalists, vocalists, and ensembles whose original music and unique performance styles have greatly contributed to—and continue to influence—the evolutionary continuum of jazz. Featured musicians include Rahsaan Roland Kirk, Chick Corea, Stanley Clarke, Oscar Peterson, Jean Luc Ponty, Hubert Laws, Michael Brecker, Herbie Hancock, Toots Thielemans, Charles Mingus, John Patitucci, Christian McBride, Brad Mehldau, Emmet Cohen, Samara Joy, Shakti, Kassa Overall, Benny Benack, Terrace Martin, Kamasi Washington, Robert Glasper, Nubya Garcia, Julius Rodriguez, Lakecia Benjamin, and The WDR Big Band—the big band of Westdeutscher Rundfunk (WDR) in Cologne, Germany.

Films

\$12 member / \$15 non-member

10/7 - 7 PM | *Round Midnight* (1986) (2 HR)

Dexter Gordon's Oscar-nominated performance anchors this smoky late-1950s tale of a fragile saxophone genius rebuilding his life in Paris's expat jazz scene. Featuring real players like Gordon and Herbie Hancock, the film's long, lingering takes capture ballads that express what words cannot. At its heart, it's about how friendship, attentive listening, and intimate venues kept modern jazz alive across continents.

10/14 - 7 PM | *Mo' Better Blues* (1990) (2 HR)

Bleek Gilliam is a gifted yet self-absorbed jazz trumpeter whose dedication to his music strains his relationships, especially with the women in his life. As Bleek forms his own band, The Bleek Gilliam Quartet, tensions rise with bandmate Shadow, threatening to tear the group apart.

10/21 - 7 PM | *The Cotton Club* (1984) (2 HR)

Francis Ford Coppola immerses viewers in the legendary 1920s Harlem nightclub, where dazzling stage revues, fiery dance bands, and tap performances collide with the realities of Prohibition and segregation. While stylized, the film's music, choreography, and Ellington-era sounds reveal how early showbiz helped bring jazz into the American mainstream—even as questions of access and credit remain.

For more information on BIMA's Within/Earshot Jazz Festival, visit www.biartmuseum.org.

About Bainbridge Island Museum of Art

Bainbridge Island Museum of Art inspires curiosity, wonder, and understanding by connecting people with the contemporary art and craft of the Puget Sound region. The art museum exhibits, interprets, preserves, collects, and promotes works of proven cultural value as well as new works by emerging artists and craftspeople.

The art museum is open daily, year-round, from 10am-5pm, and admission is always free. BIMA is located in beautiful downtown Bainbridge Island, at the corner of Hwy 305 and Winslow Way, just steps away from the ferry terminal, and with easy access via public transportation or by car from the Kitsap Peninsula.

BIMA is supported through contributions by members and donors like you, with ongoing support from the Laird Norton Wetherby, Cogwheel Construction, The Klorfine Foundation, Leslie & Michael Lebeau, Chap & Eve Alvord, John & Ann Underwood, Norcliffe, Kathy Alvord Gerlich, Gnarly Tree Foundation, Ames Family Foundation, Stoel Rives LLP, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, Capital Group Private Client Services, TEW Foundation, BIMA PRISM, ArtsFund, CascadePBS, ArtsWA, Public Display Art, Bainbridge Community Foundation.

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