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International music festival Jazz Goes to Town happening is happening already for the 23rd time

It will be already the 23rd edition of the international festival Jazz Goes to Town and during the 5 days of lasting altogether sixteen music events will happen at ten various venues on both sides of the river Labe. The shows will take place not only in the theatres and concert halls, but also in different industrial or sacral spaces in the city center. Additionally, apart from the thirteen concerts of the main program, there will also be musical projects created and shown by students of the national conservatories in bars, cafés and clubs. Last but not least, same like last year, a music workshop will be offered to the visitors.

The Jazz Goes to Town festival is the only jazz festival in the Czech Republic which has kept its standard form, however grew into a five days long event with a very broad artistic outline.

Dramaturgy of the 23rd edition

The most awaited concerts of this year are the ones played by artists who will be performing in the Czech Republic for the very first time and it will be exclusively for the audience of the festival. This feature shapes the festival and makes it so special, rare and recognized.

As the main artistic director Zdeněk Závodný said: "One of the most attractive shows of this festival is the moroccan vocalist **OUM**, who is now a star of the north-African music scene. Her songs sounds like a original combination of elements from afrobeat, soul, jazz, gospel, sufian music and an influence of barbarian desert music. With this concert we want to symbolically point out that the origins of jazz are rooted in Africa." added Závodný.

Among other specialties, which can be seen only in Hradec Králové, there will be Swedish septet **Angles 7**, gathering the most creative musicians from Sweden playing music ranging from jazz, experimental, rock to classical. The visitors can look forward also to Norwegian-Czech quintet **Bansal Band** led by Indian virtuoso violinist Harpreet Bansal, with their music considered fusion of traditional Indian tunes and modern jazz and Hungarian quartet **Knutdut Men** directed by the saxophonist **Béla Ágoston**, whose music oscillates between European jazz, post bebop, African music and free jazz. Last but not least, there will also be a solo concert of the Sardinian guitarist **Paolo Angeli**, who will play on his hand made eighteen strings guitar – the audience will have a chance to listen to those incredible and phenomenal sounds in Town music hall.

Additionally, the festival offers few international projects with the local musicians participating, including one of the best Czech jazz quartets **Ondřej Štveráček Quartet**. They play with **Gene Jackson** – drum legend from America, who could also be heard in trio and quartet with Herbie Hancock and has cooperated also with other legends of the world jazz scene like Wayne Shorter, Dave Holland, Joe Lovano, Elvis Costello or Kenny Davis. Yet another project based on the collaboration of Czech and foreign artists is called **Invisible**



World created by the bass player **Tomáš Liška** and his fellow musicians from Serbia and Turkey or a Czech and Austrian trio **Poisonous Frequencies**. The international part of the program will also consist of performances given by Hungarian trio **Thisnis** with the saxophonist Miro Tóth and intercultural quartet **Kuhn Fu**, composed of musicians coming from Germany, Israel, Serbia and Turkey. Czech Republic will be represented by already very popular and recognized jazz quartet **Limbo**, solo concert called Horizont sedmého by saxophonist and composer from Brno **Pavel Zlámal**, who will perform exclusively for the festival, and solo project Drum Song of a recognized Slovakian drummer **Dano Šoltis**, who will lead the drum workshop. These workshops have been an innovation of the previous year but it can be expected that in future more educational activities will appear.

Traditionally, the visitors can await the events happening also in the clubs, cafes and bars in the town; these will be: **Portraits in Jazz**, **Molotov Moloch Quartet** and **CantinaBand**, who will be part of the additional program which serves as a platform for the young artists like students of the local music conservatories to present their compositions or projects.

Festival venues

Accordingly to its name, the festival uses a wide spectrum of venues on both sides of the river Labe. Therefore the concerts will take place not only in the theater and concert halls like Studio Beseda, Studio Divadlo Drak, Bio Central and Town music hall, but also in the industrial or sacral spaces of the city center. Exactly like last year the guests can visit the Novák's garages or for the first time enter to the Evangelical church (Nezvalova street). The additional concerts can be enjoyed at the chill out atmosphere of Restaurant Černý kůň, Hostince U Kohouta or Café & music bar Náplavka. The drum workshop will be hosted by Divadlo Jesličky Josefa Tejka (at Slezské Předměstí) in cooperation with ZUŠ Střezina.

A new thing this year belongs to so called site-specific programs and this one was prepared by Eliška Perglerová anad Iveta Čermáková in the form of One Hour Gallery, which on Saturday 14th October will provide to the viewers an unusual perspective of the riverbank next to Novák's garages.

Tickets and presale

The tickets for each festival evening are available via Ticketstream network in more than 500 stores all over Czech Republic, both in the classic paper version or electronic (E-Ticket, M-ticket, SMS ticket & TicketCard), which can be purchased in the most comfortable way – online.

The range of prices is very fair – it is enough to buy a ticket for a symbolical one hundred Czech crowns to see one of the main productions of the festival, whereas the entry for the whole festival evening in presale costs 390 Czech crowns (Friday) and 290 (Saturday). The presale enables students, seniors and the holders of the Physical Disability / Guide card to get a good discount. In order to save, one can buy a festival permanent card – this is a very favorable option for the biggest jazz fans, thanks to they can go for the two closing evenings of the festival for just 800 Czech crowns or spend only 500 Czech crowns

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for the entire Saturday filled up with concerts. If there are still free places left, it will be possible to buy a single ticket for the concert one hour before its start.

Partners of the 23rd edition Jazz Goes to Town

General partner

The city of Hradec Králové, Calendarium Regina

Main partner

Ministerstvo kultury ČR, Státní fond kultury ČR, Královéhradecký kraj, Aupark, Fomei, a.s.

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Festival venues

Bio Central, Klicperovo divadlo, Divadlo Drak, Městská hudební síň, Farní sbor Českobratrské církve evangelické, Restaurant Černý kůň, Hostinec U Kohouta, Náplavka café & music bar, ZUŠ Střezina

Complete program for all festival days and stages, as well as other practical information can be found at <u>www.jgtt.cz</u>

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