

perth jazz orchestra

mega crowd

Mega Crowd at Point Walter Concert

On Sunday March 5th, the Perth Jazz Orchestra performed for a crowd in excess of 6000 at Point Walter Reserve. The City of Melville presented this special Family Concert. The public ate a picnic dinner on the grass and listened to fantastic jazz standards played as only the PJO can. Special vocalists on this concert were Denise Dale and Grady Lovelle.

Admission Increase

Commencing April 2nd, the admission fee to the Perth Jazz Orchestra's regular Sunday night performances will be \$10.00 / \$5.00 concession.

Part of our philosophy is to ensure that the Perth Jazz Orchestra remain accessible to everyone and trust that our regular patrons will understand this necessary increase.

The PJO and The Festival of Perth: Standing Room Only

The PJO recently completed two successful performances for the Festival of Perth. February 19 featured Suzanne Wyllie. The capacity audience was treated to a superb performance ranging from rocking numbers like "Route 66" to the haunting "Miss Otis Regrets". This evening also featured four new arrangements by the PJO Principal Arranger Bill McAllister.

The February 26 concert featured PJO vocalist Mark Underwood. Mark's rendition of Georgia received tremendous response from the capacity crowd. Both Festival of Perth concerts were "Standing Room Only" events.

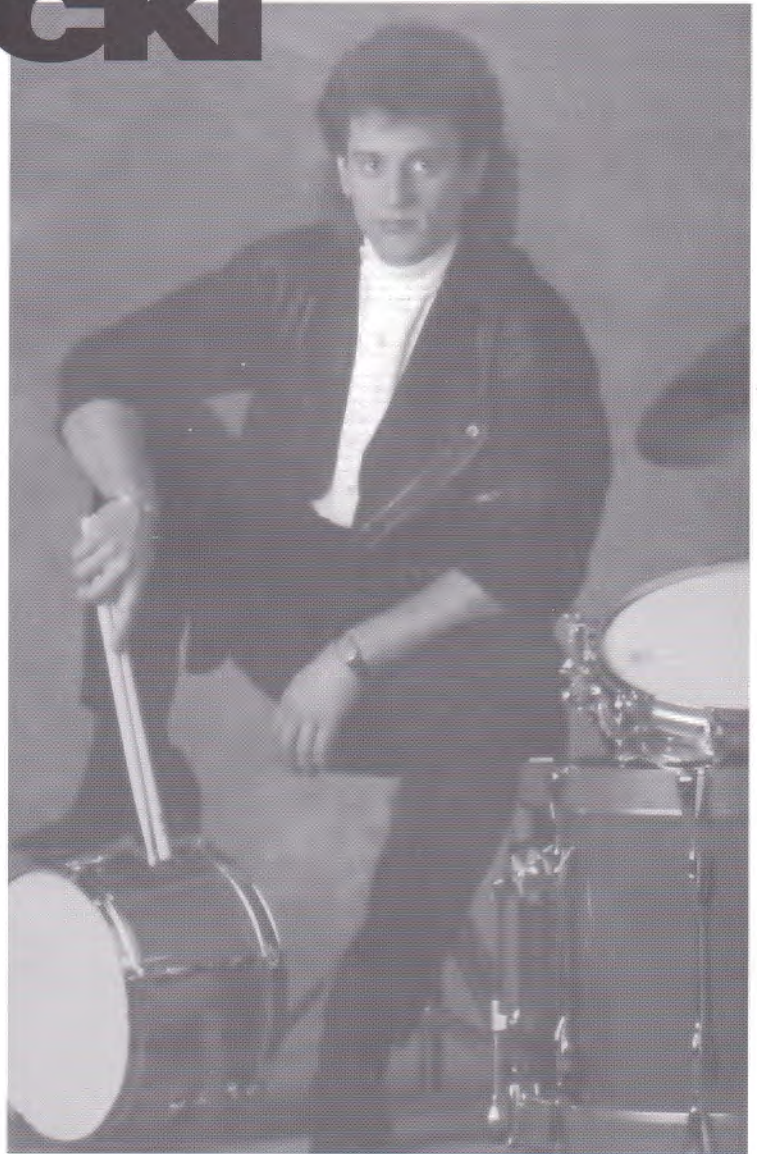


concert dave weckl

Dave began teaching himself at the age of eight and later studied jazz at Bridgeport University for two years before hitting the jazz scene full-time. He first came to notice as an outstanding session player, landing gigs with Diana Ross, George Benson, Madonna, Paul Simon and Robert Plant before being recommended to Chick Corea during the mid-80s by the Brecker Brothers.

Since then, Weckl has sealed a place as one of the best jazz drummers in the world, winning Best Electric Jazz Drummer four years in a row from Modern Drummer magazine and a Grammy for Best R&B Instrumental Performance in 1988 with Chick Corea's Elektric Band.

He is one of the most respected drummers in music. His credits include membership in the Chick Corea Elektric Band & Akoustic Band, The GRP Super Band, and the Michel Camilo Group. He played on the soundtrack album of A Chorus Line and is a successful studio drummer playing with artists like Diana Ross and Michael Franks, to name a few. Dave's special performance with the PJO will be on Sunday May 28.



Be smoke free

There has been a tremendous response to the PJO's new message "Be Smoke Free". The clean air in the Wardle Room is greatly appreciated by both the PJO performers and the different guest vocalists as well as our patrons.



mickey tucker



Mickey Tucker has been playing piano since the tender age of six. His credits read like the Who's Who of the Jazz world - James Moody, George Benson, Woody Shaw, Bill Hardman, Ron Carter, Art Blakey and numerous others.

Mickey has been the recipient of numerous grants, awards and honours and his performances include playing with the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra for the 60th Birthday Celebrations for the King of Thailand in 1987. The PJO is indeed fortunate to present and perform with Mickey Tucker on June 4, 1995.

series

John Hoffman

John has made Australia his home since the late 1970's. Before this, he earned a reputation as one of the finest US trumpeters, performing and recording with the big bands of Woody Herman and Buddy Rich. Originally settling in Sydney, he organised his own big band for a time, which became legendary on the east coast. But these days he has opted for a quieter lifestyle at Byron Bay, making regular visits to Brisbane to teach and perform. Mr Hoffman continues to be one of the most "in demand" musicians in Australia and the PJO is proud to have him perform with them on June 14. John will also record with the PJO for their CD to be released in July 95.



john hoffman

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Composition Awards Competition Sunday, April 9 The Wardle Room

In October 1992, an invitation was sent out, Australia wide, to all composers to enter the Perth Jazz Orchestra Composition Awards. Artistic Director of the PJO, Gary France, felt that there was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the vast talent in the Australian music industry by designing a competition that would offer not only prize money, but also the chance to have the work performed by the prestigious Perth Jazz Orchestra. The finalist from Tasmania, Western Australia, New South Wales and Queensland have been selected and are now ready to have their works performed. The Judges for this project are: Ellen Rowe, Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Connecticut, Mr Greame Lyall, Lecturer at the W.A. Conservatorium, and Pianist Composer, Michael Nelson. The final performance and judging will take place on Sunday April 9th at the Perth Concert Hall's Wardle Room.

For the winner, a cash prize of \$1500.00. Second prize will be \$750.00 and \$250.00 for third prize. Please come and support this exciting PJO event.

notes

Player Profile Artistic Director, Gary France.

Gary France was born in New York. He received his Bachelors Degree in Music in 1979 from the State University of New York, and completed his Master of Music degree in 1987 at the University of North Texas. While at UNT Gary became the first drummer to direct one of the prestigious Jazz Lab Bands. Since settling in Perth in 1987, Gary France has done much, through his dedicated teaching and remarkable ability on a range of percussion instruments, to significantly raise the profile of percussion playing in Western Australia. In Australia Gary has performed with James Morrison, Richie Cole, Ricky May, George Golla, Nat Adderley, Helen Matthews, Jim McNeeley, Urbie Green, Charlie Gabriel, John Clayton, Holly Hoffman, Peter Leutch, Phil Wilson, and Clifford Jordon and numerous others. As a classical musician he has performed with the West Australian Symphony Orchestra, the Nova Ensemble, the West Australian Opera and Ballet, numerous musicals, shows, and recordings. Gary was also drummer for the highly acclaimed country swing band Dude Ranch. His international tours for the Australian and US Governments have taken him to India, China, and Indonesia. Mr France is currently a member of the West Australian Department for the Arts Peer Group Assessment Panel, National Chairman of the A.M.E.B. National Percussion Panel, Board member of the Indian Ocean Cultural Council, and President of the Percussive Arts Society International Australia Chapter.

As founder and Artistic Director of the Perth Jazz Orchestra Gary has been responsible for producing over 150 public concerts in the band's two and one half year history. During the past 12 months The Perth Jazz Orchestra performed for the Festival of Perth, The York Jazz Festival, The Busselton Beach Festival, The Bridgetown Bluse Festival, and The Caves House Festival. In the first half of 1995 the PJO will present the 1995 PJO Concert Series, produce a CD recording, and support professional arrangers / composers through the completion of a National composition contest awarding cash prizes of \$2,500.



Profiles on some Composition Competition Entrants



MARGARET JOHNSON
Margaret is a graduate of the WA Academy of

Performing Arts in both dance and jazz music. In 1989 she accepted a position at the Victorian College of the Arts, lecturing in Spanish and Tap Dance. In 1991 she was awarded an Australia Council Grant to further her studies in Spanish Dance, spending a year overseas. Now back in Perth, Margaret works extensively as a dancer, choreographer and singer.

his Bachelor of Music at the University of Queensland in 1993 and has written arrangements for the QYBB.



AMANDA JONES
Amanda achieved her BA in Performing Arts (Music) and moved

to Sydney in 1982. Since then she has been performing with cabaret and theatre shows, small jazz ensembles and various big bands. Amanda is currently completing her studies at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music in Composition and Arranging (Jazz).

conductor and guitarist in a variety of idioms and is the recipient of several awards and commissions.

MICHAEL PIGNEGUY
Michael is a graduate from the WA Conservatorium of Music. At the time of printing, no other biographical information was available.



BRAD ESBENSEN
Brad has had a multi faceted musical career from forming his own band to performing with the Queensland Youth Big Band. He received



JAMES (JIM) LAIDE
Jim is currently a Lecturer in Music at the University of Tasmania. He has been active as a composer, arranger,

PJO Calendar

S	U	N	D	A	Y	S
apr		may		june		
The PJO with Mark Underwood		The PJO with Helen Matthews		The PJO with Mickey Tucker		
The PJO with Grady Lovelle		The PJO with Grady Lovelle		The PJO with Annie Neil		
PJO Composition Awards		The PJO with June Smith		The PJO with John Hoffman		
The PJO with Grady Lovelle		The PJO with Dave Weckl*		The PJO Anniversary Party		
The PJO with Mark Underwood						

* PJO Concert Series tickets \$17/\$12 available through BOCS outlets.
The PJO Calendar includes all performances for the Perth Jazz Orchestra.
*Calendar subject to change without notice.

