

**BRIC**  
**JAZZFEST**  
**10TH ANNIVERSARY**

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Oct 17-19, 2024 | **BRIC House**, Brooklyn

Welcome to **BRIC JazzFest**. One of BRIC's premiere performing arts programs, BRIC JazzFest is an acclaimed marathon Jazz music festival that brings together legendary figures, groundbreaking artists, and newcomers from across the genre.



## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

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### **Mali Obomsawin**

Mali Obomsawin is a bassist, singer and composer from Odanak First Nation, and one of GRAMMY.com's top ten emerging jazz artists to watch this year. Her debut album *Sweet Tooth* (Out of Your Head Records, 2022) garnered international acclaim and was named in 'best of the year' lists from The Guardian, NPR, and JazzTimes upon its release. Evocative and thunderous, *Sweet Tooth* delivers a gripping and dynamic performance, seamlessly melding chorale-like spirituals, folk melodies, and post-Albert Ayler free jazz. Obomsawin's ensemble occupies a musical universe completely their own, bringing skronk and reverence to every stage.



### **Kassa Overall**

Kassa Overall is a Grammy-nominated musician, emcee, singer, producer and drummer who melds avant-garde experimentation with hip-hop production techniques to tilt the nexus of jazz and rap in unmapped directions. He previously released four critically acclaimed projects: *I THINK I'M GOOD*, *Go Get Ice Cream* and *Listen to Jazz*, *Shades of Flu* and *Shades of Flu 2*. On *ANIMALS*, his Warp Records debut, Kassa pushes his kaleidoscopic, subversive vision further. The album's diverse, all-star roster of collaborators includes several of his close friends, like vocalists Nick Hakim, Laura Mvula, Francis and the Lights, and jazz stars like Theo Croker and Vijay Iyer.



### **Milena Casado**

Called "a revelation" by The New York Times, Spanish composer, trumpeter, and flugelhorn player Milena Casado is quickly gaining notice for her unique and deeply personal approach to music. Both as a composer and instrumentalist, Casado masterfully blends the familiar and the unknown — rooted in tradition, yet reaching for something fundamentally new. Having already caught the attention of many renowned artists, Casado has performed with such greats as Terri Lyne Carrington, Aaron Parks, Kris Davis, Vijay Iyer, Jazzmeia Horn, and Jorge Rossy, among others. She has been featured at many of the world's top venues and festivals, including Carnegie Hall, the Village Vanguard, the Kennedy Center, the Blue Note NYC, North Sea Jazz Festival, Montreal Jazz Festival, and Monterey Jazz Festival. An increasingly notable bandleader in her own right, Casado now leads her own working quintet, with recent performances at NYC Winter Jazzfest, Savannah Jazz Festival, and other major venues. Backed by this group, she is currently producing her debut album.



## **Brandee Younger**

The sonically innovative harpist, Brandee Younger, is revolutionizing harp for the digital era. Over the past fifteen years, she has worked relentlessly to stretch boundaries and limitations for harpists. In 2022, she made history by becoming the first Black woman to be nominated for a Grammy® Award for Best Instrumental Composition. That same year, she was also nominated for an NAACP Image Award and later, the winner of the 2024 NAACP Image Award in the category of Outstanding Jazz Album for her latest album *Brand New Life*. Ever-expanding as an artist, she has worked with cultural icons including Ravi Coltrane, Pharoah Sanders, Common, Lauryn Hill, John Legend and Christian McBride. Her original composition “Hortense” was featured in the Netflix Concert-Documentary, *Beyoncé: Homecoming* and in 2019, Brandee was selected to perform her original music as a featured performer for Quincy Jones and Steve McQueens’ “Soundtrack of America”. Brandee is often noted for standing on the shoulders of the very women who ushered in the harp as a clear and distinct voice in jazz & popular styles - particularly Detroit natives Alice Coltrane & Dorothy Ashby. Her latest album, *Brand New Life*, builds on her already rich oeuvre, and cements the harp’s place in pop culture. As the title of the album suggests, *Brand New Life* is about forging new paths—artistic, personal, political, and spiritual. Younger’s music is imbued with a sense of purpose and respect of legacy, creating a larger platform for the harp to reach newer and wider audiences than ever before. In addition to performing and recording, Brandee Younger is on the faculty at New York University, Steinhardt School and The New School College of Performing Arts.



## **Josh Johnson**

Josh Johnson is a LA-based saxophonist, composer, multi-instrumentalist, and Grammy Award-winning producer. His second solo album, *Unusual Object*, a striking work of futuristic jazz and modern composition, was released this spring on Northern Spy Records. His solo debut *Freedom Exercise* (Northern Spy) was featured in Rolling Stone’s Best Music of 2020 and Bandcamp’s Best Jazz Albums of 2020. Johnson is a regular collaborator with some of contemporary music’s most innovative artists, including Jeff Parker, Makaya McCraven, Nate Mercereau, Marquis Hill, and Kiefer. Between 2018 and 2022 Johnson held the role of

Musical Director for soul singer Leon Bridges, with whom he also played keyboards and saxophone. Johnson produced and appears on Meshell Ndegeocello's 2023 album *The Omnichord Real Book* which was awarded the 2024 Grammy for Best Alternative Jazz Album. He can also be heard on wide-ranging records by artists such as Harry Styles, the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Moonchild, Broken Bells, Miley Cyrus, Louis Cole and Carlos Niño, among others.



### **Gary Bartz**

NEA Jazz Master Gary Bartz has been one of the best purveyors of what he calls “informal composition” (as opposed to improvisation) on alto saxophone since the 1960s, working with such luminaries as Max Roach, Charles Mingus, Art Blakey, and Miles Davis. He has released more than 45 solo albums and appears on more than 200 as a guest artist, as well as working with some of the up-and-coming artists in jazz today, such as Ali Shaheed Muhammad and Adrian Young for their *Jazz Is Dead* series and the jazz-funk band Maisha. In 1970, Miles Davis asked Bartz to join his band and perform at the historic Isle of Wight Festival and his subsequent tour. Bartz is featured on Davis' *Live/Evil* recording. Bartz also formed his own group, NTU Troop, named for the Bantu word for “essence.” The group blended soul, funk, African folk music, hard bop, and avant-garde jazz. His NTU Troop recordings are often sampled by hip-hop artists. In 1997, he was awarded a Grammy Award for Best Latin Jazz Performance for his work on Roy Hargrove's *Habana* album, and, in 2005, he received a Grammy Award for his work as a sideman on McCoy Tyner's recording *Illuminations*. Since 2001, Bartz has been a professor of saxophone and jazz performance at Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio. Bartz focuses his teaching on finding new ways for his students to “open their ears” and presses his Oberlin students to truly hear the music they think they know so well.





## **Ebban and Ephraim Dorsey**

Ebban and Ephraim Dorsey are 20 and 21-year-old saxophonists, composers, bandleaders, and rising stars in the contemporary jazz scene. The multi-talented siblings have been playing together since they were 9 and 10. Both have been members of Carnegie Hall's NYO Jazz, Herbie Hancock Institute's National Peer-to-Peer All-Star Jazz, JAZZ HOUSE KiDS, and Peabody Jazz Ensembles between 2020-2024. The Dorseys have flourished with the support of a brilliant village of musicians, and they continue to strive with their gifts as they travel and perform with some of the best local, national and international recording artists. The siblings have performed with and been mentored by industry giants including Kamasi Washington, Terrace Martin, Kenny Garrett, Dontae Winslow, Carl Grubbs, Gary Thomas, Gary Bartz, José James, Melissa Walker, Christian McBride and many more.



## **Caroline Davis**

Alive with nurturing visions of simple sonic offerings to morph our present situation, Caroline Davis' main reason for playing music is to connect with others, beckoning new vistas among curious listeners. Her musical journey began in Singapore, until her family moved to the United States, Atlanta, Georgia, around age 6, where she encountered R&B and gospel music rife with horns that called her to choose the saxophone 6 years later. Today, Caroline's music covers a wide range of styles, owed to this shifting environment. As a leader, she has released seven albums: *Live Work & Play* (2012), *Doors: Chicago Storylines* (2015), *Heart Tonic* (2018), *Alula* (2019), *Anthems* (2019), *Portals: Mourning* (2021), and *Alula: Captivity* (2023). Her active projects include jazz-leaning *Portals*, experimental R&B outfit *My Tree*, and protest band *Alula*. She has won Downbeat Critics Poll Rising Star Alto-Saxophonist (2018) and has been included in numerous Reader and Critics Polls. Her work has garnered much praise from NPR, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Wire, DownBeat, and many international publications.



## **Sarah Hanahan**

Sarah Hanahan is an up-and-coming jazz saxophonist in New York City. Sarah is a graduate of the Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz at the Hartt School of Music where she received her Bachelor's degree in 2019, as well as The Juilliard School where she received her Masters degree in 2022. Recently, Sarah has worked with many renowned musicians including Jeff "Tain" Watts, Nat Reeves, Peter Martin, Emmet Cohen, Steve Davis, Billy Hart, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Marc Cary and many others. Sarah tours both nationwide and internationally with her own band, as well as with artists such as Joe Farnsworth, Peter Martin, and the Grammy award-winning Mingus Big Band. Sarah was recently featured in the first-ever class of NPR Jazz Night in America's Youngbloods. The series features "five up-and-coming jazz geniuses who are revolutionizing their genre" - all of whom are under the age of 30. She is a generational talent on the rise. Her debut album, *Among Giants*, featuring Marc Cary, Nat Reeves, and Jeff "Tain" Watts is out now on all platforms!



## **Terri Lyne Carrington ART OF LIVING**

GRAMMY Award-winning drummer, producer, educator, activist, NEA Jazz Master, and 2019 Doris Duke Award recipient, Terri Lyne Carrington has recorded and toured with Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Stan Getz, Dianne Reeves, David Sanborn, John Scofield, Diana Krall, Yellowjackets, Cassandra Wilson, and countless other jazz luminaries. Carrington made history as the first woman to win a Grammy Award in the Best Jazz Instrumental Album category for *Money Jungle: Provocative in Blue*, a reimagining of the Duke Ellington classic. Her collaborations with Esperanza Spalding and Geri Allen, as well as her female-driven Mosaic Project recordings, have received critical acclaim. She is Zildjian Chair in Performance at Berklee College of Music and received an honorary doctorate from the college in 2003 as well as a bachelor's degree in 1983. She also serves as artistic director for the Berklee Beantown Jazz Festival and Berklee's Summer Sessions: Women's Performance Program, and is co-artistic director of the Carr Center in Detroit, Michigan.



## Daniel Villarreal

Villarreal is known for his talents as a malleable and reliable drummer, with a deep pocket in many styles and sounds. His deepest roots in drumming are from the progressive punk and hardcore scenes of Central America, where his bands NOHAYDIA and 2 Huevos 1 Camino were active in the late 90s. Those formative experiences are the foundation of his career in music. After his teen years thrashing on the punk scene, Villarreal started a life-changing tutelage with Freddy Sobers, the drummer of El General and Nando Boom (both known for pioneering reggaeton music in Panamá). Villarreal migrated to the US in the early 2000s. His first decade was spent living on a farm near Woodstock, Illinois, where he was a social worker, connecting migrant laborers with community health clinics. He also spent that time raising his two daughters, Estelle and Fania. But all his spare time went to nurturing his passion for drums. As he found more collaborators, played more gigs and became more embedded in the music community, in the early 2010s he moved down the highway into the City of Chicago, determined to grind it out as a full-time musician.



## Makaya McCraven

Makaya McCraven is a prolific drummer, composer and producer. His newest album, *In These Times*, is the triumphant finale of a project 7+ years in the making. Profiled in *Vice*, *Rolling Stone*, *the Guardian*, and *NPR*, among other publications, he and the music he makes today are at the very vanguard of that phenomenon. The artist, who has been aptly called a “cultural synthesizer”, has a unique gift for collapsing space, destroying borders and blending past, present, and future into poly-textural arrangements of post-genre, jazz-rooted 21st century folk music. According to the *New York Times*, “McCraven has quietly become one of the best arguments for jazz’s vitality”. The artist explained to *NPR* in 2019, “I don’t think what I’m doing is necessarily that far off of the legacy of jazz that I grew up in ... I think one of the things that gives it strength is that people want to argue over it. That’s a good sign. That means there’s life here.”

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

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### **Joaquin Pozo**

Originally from Havana, percussionist Joaquin Pozo is celebrated as “El Pulpo” (The Octopus) for his dazzling two-handed conga technique, which rivals the skill of four drummers. With over three decades of experience and boundless versatility, Pozo delivers performances that pulsate with energy and passion. As the visionary behind Havana’s Jazz Millenium, renowned for its infectious blend of rumba and jazz, Pozo has graced stages across four continents. In recent years, he has become a beloved fixture in Harlem’s vibrant musical landscape. A true pioneer in Latin music, Pozo leads a dynamic five-piece ensemble, guiding audiences on exhilarating journeys through Afro-Cuban rhythms that leave crowds spellbound.



### **Amir ElSaffar and Lorenzo Bianchi-Hoesch: Inner Spaces**

Trumpeter, santur player, vocalist, and composer Amir ElSaffar joins electronics performer and composer Lorenzo Bianchi-Hoesch in a collaborative project exploring electro-acoustic spaces, maqam, microtonal harmonies, and improvised and composed structures in a modular musical composition that accommodates a variety of musical styles across genres. Together, they create an immersive sound that transcends notions of form, musical language, electronic, and acoustic categories in music. They work within a modular framework combining pre-determined structural elements with freely improvisation. Their work explores electro-acoustic spaces in a microtonal environment that embraces the sonic spectra of multiple musical languages.

Bianchi-Hoesch and ElSaffar create a transcultural sound combining jazz, contemporary classical music, maqam, and other musical languages, inclusive of all the richness, complexity, and idiomatic expression, without compromising or oversimplifying in order to be compatible with others. They are in search of boundary-less spaces in music.





### **Allysha Joy**

Well versed in poetry and performance, Allysha Joy's potent lyricism, unique musicianship and incredible vocals have garnered legions of attentive fans the world over. Seamlessly forging her own sound as singer, songwriter, keys player and selector, Joy is well known as 30/70's lead vocalist and with a heavy line-up of collaborations over the years, she has marked her place across continents, expansive projects and genres. Her 2018 debut album 'Acadie : Raw' on Gondwana Records won 'Best Soul Album' at the Music Victoria Awards, was nominated for 'Best Jazz Album' at the Worldwide Awards, and featured in many end-of-year lists, including Bandcamp's Top Soul Albums.

Allysha's lyrics weave together a heartfelt mix of love, power, wonder, anger, faith and hope for change. An artist that presents a palette of intricate grace and optimism, whilst unafraid of adding uncomfortable truths. An incredibly powerful live performer; Allysha's husky vocals sonically sync with her formidable Fender Rhodes playing, whilst her influences are a solid base of jazz, hip hop and R&B; all glazed with the unique special sauce the Melbourne / Narrm soul scene has become known globally.



### **Reggie Workman**

Reggie Workman, a native of Philadelphia, is a multi-faceted bassist, bandleader, composer, community organizer, educator, and producer. He is recognized as one of the most original and technically gifted bassists in jazz and American contemporary music. His playing style spans between Post-Bop to futuristic concepts. Workman has invented and "sculpted" his own "sound-specific-scape" and is currently writing music for small groups, strings, and orchestra. Reggie tours develop new music/art curricula and workshops and present varied configurations of the "Reggie Workman Sound." Workman is a faculty member and professor at The New School's COPA. Workman has recorded and performed with the giants of jazz, including John Coltrane, Art Blakey, Eric Dolphy, Max Roach, Gigi Gryce, Mal Waldron, Roy Haynes, Wayne Shorter, Freddie Hubbard, Jason Moran. Workman co-founded the historic Collective Black Artists and was Musical Director of the New Muse Community Museum (Brooklyn, NY) and is a NEA Jazz Master Fellow recipient.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

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### Lakecia Benjamin

Lakecia Benjamin is a 3x GRAMMY nominated New York-based saxophonist, arranger, composer, and educator. Her music offers a unique meld of R&B, several strains of jazz, and funk. Her warm, resonant tone — that has been compared to Johnny Hodges — lends itself to any form of music she chooses to play. In addition to honing her chops early with Clark Terry and later Terri Lyne Carrington, she is also a noted accompanist for Gregory Porter and Theo Crocker. *Retox*, her 2012 leader debut, offered a beat-conscious set of soul and funk covers and originals produced by Ben Kane. Benjamin played on “Right on Brotha,” the closing track from Robert Glasper’s *Everything’s Beautiful in 2018*, a collection of reimagined Miles Davis tracks. Her sophomore album, *Rise Up on Ropeadope*, contained a Prince-inspired series of original jazz-funk jams. In 2020, she released *Pursuance: The Coltranes*. The widely acclaimed set contained six tunes each by Alice and John Coltrane, with Benjamin leading a large cast that included former Coltrane sideman Reggie Workman. In 2023 she returned with the star-studded *Phoenix*. Produced by Carrington, it wed jazz, funky soul, R&B, and hip-hop with an all-star cast. The album brought upon three GRAMMY nominations and universal praise.



### The Jungle

The Jungle Worldwide presents a global fusion of sonic experiences curated by multidisciplinary artist Kwesi Abbensetts, Reiki Master Daoud Abeid, and culinary artist Anya Peters, alongside a collective of amazing musicians and DJs. This experimental community blends DJ mixes and live performances into a liberating experience.

At The Jungle, liberation reigns supreme. Diverse rhythms from the African Diaspora—Latin, Jazz, Hip Hop, Afrobeats, Brazilian, Caribbean, House, Soul—permeate the airwaves. Skilled drummers, saxophonists, flutists improvise and jam along live leaving all feeling free by the end of the night. The Jungle hosts intimate live performances, showcasing emerging musicians and artists. This unique platform holds space for their artistry to be appreciated in an up-close and personal setting. From seasoned performers to burgeoning creatives, The Jungle fosters an environment where diverse talents merge and original music is celebrated.

# BRIC JAZZFEST 10

## Next Jazz Legacy

Why Intergenerational Collaboration and Radical Inclusion  
are Essential Anchors for a Vibrant and Enduring Jazz Future  
Fri, Oct. 18 | 6:30PM @ BRIC JazzFest



Join us for a panel ft. BRIC JazzFest performers  
**Makaya McCraven, Milena Casado, and  
Terri Lyne Carrington.** Moderated by **Marcus J. Moore.**

Get tickets: [BRICartsmedia.org/JazzFest](https://BRICartsmedia.org/JazzFest)



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Mellen  
Foundation

# THURSDAY OCTOBER 17, 2024

## TIMES

## GALLERY

## BALLROOM

7:00	<b>DOORS 7:00PM</b>	
7:15		
7:30	<b>MALI OBOMSAWIN 7:15PM – 8:15PM</b>	<b>KASSA OVERALL 7:30PM – 8:30PM</b>
7:45		
8:00		
8:15		
8:30		
8:45		
9:00	<b>MILENA CASADO 8:45PM – 9:45PM</b>	<b>BRANDEE YOUNGER 9:00PM – 10:00PM</b>
9:15		
9:30		
9:45		
10:00		
10:15		
10:30	<b>JOSH JOHNSON 10:15PM – 11:15PM</b>	<b>GARY BARTZ 10:30PM – 11:45PM</b>
10:45		
11:00		
11:15		
11:30		
11:45		



# FRIDAY OCTOBER 18, 2024

## TIMES

## GALLERY

## BALLROOM

6:00		
6:15	<b>DOORS 6:00PM</b>	
6:30		
6:45	<b>JAZZ PANEL</b>	
7:00	<b>6:30PM – 7:00PM</b>	
7:15		
7:30	<b>EBBAN DORSEY</b>	
7:45	<b>7:15PM –</b>	<b>CAROLINE DAVIS</b>
8:00	<b>8:15PM</b>	<b>7:30PM –</b>
8:15		<b>8:30PM</b>
8:30		
8:45		
9:00	<b>SARAH HANAHAN</b>	
9:15	<b>8:45PM –</b>	<b>TERRI LYNE CARRINGTON</b>
9:30	<b>9:45PM</b>	<b>9:00M –</b>
9:45		<b>10:00PM</b>
10:00		
10:15		
10:30	<b>DANIEL VILLARREAL</b>	
10:45	<b>10:15PM –</b>	<b>MAKAYA MCCRAVEN</b>
11:00	<b>11:15PM</b>	<b>10:30PM –</b>
11:15		<b>11:45PM</b>
11:30		
11:45		

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 19, 2024**

<b>TIMES</b>	<b>GALLERY</b>	<b>BALLROOM</b>	
6:00			
6:15	<b>DOORS 6:00PM</b>		
6:30			
6:45			
7:00			
7:15			
7:30		<b>AMIR / LORENZO</b>	
7:45	<b>JOAQUIN POZO 7:30PM – 8:30PM</b>	<b>7:15PM – 8:15PM</b>	
8:00			
8:15			
8:30			
8:45			
9:00			
9:15		<b>ALLYSHA JOY 9:00PM – 10:00PM</b>	
9:30	<b>REGGIE WORKMAN 9:30PM – 10:30PM</b>		
9:45			
10:00			
10:15			
10:30			
10:45		<b>LAKECIA BENJAMIN 10:30PM – 11:45PM</b>	
11:00			
11:15			
11:30	<b>THE JUNGLE 11:15PM – 1:00AM</b>		
11:45			
12:00			
12:15			
12:30			
12:45			
1:00			

# BRIC JAZZFEST

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