

27th annual Jazz Goes to Town festival takes place in Hradec Králové in mid-October

The international music festival **Jazz Goes to Town** is back in Hradec Králové this summer. This year's festival will culminate in a grand Saturday concert in the hall of Hradec Králové Philharmonic Orchestra. Soloists **Sofia Jernberg**, **Frank Gratkowski** and **Susana Santos Silva** along with the FHK Orchestra will perform four compositions by **Heiner Goebbels** as well as new work by **Michal Nejtěk** and **Peter Graham**, created exclusively for the festival. Tickets are on sale at [GoOut.net](https://www.goout.net).



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Three world-class improvisers, a grand orchestra, two exclusive premieres, and one of the leading composers of European contemporary music.

This year's festival headliner is a grand concert that exemplifies a current trend in jazz – the combining of classical compositions with wild improvisation. The concert will feature soloists **Sofia Jernberg**, **Frank Gratkowski**, and **Susana Santos Silva**, alongside **Hradec Králové Philharmonic Orchestra**, which will perform under conductor **Mark Ivanović**.

Swedish experimental singer, improviser, and composer **Sofia Jernberg** is known for her ability to push the limits of human voice in a completely unique way. Saxophonist and clarinet genius **Frank Gratkowski** has a similar reputation, with his extraordinary skills spanning styles from experimental music to jazz and rock. The third vocalist, **Susana Santos Silva**, is an original musician with a unique voice, and a star of contemporary European jazz and improvisation.

The orchestra concert will notably feature two exclusive pieces that will premiere at the festival. Their composers **Peter Graham** and **Michal Nejtěk** are both highly respected Czech artists. Their work is routinely performed in the Czech Republic and abroad by renowned musicians, and they both have a remarkable scope of music extending beyond contemporary classical music.

Additionally, the orchestra and soloists will perform four pieces by **Heiner Goebbels** who is considered one of today's most important authors of contemporary music and musical theatre. His band and orchestra compositions as well as his musicals and dramatized concerts are being performed around the world.

Czech premiere of Abacaxi and Oli Steidle and the Killing Popes

German-British band **Oli Steidle and the Killing Popes's** performance at the last Jazz Goes to Town was unfortunately cancelled due to the pandemic – but this makes their appearance at the **Bio Central** venue this year even more exciting. Their frontman **Oli Steidle** won the New German Jazz Prize in 2008 and 2010 and is famous for his collaborations with Der Rote Bereich, Peter Brötzman, and Philm. As well as being respected internationally, he is one of the leaders of the ever-evolving young Berlin avantgarde. The concert will be complete with a performance by **Abacaxi** – a new band by French guitarist Julien Desprez, a leading musician of Europe's experimental jazz and improvisation music scene.

Punk and rock energy by Pimpono Ensemble and young authors' music

For the second evening at **Bio Central**, the festival will host Copenhagen-based **Pimpono Ensemble**, a group of Polish, Norwegian, and Danish musicians, who will introduce their new album **Survival Kit**. The band combines punk and rock energy with the sounds of a jazz orchestra. After their concert, the festival's original project **Shape of Jazz to Come** will present its second year of hosting talented young musicians. These will subsequently become residents of **Jazz Goes to Town** for the duration of the week and will perform their own pieces at the Friday concert.

American bassist George Cremaschi and Grammy-nominated Hammond organ player Brian Charette at Beseda Studio.

Prague Improvisation Orchestra, led by American bassist **George Cremaschi** and by **Petr Vrba**, a renowned Czech musical improviser, will perform at Beseda Studio of the Klicpera Theatre. The orchestra has prepared a special performance of the repertoire of visionary **Charles Mingus** for the festival. They will be accompanied by trumpeter and multi-genre musician **Axel Dörner**, one of the most sought-after improvisors in Europe. Additionally, the evening will feature the internationally famous Hammond organ player **Brian Charette**. During his career, he has recorded several successful albums with Steeple Chase record company, worked for The Tonight Show Band, and played with Laco Déczi for over twenty years. At Beseda Studio, he will perform an energetic explosion of music alongside the phenomenal drummer **Dano Šoltis** and saxophonist **Ondřej Štveráček**. The trio will cover styles from blues and funk to fusion and modern jazz.

An intimate concert at the church, a musical show at the square and at Cejpův palác atrium

Visitors to the festival can also look forward to several unique experiences outside traditional concert halls. First, the opening concert by bands **PAN** and **Tryptych** will take place at the atrium of Cejpův palác, an abandoned building at the centre of Hradec Králové closed to the public. Then, the sharp Czech-Slovak band **Heart of Dixie** will perform at the central town **square 28. října**. A final specialty of this year's festival is a small concert at the **Chaplain Ambrož Chapel**

(Sbor kněze Ambrože). **Martin Küchen** and one of the Philharmonic concert soloists **Susana Santos Silva** have prepared an extraordinary improvisation act.

CONTACT FOR PRESS:

Karolína Pláničková

karolina.planickova@jgtt.cz

+420 723 518 595

Daniel Brátka

daniel.bratka@jgtt.cz

+420 608 360 409

Photos available for download here: <https://bit.ly/JGTT2021-PRESS>

FESTIVAL TICKETS

Tickets, ranging from **100 to 400 CZK**, are available at www.goout.cz and at [GoOut ticket locations](#) (Prague, Brno, Ostrava, Pilsen). Ticket prices in the presale are lower than at the door. Ticket presale ends one hour before the start of each concert. The festival also includes an outdoor concert and an afterparty with free entrance to both.

Concessions for students and pensioners are available. There are two types of festival passes – **whole festival pass (1300 CZK, concessions 1000 CZK)** or **Friday and Saturday pass (650 CZK, concessions 500 CZK)**. Tickets do not include George Cremaschi's workshop. If you have a festival pass, you will be seated in the II. price category seating during the final symphony concert at the Philharmonic Orchestra Hall of Hradec Králové. If you wish to reserve a seat of your choice, please contact daniel.bratka@jgtt.cz, +420 608 360 409.

See the complete programme and more information on our website www.jgtt.cz.

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Festival locations

Filharmonie Hradec Králové, Bio Central, Klicperovo divadlo, Sbor kněze Ambrože, NĀPLAVKA café & music bar, Artičok, Punctum