

Press Release

28 January 2009

Jazz Elite Launches the Oxford Jazz Festival

The Oxford Jazz Festival was launched with a 'pre-event' before a packed house at the North Wall Arts Centre on 23 January 2009. The Jazz Elite Series – three once-monthly performances in the lead-up to the Oxford Jazz Festival – began with Mark Bassey, one of Britain's finest trombonists, supported by local trio 3bpm.

Bassey's performance was an opportunity to announce that tickets for the Oxford Jazz Festival, which will take place over Easter (9-12 April), and annually thereafter, have officially gone on sale and are available from OxfordJazzFestival.com or from Tickets Oxford.

Lineup

New performances have recently been added to the already stellar list of musicians. Jazz/classical fusion group Eclectica! will be performing at St. Michael at the North Gate, Oxford's oldest building, and renowned saxophonist Gilad Atzmon will be giving a free performance with Sarah Gillespie at the Corner Club. One of the organizers, Alissa Robinson, said, "the caliber of performers at the Oxford Jazz Festival are world class, and we feel the Festival will be a fantastic reason to come to Oxford over the long weekend, rather than holidaying abroad."

The Festival brings to a close a cultural fortnight, including the Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival and OxFringe, and will put Oxford firmly on the map as the destination of choice for the UK in April, giving a much needed boost to tourism.

For full details on the line-up, venues and to book tickets, please visit: www.oxfordjazzfestival.com

Ends # # #

Further information: max@oxfordjazzfestival.com

Attachments: Mark Bassey with 3bpm (© Barker Evans)