

# DOWNBEAT 2018 INTERNATIONAL JAZZ VENUE GUIDE



## 209 GREAT CLUBS STRONG!

Our annual Jazz Venue Guide is your passport to excellent music rooms around the globe. On the following pages, the listings are divided by geographic region, and a venue's name in boldface capital letters indicates there is an advertisement for that establishment within this guide. Interspersed among the listings are features on four venues: Jazz Standard in New York City (page 54), Wally's Cafe in Boston (page 59), the Jazz Showcase in Chicago (page 62) and Dièse Onze in Montreal (Page 70). On page 68, we present an article on the bustling jazz scene in Vienna, Austria, which is home to numerous jazz clubs.



Maria Schneider directs her namesake orchestra at Jazz Standard in New York.

© JACK VARTOOGIAN/FRONTROWPHOTOS

# Fans Flock to NYC's Jazz Standard

**THE MARIA SCHNEIDER ORCHESTRA** played its first shows at New York's Jazz Standard Jan. 19–23, 2000. The shows were a critical and commercial success. That they yielded *Days Of Wine And Roses*, the orchestra's first live recording, made them historic.

So when Schneider opened her show at the club this past Thanksgiving Eve with "Days Of Wine And Roses," there was more than the usual holiday cheer flowing among the crowd packed into the multi-tiered basement space.

"I love the proximity of the audience to the band," she said before the first set. "Everybody is happy to be here. And that makes the band play great."

Great playing has never been in short supply at the club, though management has over the years made changes in the extra-musical realm. For starters, the definite article was excised from the club's name: It is now Jazz Standard, sans "the"—a change made after a 2001 renovation and reopening in March 2002.

With the shorter name came a simplification in the gastronomic strategy: In the post-9/11 world, frills were out—and in response, the kitchen ditched mainstays like roast pheasant with julienned rose-petal sauce for barbeque.

But the programming philosophy hasn't changed. "For the identity of the club, it's important that the programming is consistent," said Seth Abramson, the longtime artistic director. "Whether it's Latin jazz or straight-ahead to more modern, to sometimes pushing the envelope a little bit on more adventurous stuff that's right for the space—within that, it's

important to be very authentic."

In the early years of the club, which opened at its 27th Street location in 1997, titans of straight-ahead piano like Cedar Walton and Tommy Flanagan held forth. In a rare club date, pianist André Previn appeared with bassist David Finck in a performance recorded and released by Deutsche Grammophon in 2001.

At the same time, a generation of future keyboard stars enjoyed early major-club exposure, among them Jason Moran, Robert Glasper and Bill Charlap.

In time, cultural horizons broadened. "One of the things that's changed is that some of the most exciting things have come from the Latin jazz side," Abramson said, citing the work of Miguel Zenón, Yosvany Terry and Dafnis Prieto.

On the more adventurous side, a high point occurred on April 28, 2008, when trumpeter Ambrose Akinmusire, then an up-and-comer, first mesmerized the audience with a quartet that included saxophonist Mark Turner, pianist Aaron Parks, bassist Ben Street and drummer Eric Harland.

"He had this aura," Abramson said. "I saw it right away—that intangible thing."

The club has become one of the most reliable destinations for large ensembles, including Schneider's, Ryan Truesdell's Gil Evans Project and the Mingus Big Band, which has held down Monday nights since October 2008.

The band held a landmark concert on New Year's Eve 2009, when it celebrated the 50th anniversary of the classic albums *Mingus Dynasty*, *Mingus Ah Um* and *Blues & Roots* with alum-

ni Randy Brecker, Jeff "Tain" Watts and, at the podium, Gunther Schuller. WBGO broadcast the event live on NPR's *Toast of the Nation*.

"I said, 'If this comes out OK, we should think about bringing it out as a recording,'" Abramson recalled. Despite challenges—not least maintaining momentum—he and Sue Mingus, the co-producers, persevered. Two years later, *Mingus Big Band Live At Jazz Standard* won the Grammy for Best Large Jazz Ensemble album—the first for the group.

When it comes to meeting the demands of the market, the club has often been ahead of the programming curve. It was, for example, among the first clubs to abandon the custom of strictly booking six-night engagements.

"It was a natural evolution and a necessity for making things work," Abramson said.

The club's programming continues to evolve. Last summer, it launched a Sunday brunch for emerging artists. "It went well," Abramson said, though the brunch lost a bit of steam in the fall when it switched to Saturdays to make way for a pre-existing program for school children, Jazz for Kids. But, he added, he thinks the Saturday brunch can build a loyal audience.

Meanwhile, the club is still taking risks. In March, Jazzmeia Horn, who hasn't played as a leader at the club, will appear for three nights—a recognition of the buzz surrounding the singer. Such decisions have often worked to the advantage of the jazz public—and the club.

"In all likelihood," Abramson said, "this will be our best year to date for the bottom line."

—Phillip Lutz



# EAST

## CONNECTICUT

### Firehouse 12

45 Crown St.  
New Haven, CT  
(203) 785-0468

[firehouse12.com](http://firehouse12.com)

Located in the historic Ninth Square District, Firehouse 12 boasts a recording studio/75-seat auditorium dedicated to disseminating improvised music. Regional talent and national acts like Tim Berne's Snakeoil, Nels Cline and Yosvany Terry grace the stage during Firehouse 12's jazz shows.

### The Side Door Jazz Club

85 Lyme St.  
Old Lyme, CT  
(860) 434-2600

[thesidedoorjazz.com](http://thesidedoorjazz.com)

The Side Door is more than just a clever name. This club is tucked into the historic Old Lyme Inn, which was given a new lease on life with a full renovation a few years ago. The club opened in 2013 with the goal of bringing world class musicians to Connecticut. Warren Wolf, Dayna Stephens, Russell Malone and Johnny O'Neal are only a handful of the acts that have recently played the intimate venue.

## MARYLAND

### An Die Musik Live!

409 N. Charles St.  
Baltimore, MD  
(410) 385-2638

[andiemusiklive.com](http://andiemusiklive.com)

This venue embraces much more than jazz, bringing classical and world music shows to a historic townhouse in the city. The lineup juxtaposes the biggest names in jazz, like McCoy Tyner, Regina Carter and Bill Frisell with less well-known artists. Peabody students also get a chance to apply their studies during jam sessions.

### Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club

7719 Wisconsin Ave.  
Bethesda, MD  
(240) 330-4500

[bethesdabluesjazz.com](http://bethesdabluesjazz.com)

Before transforming into one of the best venues in Bethesda, the Blues & Jazz Super Club started life as a late-'30s movie palace. The historic Bethesda Theatre is now a glitzy supper club with a seating capacity of 500, with promoters booking a range of musicians nearly every night of the week.

### Caton Castle Lounge & Package Goods

20 South Caton Ave.  
Baltimore, MD  
(410) 566-7086

[catoncastle.com](http://catoncastle.com)

Caton Castle has an informal atmosphere; listeners looking for local jazz and blues acts can feel free to dress casually and immerse themselves in the music. Local musicians stack the calendar, but bigger-name jazz acts occasionally stop by.



The Jazz Gallery in New York

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Chianti Tuscan Restaurant & Jazz Lounge

285 Cabot St.  
Beverly, MA  
(978) 921-2233

[chiantibeverly.com](http://chiantibeverly.com)

Chianti is a jazz spot with an overriding mission. The venue is dedicated to supporting area jazz, an issue championed by the famous jazz advocate Sandy Berman, who died of cancer in 1991. Six nights a week, listeners can catch jazz shows by regional and national artists.

### Lilypad

1353 Cambridge St.  
Cambridge, MA  
(617) 955-7729

[lilypadinman.com](http://lilypadinman.com)

For more than a decade, the Lilypad has been the place to hear a little bit of everything—music, comedy and even spoken-word performances. Jazz acts that recently performed at the venue, which is located in the heart of Inman Square, include the Joe Hunt Group and the Tim Miller Quartet.

### Regattabar

1 Bennett St.  
Cambridge, MA  
(617) 661-5000

[regattabarjazz.com](http://regattabarjazz.com)

On the third floor of the Charles Hotel, this 220-seat listening room welcomes a range of famous and lesser-known acts. The owners have been bringing quality jazz to the area since 1985.

### Scullers Jazz Club

400 Soldiers Field Rd.  
Boston, MA  
(866) 777-8932

[scullersjazz.com](http://scullersjazz.com)

Scullers Jazz Club has a long history as a Boston jazz spot. Now located in a DoubleTree hotel the club presents marquee acts on the weekends and local talent on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Upcoming shows include Bria Skonberg (Jan. 20), Monty Alexander (Jan. 26) and Bill Charlap (Jan. 27).

### Wally's Café Jazz Club

427 Massachusetts Ave.  
Boston, MA  
(617) 424-1408

[wallyscafe.com](http://wallyscafe.com)

Family run since the late 1940s, this jazz club is focused on jam sessions. Each night, an open mic begins the evening, giving way to a genre-specific concert. Dubbed "the musicians' training ground," the owners truly aim to prepare the next generation of musicians for the spotlight.

## NEW JERSEY

### Robin's Nest Rhythm & Blues

3103 Tremley Point Rd.  
Linden, NJ  
(908) 275-3043

[robinsnestrhythmandblues.com](http://robinsnestrhythmandblues.com)

Going for "great Mississippi feel in the heart of New Jersey," this venue strives to create an immersive juke joint experience. Sunday is reserved for a jazz open mic jam session, and there are themed open mic sessions throughout the week.

### Shanghai Jazz

24 Main St.  
Madison, NJ  
(973) 822-2899

[shanghaijazz.com](http://shanghaijazz.com)

Shanghai Jazz brings an assortment of music to the 1930s Shanghai themed restaurant six nights each week. The goal is to make customers feel like they're in the "Paris of the Orient" while listening to musicians like Claudio Roditi, Jan Findlay and Don Braden.

### Trumpets Jazz Club

6 Depot Square  
Montclair, NJ  
(973) 744-2600

[trumpetsjazz.com](http://trumpetsjazz.com)

Jazz is the name of the game five nights



(le) Poisson Rouge in New York



Bethesda Blues &amp; Jazz Supper Club in Bethesda, Maryland

each week at Trumpets, and it's been that way for more than three decades. Blues and classical music are also presented, but Trumpets is certainly geared toward the jazz lover. Houston Person, John Stowell and Don Braden are among the jazz-leaning acts booked at the club.

## NEW YORK

### 55 Bar

55 Christopher St.  
New York, NY  
(212) 929-9883

[55bar.com](http://55bar.com)

Bookers promote a healthy mix of jazz, blues and funk at this Greenwich Village basement spot. A tasty cocktail is appropriate for a venue that touts itself as "a Prohibition-Era dive bar." Legendary guitarist Mike Stern will play there on Dec. 31.

### Birdland

315 W. 44th St.  
New York, NY  
(212) 581-3080

[birdlandjazz.com](http://birdlandjazz.com)

Birdland has now risen from the ashes twice, and it's still flying high. The top acts in jazz continue to be booked on a nightly basis, just as they were seven decades ago when Birdland sat a block west from the jazz mecca of 52nd Street. John Pizzarelli will have a residency from Jan. 16–20, followed by Vincent Herring's residency on Jan. 23–27. Bands that frequent the venue include Arturo O'Farrill's Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra and the Birdland Big Band.

### Blue Note

131 W. Third St.  
New York, NY  
(212) 475-8592

[bluenote.net](http://bluenote.net)

The Blue Note has spread its brand throughout the world, but the New York location still remains the center of the jazz universe. Everybody who's everybody has been associated with Blue Note, and the history of the venue is intertwined with the history of jazz. These days, listeners can find Chick Corea, Jimmy Heath and his big band, Dee Dee Bridgewater and other luminaries at the club. Upcoming residencies include Keyon Harrold (Jan. 15–18), Ray Angry with Warren Wolf (Jan. 22–24) and José James (Feb. 5–8).

### Club Bonafide

212 East 52nd St.  
New York, NY  
(646) 918-6189

[clubbonafide.com](http://clubbonafide.com)

No longer the center of the jazz world, 52nd Street is still home to venues that offer wide-ranging takes on the evolution of jazz music. Club Bonafide recently presented shows from bands like Snarky Puppy spin-off Ghost-Note and the Harry Smith Quartet.

### Cornelia Street Café

29 Cornelia St.  
New York, NY  
(219) 989-9319

[corneliastreetcafe.com](http://corneliastreetcafe.com)

In business for more than 40 years, this Greenwich Village spot that is "a culinary as well as a cultural landmark," per a mayoral proclamation. Bookers stack the lineup with a variety of musical performances as well as readings and a lecture series. Upcoming shows include Lage Lund (Dec. 29), Tom Rainey (Dec. 30), Paul Shapiro's Ribs & Brisket Revue (Dec. 31) and the Andrea Wolper Quartet (Jan. 3).

### Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola

10 Columbus Circle, 5th Floor  
New York, NY  
(212) 258-9595

[jazz.org/dizzys](http://jazz.org/dizzys)

At Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, the view behind the stage can be breathtaking, but the musicians who perform in front of the floor-to-ceiling window overlooking Columbus Circle are pretty good, too. After nightly performances by renowned musicians like Steve Nelson, Wycliffe Gordon and Dayna Stephens, lesser-known acts take over.

### Fat Cat

75 Christopher St.  
New York, NY  
(212) 675-6056

[fatcatmusic.org](http://fatcatmusic.org)

Early birds need not look into the Fat Cat jam session; four nights a week, the session begins at 12:30 a.m., and it's an hour later on Friday and Saturday. For jazz lovers who need more sleep, Fat Cat bookers present a range of jazz earlier in the evenings throughout the week.

### Iridium

1650 Broadway  
New York, NY  
(212) 582-2121

[theiridium.com](http://theiridium.com)

The Iridium bills itself as bringing jazz, rock and blues to the city, but it's famous in jazz circles for the exceptional live albums recorded at the venue over the years. Current booking includes rock and pop acts. Upcoming shows include Roy Ayers (Dec. 26–27), Macy Gray (Dec. 30–31) and Albert Lee (Jan. 3–4). Once a month, "Mondays at the House" showcases emerging artists.

### The Jazz Gallery

1160 Broadway, 5th floor  
New York, NY  
(646) 494-3625

[jazzgallery.org](http://jazzgallery.org)

With a dedication to commissioning new works from less-established artists, the owners of the Jazz Gallery have created a unique space with a goal of cultivating the next generation of jazz talent. This small jazz space also tries to book the best jazz musicians out there today mixed with more adventurous programming; in November, an evening of Gamelan music shared the calendar with gigs by drummer Johnathan Blake and the big band fueled Jazz Composers Showcase.

### Jazz Standard

116 E. 27th St.  
New York, NY  
(212) 576-2232

[jazzstandard.com](http://jazzstandard.com)

For nearly a decade, the Mingus Big Band has played two sets at the Jazz Standard each Monday night. The Maria Schneider Orchestra has a long history with the venue, which has also presented shows by Donny McCaslin, Bill Frisell, Joe Lovano, Matt Wilson and dozens of other major jazz stars.

### (le) Poisson Rouge

158 Bleecker St.  
New York, NY  
(212) 505-3474

[lpr.com](http://lpr.com)

Le Poisson Rouge rose from the ashes of the noted jazz club The Village Gate, but that doesn't mean bookers rely on a steady diet of jazz acts. The venue highlights a broad range of musicians, with everything



from classical to rock hitting the stage. The venue's jazz shows feature the country's top musicians, such as Wadada Leo Smith and John Hollenbeck.

### **Mezzrow**

163 W. 10th St.  
New York, NY  
(646) 476-4346

[mezzrow.com](http://mezzrow.com)

While clarinetist Milton Mezzrow may have been the inspiration for the club's name, Mezzrow, which is owned by the folks who run Smalls Jazz Club, presents intimate music with a heavy focus on pianists and duos. On Sunday through Thursday, admission into Mezzrow includes a pass for Smalls Jazz Club (good for the same evening). For example, on Sept. 26, fans caught a duo show by Julian Lage and Steve Swallow at Mezzrow, then headed over to Smalls for a set by the Lucas Pino No Net Nonet.

### **Minton's**

206 W. 118th St.  
New York, NY  
(212) 243-2222

[mintonsharlem.com](http://mintonsharlem.com)

In the 1930s Minton's Playhouse became the go-to place to hear adventurous jazz, and the venue soon rightly earned its place in the annals of jazz history. Minton's is the product of that same pioneering spirit, reopening in 2013 to keep the history intact. The club now presents a range of music acts, with many of them leaning toward the jazz realm.

### **Nublu**

151 Avenue C  
New York, NY  
(646) 546-5206

[nublu.net](http://nublu.net)

Nublu is a live music venue, and it's a record label, and it presents the Nublu Jazz Festival, which has premiered in New York, São Paulo and Istanbul. Nublu showcases DJs, jazz and rock at 151 Avenue C and at its "classic" location at 62 Avenue C.

### **ShapeShifter Lab**

18 Whitwell Place  
Brooklyn, NY  
(646) 820-9452

[shapeshifterlab.com](http://shapeshifterlab.com)

Creative Director Matthew Garrison and Director Fortuna Sung have worked to create a space that mixes a variety of different genres. One night could highlight a Jeff Buckley tribute concert, and the next might feature the jazz group Mostly Other People Do the Killing.

### **SMALLS**

183 W. 10th St.  
New York, NY  
(646) 476-4346

[smallslive.com](http://smallslive.com)

Smalls started as a noted jazz club, a must-stop haunt for the best musicians, but has expanded its reach in the genre with a series of live recordings. The Smalls Live record label works to capture the fire that happens at the club every single night. These concerts can also be streamed on the venue's website.

On Sunday through Thursday, admission into the venue Mezzrow includes a pass for Smalls Jazz Club (good for the same evening). Smalls has recently booked the Akiko Tsuruga Quartet, the Adam Larson Quartet and the Mark Whitfield Trio.

### **Smoke**

2751 Broadway  
New York, NY  
(212) 864-6662

[smokejazz.com](http://smokejazz.com)

Even though this 50-seat club isn't the largest venue in town, booking agents pack the club with huge names. Musicians play there every night of the week. Bill Charlap, Vincent Herring and Kenny Washington are among the recent stars showcased at the venue. The venue owners are involved with the label Smoke Sessions Records, and fans can purchase CDs right at the bar.

### **The Stone**

Avenue C at 2nd St. (until Feb. 2018)  
55. W. 13th Street (Feb. 2018 onward)  
New York, NY

(212) 488-2705 (until Feb. 2018)

[thestonenyc.com](http://thestonenyc.com); [newschool.edu](http://newschool.edu)

This non-profit venue was founded by musician John Zorn as a space dedicated to avant-garde and experimental music. After a 13 years on Avenue C, in February the acclaimed venue will move to The New School's College of Performing Arts' Glass Box performance space in Arnhold Hall. In the new partnership, The Stone's tradition of being an artist-centric venue will continue, and there will be increased opportunities for students.



# smallslive.com

*we are dedicated to  
world peace through music*

all shows live-streamed nightly  
from both Smalls and Mezzrow



## The Village Vanguard

178 7th Ave. S.  
New York, NY  
(212) 255-4037

[villagevanguard.com](http://villagevanguard.com)

This iconic venue is one of the most famous in jazz history. The noted Vanguard Jazz Orchestra has a running Monday gig, and the rest of the week is reserved for the biggest names in jazz. Musicians like John Zorn, Fred Hersch and Ravi Coltrane all play lengthy residencies at the club. Seemingly everyone from Sonny Rollins and Gerry Mulligan to Barbra Streisand has recorded a live record at the Village Vanguard. The Bad Plus selected this venue for its final shows with pianist Ethan Iverson in the lineup.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Chris' Jazz Café

1421 Sansom St.  
Philadelphia, PA  
(215) 568-3131

[chrisjazzcafe.com](http://chrisjazzcafe.com)

With an all-ages show policy and discounted tickets for students, Chris' Jazz Café caters to the next generation of jazz musicians without explicitly spelling out that goal. Weekday shows are reserved for lesser-known talent, and on the weekends, listeners can see jazz luminaries like Pat Martino, Kurt Rosenwinkel and Joey DeFrancesco.

### Deer Head Inn

5 Main St.  
Delaware Water Gap, PA  
(570) 424-2000

[deerheadinn.com](http://deerheadinn.com)



**THE KENNEDY CENTER JAZZ 2017-2018**  
Jason Moran, Artistic Director for Jazz

**KC JAZZ CLUB**  
Jason Moran, Artistic Director for Jazz

**HARRIET TUBMAN**  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

**LOUIS HAYES,**  
**SERENADE FOR HORACE**  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 19 & 20

**DISCOVERY ARTIST**  
**JOEL ROSS GOOD VIBES**  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

**RUTHIE FOSTER**  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

All performances at 7 & 9 p.m. in the Terrace Gallery.  
No minimum. Light menu fare available.

Discovery Artists in the KC Jazz Club are supported by The William N. Cofitz Jazz Initiative and The King-White Family Foundation and Dr. J. Douglas White.  
Support for jazz at the Kennedy Center is generously provided by C. Michael Rogers. Additional support is provided by The Angus Fund.



Lilypad in Cambridge, Massachusetts

The 10-room Deer Head Inn, which markets "sumptuous" dinner fare and a range of local beers on tap, brings a range of jazz acts to the Pocono Mountains. Jazz has been the music of choice at the club since 1950, but the inn's notoriety really started to build in the 1960s and has grown across two ownership changes. Concerts, which have recently included Dave Liebman and Houston Person, happen Thursday through Sunday nights.

### MCG JAZZ

1815 Metropolitan St.  
Pittsburgh, PA  
(412) 322-0800

[mcgjazz.org](http://mcgjazz.org)

Manchester Craftsmen's Guild has been a staple of the Pittsburgh jazz scene for 31 years. During the 13-show season in 2017-'18, musicians like Arturo Sandoval, Earl Klugh and Dee Dee Bridgewater grace the 350-seat music hall. The owners say they have a mission to "preserve, present and promote jazz," which is accomplished through live performances, live concert recordings and educational programs. Students can attend shows at free or discounted rates, and MCG frequently hosts master classes by touring artists.

### South Jazz Parlor

600 N. Broad St.  
Philadelphia, PA  
(215) 600-0220

[southrestaurant.net](http://southrestaurant.net)

This jazz venue is nestled in the highly rated South restaurant, which is among the best places to eat in Philadelphia. A weekly jazz jam hosted by the Leon Jordan Sr. Trio shares the schedule with routine appearances by notable bands like the Warren Wolf Quintet and Carmen Lundy's ensemble.

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

### Blues Alley

1073 Wisconsin Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C.  
(202) 337-4141

### bluesalley.com

Roberta Gambarini, Arturo Sandoval and Freddy Cole represent the caliber of internationally known jazz musicians Blues Alley books for multi-night residencies around twice a month. For the remainder of its 360-days-of-music schedule, the venue is packed with local and regional talent covering a variety of genres. The venue has a 50-year history, and the staff's devotion to jazz education is particularly impressive.

### KC JAZZ CLUB AT THE KENNEDY CENTER

2700 F Street NW  
Washington, D.C.  
(202) 416-8524

[kennedy-center.org](http://kennedy-center.org)

Housed inside the Kennedy Center arts complex is the KC Jazz Club, which has a 160-seat capacity for seated shows, and room for 250 for standing shows. Pianist Jason Moran, who serves as the Kennedy Center Artistic Director for Jazz, occasionally performs, but he also curates the programming, bringing a blend of emerging jazz talent and nationally known musicians. Moran helps bring large jazz acts to other performance spaces in the Kennedy Center, too. Louis Hayes is booked for the KC Jazz Club on Jan. 19-20, and Eric Harland will play there on Feb. 9.

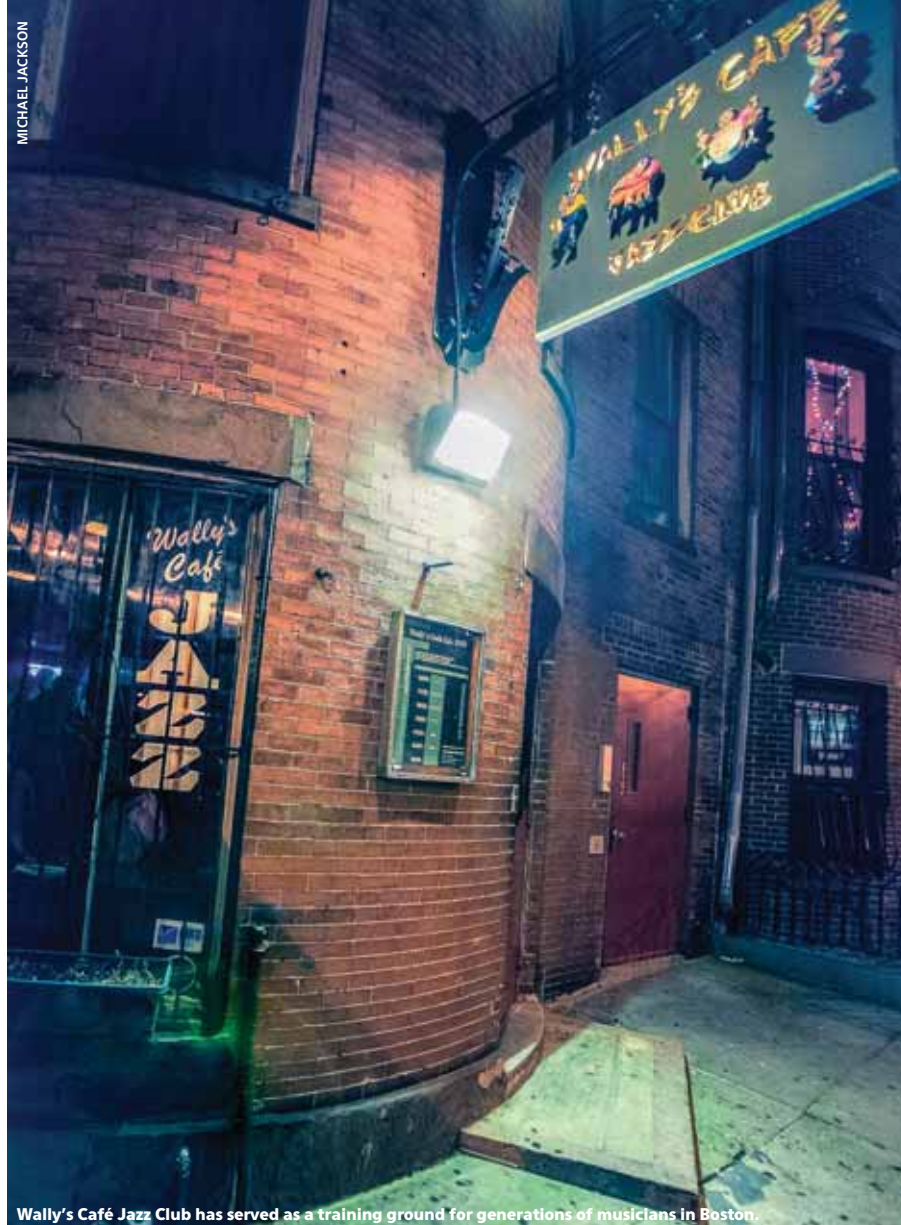
### Twins Jazz Lounge

1344 U Street NW  
Washington, D.C.  
(202) 234-0072

[twinsjazz.com](http://twinsjazz.com)

The original Twins began as a 1980s Ethiopian restaurant in a space where jazz had once ruled supreme. It didn't take long for the music to once again take over, and now, after a 2000 relocation to the U Street Corridor, jazz is the main course. Students get half-priced tickets for some Friday concerts. The Ethiopian food is still served, but patrons can now hear acts like Tim Whalen, Joe Vetter, Levon Mikaelian and the Twins Jazz Orchestra.





Wally's Café Jazz Club has served as a training ground for generations of musicians in Boston.

# Boston Club Wally's Celebrates 70 Years

**WALLY'S IS THE WORLD'S OLDEST BLACK-**owned, continuously operating jazz club. Founded in 1947 by Joseph L. Walcott, Wally's Café Jazz Club is located in Boston's historic Jazz Corner (Massachusetts Avenue and Columbus). Barbados-born Walcott built Wally's as an oasis where the black community could socialize and listen to bands led by Sabby Lewis, Jimmy Tyler, J.C. Higginbotham and Alan Dawson, and guests like Sarah Vaughan, Oscar Peterson, Roy Haynes, Stan Getz and Coleman Hawkins.

Walcott engaged the community, letting school kids practice on the house piano and hosting neighborhood holiday dinners. Daughter Elynor and her sons Paul, Frank and Lloyd Poindexter maintain that commitment today, hosting open-minded music and prac-

ticing open-handed generosity. "When high school students from New Jersey attended Berklee's summer program a few years ago," said Elynor, "they had no housing funds, so some stayed with me and our family."

Since Walcott died in 1998 at age 101, little has changed the 20- by 80-foot bandbox. Its brick wall of photos and tables face a well-stocked bar lit brighter than the cramped, low bandstand. Policies stand firm: no cover, quick service, low-cost name-brand drinks. The music is usually jazz, but fans might also hear salsa, blues or funk.

There are three sets nightly, showcasing young players honing their craft and seasoned pros perfecting it. When in town, Wally's alumni like the Marsalis brothers, Roy Hargrove, Tim Warfield, Sean Jones, Ambrose

Akinmusire, Aaron Goldberg or Vicente Archer have been known to drop by to hang or jam.

Wally's proudly labels itself a "musicians' training ground," and bandstand protagonists of three generations enthusiastically back up the claim. Trumpeter Jason Palmer, a 20-year veteran began his career at this modest forum, said: "The owners are always encouraging, open to my bringing in tunes and musicians. They never told me to play a certain way, and that's given me freedom to experiment."

Italian trumpeter Cosimo Boni, a Berklee grad student, concurred: "Wally's just says, 'There's jazz or blues or funk tonight.' So people come for the music, not for you. It makes you question how to engage the audience and teaches you to read their vibe and attention level. It's like stand-up: Try your new joke to see if people get it. How's your timing? Adjust your expectations. Try new tempos, sequences."

"Jeremy Pelt introduced me to Wally's in 1997," Palmer recalled. "He saw me walking by Berklee to NEC with my trumpet case, had me sit in and call a tune, and took me under his wing. He was rooming with Darren Barrett, now a Berklee colleague. I've played there ever since. I hosted Sundays from 2002, and later added Fridays and Saturdays." He leads 10 p.m. weekend sets currently with Noah Preminger (saxophone), Lee Fish (drums), Max Light (guitar), Domi Degalle (piano) and Simon Willson (bass). Their album of originals recorded live by Jimmy Katz is due out in April on SteepleChase.

On a recent night at Wally's, Boni led a quartet through a playful Monk set. "Lately I've been working on a concept in lessons with Joe Lovano of cueing the band through my phrases," Boni said. "This group can react when I turn a ballad into bossa nova or double-time." They did that after Boni opened "Ask Me Now" alone. Later Israeli pianist Tom Oren launched a super-slinky "In Walked Bud" as alto saxophonist Jonathan Goetz joined them, and the five played an electric "Evidence."

Saxophonist Grace Kelly referred to the club as "our historic, buzzing home." She added, "Sundays with Jason's band, we'd play originals, go anywhere, everywhere, pick up on the room's great energy. It's a playground to work stuff out—the opposite of pristine and sterile."

Bassist Sahil Warsi, who's from Delhi, led sets with Andrew DeNicola (alto saxophone), Mitchell Selib (guitar) and Samuël Bolduc (drums) and loves Wally's atmosphere: "In an era where music is increasingly electronic, synthesized and over-produced, it's good knowing there's a space where I still get to play raw, messy tunes."

—Fred Bouchard

# SOUTH



Joey Gilmore Band performs at Bradfordville Blues Club in Tallahassee, Florida.

## FLORIDA

### Blue Bamboo Center for the Arts

1905 Kentucky Ave.  
Winter Park, FL  
(407) 636-9951

[bluebambooartcenter.com](http://bluebambooartcenter.com)

Ignacio Berroa, Selwyn Birchwood, the Fred Hughes Trio: This diverse array of artists is typical of the bookings at the Blue Bamboo Center for the Arts, which also has a gallery space. In addition to music, the venue presents dance, theater and spoken-word performances. Live shows happen most nights of the week. Bill Cunliffe will perform with his trio on March 3.

### Bradfordville Blues Club

7152 Moses Lane  
Tallahassee, FL  
(850) 906-0766

[bradfordvilleblues.com](http://bradfordvilleblues.com)

This venue has colorful history as a barbeque establishment that presents live music. The club is a bit out of the way—it's situated among fields and oak trees outside Tallahassee—so it's a scenic trip. Upcoming shows include Johnny Rawls (Feb. 14) and James Armstrong (Feb. 17).

### Heidi's Jazz Club

7 North Orlando Ave.  
Cocoa Beach, FL  
(321) 783-4559

[heidisjazzclub.com](http://heidisjazzclub.com)

Founded in 1992 to foster the jazz scene on Florida's Space Coast, Heidi's presents local and regional jazz acts every Wednesday through Sunday. Each week is capped off with a jam session. Artists who have performed at the venue include Bria Skonberg, Larry Coryell and Allan Harris.

## GEORGIA

### Velvet Note

4075 Old Milton Pkwy.  
Alpharetta, GA  
(855) 583-5838

[thevelvetnote.com](http://thevelvetnote.com)

The Velvet Note, located a 30-minute drive from midtown Atlanta, is now the only jazz club in the metro area. Thursday nights are

reserved for open-mic performances, and the weekend routinely features national jazz talent, such as Christian McBride, Kenny Garrett and Gretchen Parlato.

## LOUISIANA

### Blue Nile

532 Frenchmen St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 948-2583

[bluenilelive.com](http://bluenilelive.com)

Here at one of the oldest clubs on Frenchmen Street, listeners can hear an assortment of traditional New Orleans jazz and more contemporary fare. There are two stages, and shows take place six nights a week.

### d.b.a

618 Frenchmen St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 942-3731

[dbaneworleans.com](http://dbaneworleans.com)

This club has been firmly planted in New Orleans jazz lore for about two decades. Patrons come here to get a dose of local jazz and blues, with performances by artists such as Hot Club of New Orleans, the Tremé Brass Band and Walter "Wolfman" Washington.

### Fritzel's European Jazz Pub

733 Bourbon St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 586-4800

[fritzelsjazz.net](http://fritzelsjazz.net)

For authentic Dixieland and New Orleans jazz music, Fritzel's is the place. Founded in 1969, Fritzel's is situated in an 1830s building. The Dukes of Dixieland will play on Dec. 31.

### Jazz Playhouse

300 Bourbon St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 553-2299

[sonesta.com/us/louisiana/new-orleans/royal-sonesta-new-orleans/jazzplayhouse](http://sonesta.com/us/louisiana/new-orleans/royal-sonesta-new-orleans/jazzplayhouse)

Formerly called Irvin Mayfield's Jazz Playhouse, the venue, which is situated in the Royal Sonesta Hotel, cut ties with the trumpeter in the fall of 2016. That ended a seven-year residency with the trumpeter. Today, the club books acts like Gerald French and the Original Tuxedo Jazz Band.

### The Maison

508 Frenchmen St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 371-5543

[maisonfrenchmen.com](http://maisonfrenchmen.com)

On two stages, Maison bookers bring funk and brass bands to a clientele of tourists and locals. Any night of the week, listeners might catch a regional brass band or a touring national act. During dinner hours, traditional jazz is provided until 10 p.m.

### The Maple Leaf Bar

8316 Oak St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 866-9359

[mapleleafbar.com](http://mapleleafbar.com)

This venue has a deep history of jazz presentation. The Rebirth Brass Band plays on Tuesdays, and the rest of the week is given over to a mix of jazz, funk and blues.

### Palm Court Jazz Café

1204 Decatur St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 525-0200

[palmcourtjazzcafe.com](http://palmcourtjazzcafe.com)

Palm Court packs its music offerings with traditional jazz five nights per week. The French Quarter venue pairs its regionally appropriate jazz with local cuisine.

### Preservation Hall

726 St. Peter St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 522-2841

[preservationhall.com](http://preservationhall.com)

Preservation Hall is one of the most famous venues in New Orleans, so visitors will likely contend with quite a few tourists during the multiple sets each night. The Preservation Hall Jazz Band is the big name in the lights here, but the venue also books a range of local and national acts. It's an all-ages venue.

### Prime Example

1909 N. Broad St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 701-9007

[primeexamplejazz.com](http://primeexamplejazz.com)

Local acts perform at this "jazz, blues and food" venue throughout the week. Tuesday nights are reserved for jam sessions.

### SNUG HARBOR JAZZ BISTRO

626 Frenchmen St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 949-0696

[snugjazz.com](http://snugjazz.com)

For more than three decades, Snug Harbor has welcomed a veritable who's who of jazz artists. Music happens every night of the week. Delfeayo Marsalis' Uptown Jazz Orchestra plays on Wednesdays.

### Spotted Cat

623 Frenchmen St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 943-3887

[spottedcatmusicclub.com](http://spottedcatmusicclub.com)

With three different bands playing each night, the Spotted Cat buzzes with activity.



Meschiya Lake & The Little Big Horns and The New Orleans Cottonmouth Kings have both played extensively at the club.

### Three Muses

536 Frenchmen St.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 252-4801

[3musesnola.com](http://3musesnola.com)

Chef Daniel Esses makes sure that the food at Three Muses is as good as the brass bands and New Orleans jazz the club presents.

### Tipitina's

501 Napoleon Ave.  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 895-8477

[tipitinas.com](http://tipitinas.com)

The owners of Tipitina's see music as one of Louisiana's greatest assets; to back up that philosophy, they created a foundation that supports music education. The venue itself is a city staple, providing local, regional and national artists with a place to play for an enthusiastic audience. The 2018 bookings include Maceo Parker (Feb. 9) and Dweezil Zappa (May 13).

## MISSISSIPPI

### Ground Zero Blues Club

387 Delta Ave.  
Clarksdale, MS  
(662) 621-9009

[groundzerobluesclub.com](http://groundzerobluesclub.com)

Live music happens at Ground Zero, which is owned by Morgan Freeman, every Wednesday through Saturday. Befitting a club that sits at the birthplace of Delta blues, blues is king at this club. Blues aficionados will want to check out the Delta Blues Museum, located next door.

## NORTH CAROLINA

### Beyù Caffé

341 W. Main St.  
Durham, NC  
(919) 683-1058

[beyucaffe.com](http://beyucaffe.com)

With an open mic on Wednesdays and Latin-flavored music on Thursdays, this jazz club offers a wide swath of musical activity. Big-name acts occasionally drop by; in the past, the club hosted a presentation of Gerald Clayton's Piedmont Blues.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

### THE JAZZ CORNER

1000 William Hilton Pkwy.  
Hilton Head Island, SC  
(843) 842-8620

[thejazzcorner.com](http://thejazzcorner.com)

The Jazz Corner, open since 1999, provides fans with the best regional jazz and national acts. Jazz artists throughout the Southeast journey to the club for gigs; Atlanta musicians are featured prominently each month.

## TENNESSEE

### Alfred's on Beale

197 Beale St.  
Memphis, TN  
(901) 525-3711

[alfredsonbeale.com](http://alfredsonbeale.com)

Alfred's has been on Beale Street for more than 30 years, setting up shop in the mid

1980s. Much of the week is reserved for club-music fare, but jazz still has a presence at this Memphis institution.

### The Jazz Cave

1319 Adams St.  
Nashville, TN  
(615) 242-5299

[nashvillejazz.org](http://nashvillejazz.org)

The Jazz Cave is the performance arm of the Nashville Jazz Workshop, which offers vocal and instrumental classes. The NJW hosts more than 40 shows a year, with top local and visiting jazz artists swinging by the Jazz Cave, featuring an 80-seat listening room.

### Rudy's Jazz Room

809 Gleaves St.  
Nashville, TN  
(615) 988-2458

[rudysjazzroom.com](http://rudysjazzroom.com)

This new jazz club has quickly become a key spot for jazz fans and musicians in Nashville. The club is named after the late saxophonist Rudy Wooten. Every week, the Wooten Wednesday performance is assembled by Regi Wooten. (His siblings Victor Wooten and Roy "Futureman" Wooten have been known to sit in.) Jeff Coffin has played the club, and the Jason Marsalis Vibes Quartet is booked for Jan. 9.

## TEXAS

### Carmen's De La Calle

320 North Flores  
San Antonio, TX  
(210) 281-4349

[carmensdelacalle.com](http://carmensdelacalle.com)

This Spanish restaurant hosts jazz nights on Thursdays. Friday is reserved for flamenco, with world music on Saturdays.

### Cezanne

4100 Montrose Blvd.  
Houston, TX  
(832) 592-7464

[cezannejazz.com](http://cezannejazz.com)

Jazz only happens at Cezanne on Friday and Saturday nights, but for a \$10 cover, listeners can hear the best regional and local musicians around.

### Elephant Room

315 Congress Ave.  
Austin, TX  
(512) 473-2279

[elephantroom.com](http://elephantroom.com)

Gigs by the acts like John Fedchock Quartet, Ephraim Owens and Red Young Quintet are representative of the calendar at the Elephant Room, a basement bar. Bookers are dedicated to a wide variety of jazz and blues acts. Admission is free on weekdays, and there's a small cover charge on the weekend.

### SCAT JAZZ LOUNGE

111 W. 4th St.  
Fort Worth, TX  
(817) 870-9100

[scatjazzlounge.com](http://scatjazzlounge.com)

Promising "a vibe that only exists in our dreams or maybe in the movies," this club is located in the basement of the historic Woolworth building. It presents music six nights a week, mostly booking local and regional musicians, but national acts do drop in from time to time.



Melissa Aldana onstage at the Jazz Showcase in Chicago

# Jazz Showcase: Shrine for Serious Music

## THE CIRCULAR LOGO OF THE JAZZ

Showcase reads, “Where Jazz Lives in Chicago,” with “Since 1947” added under an illustration of a trumpeter and saxophonist wailing against the city’s skyline. This medallion tells the story: Touring stars and local artists alike have been presented under the Jazz Showcase banner for 70 years, since founder Joe Segal put on shows featuring then-emerging players—Charlie Parker among them—as a student at Chicago’s Roosevelt College.

At age 91, Segal—who was honored as a 2015 National Endowment of the Arts Jazz Master and is the author of a recently published autobiographical scrapbook titled *Stay On It!* (Chicago Jazz Publishing)—can still be found sitting at the entrance of his club, poking his head inside to listen, sometimes announcing the acts and urging customers to return soon. Bebop and hard-bop, his favorite jazz styles, are often presented at the Showcase, which offers music seven

nights a week, including Sunday matinees.

The venue has long been renowned locally and internationally as a shrine, haven and laboratory for serious music. Over the course of seven decades, there have been changes, of course, including a higher profile for Wayne Segal, Joe’s son, as manager of the club.

“Joe is the Jazz Showcase, but I’ve always been in the background, keeping things running,” said Wayne, who is in his early 60s. “When I started [circa 1970], I was driving around town putting up posters, which was frustrating because someone would follow behind me slapping up their posters over ours.”

In those days, the elder Segal presided over his Showcase in a basement of the Happy Medium theater on the Rush Street entertainment strip. Earlier Showcase productions were held in others’ clubs and rented spaces; later the Showcase had lengthy runs in a ballroom of the Blackstone Hotel and a spot of its own a few

blocks north of downtown.

In 2008 it opened at its current address, 806 S. Plymouth Court, in a side building of the old Dearborn Street railroad station. Wayne Segal, who has spent the previous decade booking a Showcase offshoot called Joe’s Bebop Café at tourist destination Navy Pier, designed the new place.

“I wanted it to look like the only home we ever had,” he says of the 170-capacity club. He accomplished that with soft lighting, seating at small tables and strategically placed, cushioned sofas, a horseshoe bar and tall cocktail tables in the rear. Hanging on plush red curtains over a broad stage with a Steinway grand piano is a huge photo of Parker, who looks like he’s evaluating what’s happening. Other decorative elements include an equally large portrait of Duke Ellington on a side wall, as well as images of Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, Sonny Rollins, Thelonious Monk, Dexter Gordon, Johnny Griffin, Art Blakey—all of whom played the Showcase—and Showcase posters from past decades.

Cutout caricatures of musicians line the foyer, readying attendees who pay a \$20 cover or use student and Jazz Institute of Chicago member discounts to have a good time. “When they walk up to the music room entrance,” Wayne said proudly, “and see all the history and the music starts, it’s magical. The place has a good vibe.”

Musicians think so, too. “I always look forward to singing at the Showcase,” affirmed vocalist Dee Alexander, whose quartet with pianist Miguel de Cerna, bassist Junius Paul and drummer Ernie Andrews played a week in December. “One of the reasons is what it stands for, as a pivotal place in Chicago music, historically. So many great artists have come through it—when Betty Carter was there, I’d be sitting in the front row.”

Since opening at Plymouth Court, Joe and Wayne Segal have worked closely together on bookings. Wayne estimated the ratio of nationally touring acts to local groups is 70 to 30. Multi-instrumentalist Ira Sullivan, one of the few stars of Joe Segal’s generation remaining active, visits from his Florida home every August to headline the Showcase’s Charlie Parker Month, while recent younger attractions have included Robert Glasper, Catherine Russell, Joey DeFrancesco and Jon Irabagon, with Roy Hargrove coming for New Year’s. Chicago artists who frequently perform there include keyboardists Robert Irving III and Dave Gordon, drummers Xavier Breaker and Dana Hall, saxophonists Pat Mallinger and Juli Wood, trumpeters Corey Wilkes and Victor Garcia, and guitarists George Freeman and Mike Allemana.

“I have a million things to do for the club from the moment I wake ’til we close after our 10 p.m. show,” Wayne Segal said. “But that’s OK. I like the music, I’ve learned a lot about the business and it’s such a great joy to be able to work with my father.”

—Howard Mandel



## MIDWEST



Drummer Dana Hall performs at the Green Mill in Chicago.

### ILLINOIS

#### ANDY'S JAZZ CLUB

11 E. Hubbard St.  
Chicago, IL  
(312) 642-6805

[andysjazzclub.com](http://andysjazzclub.com)

Since 1977, local, regional and nationally known jazz musicians have played at Andy's. Pharez Whitted will lead the jam session every Sunday night in January and February.

#### B.L.U.E.S.

2519 N. Halsted St.  
Chicago, IL  
(773) 528-1012

[chicagobluesbar.com](http://chicagobluesbar.com)

Bues fans at this club can hear artists like Vance "Guitar" Kelly and Claudette Miller. Wednesday is the night for blues jams.

#### Buddy Guy's Legends

700 S. Wabash Ave.  
Chicago, IL  
(312) 427-1190

[buddyguy.com](http://buddyguy.com)

Bluesman Buddy Guy will play 16 shows in January 2018 at his namesake club, with opening acts such as Bobby Rush, Eric Gales and Toranzo Cannon. The rest of the year, emerging and national blues grace the stage.

#### Constellation

3111 N. Western Ave.  
Chicago, IL  
(312) 555-5555

[constellation-chicago.com](http://constellation-chicago.com)

Started in 2013 by drummer Mike Reed, Constellation is a space dedicated to progressive and contemporary music, presenting jazz, classical and avant-garde works. Upcoming shows include Tom Rainey's trio with Ingrid Laubrock and Mary Halvorson (Jan. 27), Thurston Moore (Feb. 10) and Tigran Hamasyan (Feb. 28).

#### Elastic Arts

3429 W. Diversey Ave., #208  
Chicago, IL

[info@elasticarts.org](mailto:info@elasticarts.org)

Elastic Arts is a non-profit organization that develops and hosts concerts, exhibitions and multi-arts performances. Jazz musician

Dave Rempis is the president of the board. Its space in the Avondale/Logan Square neighborhood has presented jazz musicians such as Rempis, Joe McPhee and Tim Stine.

#### The Green Mill

4802 N. Broadway Ave.  
Chicago, IL  
(773) 878-5552

[greenmilljazz.com](http://greenmilljazz.com)

This famed Chicago jazz spot programs the top-notch local and touring musicians. Jazz is featured every night of the week, and artists run the jazz gamut. The Fat Babies has a standing gig on Tuesdays. Recent performers have included Matt Ulery and Matt Wilson.

#### The Iron Post

120 S. Race St.  
Urbana, IL  
(217) 337-7678

[facebook.com/theironpost](https://facebook.com/theironpost)

The Jeff Helgesen Quintet plays at this bar and grill once a month on Fridays, and the University of Illinois jazz bands make the Iron Post a frequent performance spot.

#### Jazz Showcase

806 S. Plymouth Ct.  
Chicago, IL  
(312) 360-0234

[jazzshowcase.com](http://jazzshowcase.com)

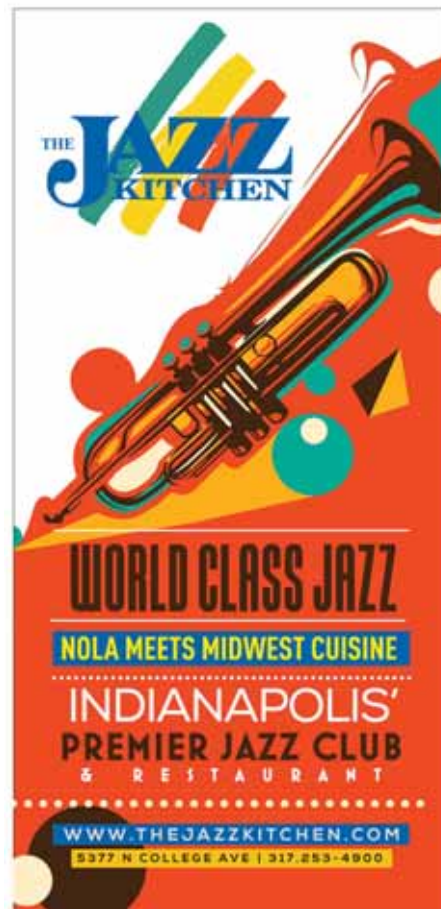
Russell Malone, Roberta Gambarini, Donald Harrison and Carmen Lundy are just some of the headliners who have performed at the Jazz Showcase recently. Joe Segal, who founded the club, was the recipient of the 2015 A.B. Spellman NEA Jazz Masters Award for Jazz Advocacy. Trumpeter Roy Hargrove and his quintet will play an extended residency from Dec. 26 to Jan. 7.

#### Kingston Mines

2548 N. Halsted St.  
Chicago, IL  
(773) 477-4646

[kingstonmines.com](http://kingstonmines.com)

Since 1968, scores of blues musicians have graced the Kingston Mines stage. The blues jam with Linsey Alexander happens on Sunday nights. Performers in January will include Corey Dennison and Shawn Holt & The Teardrops.



## SPACE

1245 Chicago Ave.  
Evanston, IL  
(847) 492-8860

[evanston.space.com](http://evanston.space.com)

SPACE brings a wide variety of world-class music to Evanston, located just north of Chicago. Upcoming shows include Stacey Kent (Feb. 10), the Charlie Hunter Trio (March 21) and the Billy Cobham Band (March 29).

## 210 Restaurant & Live Music Lounge

210 Green Bay Rd.  
Highwood, IL  
(847) 433-0304

[210restaurant.com](http://210restaurant.com)

This restaurant, located in the Chicago suburb of Highwood, presents jazz, blues and other styles of music Wednesday through Sunday. On Feb. 1, The Bad Plus will perform.

## Winter's Jazz Club

465 N. McClurg Ct.  
Chicago, IL  
(312) 344-1270

[wintersjazzclub.com](http://wintersjazzclub.com)

Winter's presents jazz six nights a week. The venue seats about 150, so jazz listeners are in intimate surroundings to see musicians like the Dana Hall Trio.

## INDIANA

### Chatterbox Jazz Club

435 Massachusetts Ave.  
Indianapolis, IN  
(317) 636-0584

[chatterboxjazz.com](http://chatterboxjazz.com)

In addition to booking shows, the venue also offers jazz hopefuls scholarship money to the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University via the Dick Dickinson Jazz Scholarship.

## THE JAZZ KITCHEN

5377 N. College Ave.  
Indianapolis, IN  
(317) 253-4900

[thejazzkitchen.com](http://thejazzkitchen.com)

The Jazz Kitchen hosts a free jam session on Mondays and a variety of jazz-leaning music throughout the week. Upcoming shows include The Bad Plus (Jan. 26) and Jason Marsalis (Jan. 28).

## MICHIGAN

### Baker's Keyboard Lounge

20510 Livernois Ave.  
Detroit, MI  
(313) 345-6300

[theofficialbakerskeyboardlounge.com](http://theofficialbakerskeyboardlounge.com)

This 99-seat club with a piano-shaped bar presents jazz and other genres of music.

### Bert's Market Place

2727 Russell St.  
Detroit, MI  
(313) 567-2030

[bertsentertainmentcomplex.com](http://bertsentertainmentcomplex.com)

This club hosts jazz Wednesday through Friday, with blues taking over on the weekend. Located in Detroit's Eastern Market District, Bert's is billed as a soul food restaurant/cocktail lounge/theater.

## Cliff Bell's

2030 Park Ave.  
Detroit, MI  
(313) 961-2543

[cliffbells.com](http://cliffbells.com)

This club has spotlights local and regional jazz musicians, and the occasional internationally known artist, such as James Carter.

## Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe

97 Kercheval Ave.  
Gross Pointe, MI  
(313) 882-5299

[dirtydogjazz.com](http://dirtydogjazz.com)

Patrons flock to the Dirty Dog for jazz in an old English pub atmosphere. This charming venue hosts local, regional and international jazz artists. Past performers include Wayne Shorter, Cécile McLorin Salvant, Pat Martino, Cyrille Aimée, Stanley Jordan, Tia Fuller and Sean Jones. The Charles Boles Quartet plays a dinner performance on Tuesdays.

## Jazz Café at Music Hall

350 Madison St.  
Detroit, MI  
(313) 887-8500

[jazzcafedetroit.com](http://jazzcafedetroit.com)

The Jazz Café at Music Hall features a range of music. In November, MundoMetal, a jazz-rock group, shared the calendar with a poetry session and the Dave McMurray Trio. The jazz jam session, presented in cooperation with the Metro-Detroit Jazz Workshop, happens on Mondays.

## Kerrytown Concert House

415 N. 4th Ave.  
Ann Arbor, MI  
(734) 769-2999

[kerrytownconcerthouse.com](http://kerrytownconcerthouse.com)

This concert venue is a literal house that's been transformed into a 110-seat space to spotlight a wide range of music. Home to the renowned Edgefest jazz festival, the venue also presents classical and folk music.

## MINNESOTA

### CROONERS LOUNGE & SUPPER CLUB

6161 Highway 65 NE  
Minneapolis, MN  
(763) 760-0062

[croonerslounge.com](http://croonerslounge.com)

Crooners celebrates and pays homage to the era when Sinatra ruled the airwaves, America's best restaurants served "Continental Cuisine" and patrons dressed up when dining out. The venue has received accolades from Fodor's Travel, Trip Advisor, and OpenTable. Local artists perform nightly, including nationally recognized acts such as Davina & The Vagabonds.

## Dakota Jazz Club

1010 Nicollet Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55403  
(612) 332-5299

[dakotacooks.com](http://dakotacooks.com)

Where does a concert by The Bad Plus share calendar space with Leo Kottke, the Rebirth Brass Band and Melissa Manchester? The 33-year-old Dakota Jazz Club, which books a variety of genres. The club can pack in about 350 fans. Upcoming shows include Sergio Mendes (Feb. 23), Donny McCaslin (Feb. 28), Delfeayo Marsalis (March 1) and Cécile McLorin Salvant (March 7).



## Jazz Central Studios

407 Central Ave. SE  
Minneapolis, MN  
(612) 520-1066

[jazzcentralstudios.org](http://jazzcentralstudios.org)

On Sundays, this nonprofit venue hosts a \$5 jam session with Cole Mahlum; the following day, the weekly jam session is chaired by that night's featured guest. The venue also books regional and local talent, including the Twin Cities Latin Jazz Orchestra.

## MISSOURI

### The Blue Room

1616 E. 18th St.  
Kansas City, MO  
(816) 474-8463

[club.americanjazzmuseum.org](http://club.americanjazzmuseum.org)

Kansas City's American Jazz Museum is a jazz-lover's dream. The museum's jazz collections and educational outreach events are underscored by its performance space, The Blue Room. The venue features free jam sessions on Mondays.

### Ferring Jazz Bistro

The Harold & Dorothy Steward Center for Jazz  
3536 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis, MO  
(314) 571-6000

[jazzstl.org](http://jazzstl.org)

Tucked in the Harold & Dorothy Steward Center for Jazz, this 200-seat venue hosts the cream of the jazz crop. While the center is a home base for educational and community engagement programs, the bistro spotlights artists like

Joshua Redman, Jane Monheit and Freddy Cole. Most artists perform for extended stays.

### Murry's

3107 Green Meadows Way  
Columbia, MO  
(573) 442-4969

[murrysrestaurant.net](http://murrysrestaurant.net)

The owners of Murry's tout their eclectic menu and "little regard for protocol," saying this 30-year-old venue has become a jazz and food institution. Solo jazz piano reigns on Monday through Thursday starting at 7 p.m. Trios and small ensembles take over on Saturdays. The "We Always Swing" jazz series brings in nationally known artists. Recent performers include Bobby Watson and René Marie. The Billy Childs Quartet plays on Jan. 28.

## OHIO

### BLU JAZZ+

47 E. Market St.  
Akron, OH  
(330) 252-1190

[blujazzakron.com](http://blujazzakron.com)

BLU Jazz+, which is open Wednesday through Saturday, is a combination photo gallery/jazz spot that mainly features local and regional musicians. The BLU Jazz+ Masterclass Foundation is committed to jazz education endeavors. Nationally known artists are booked at the club, too, with past performances by JD Allen, Fred Hersch, Chris Potter and Terrell Stafford. Upcoming shows including Huntertones (Jan. 21) and Becca Stevens (Jan. 26).

## Nighttown

12387 Cedar Rd.  
Cleveland, OH  
(216) 795-0550

[nighttowncleveland.com](http://nighttowncleveland.com)

For more than 50 years, the bookish Nighttown (it's named for the red-light district in James Joyce's *Ulysses*), has presented jazz, rock and world music in surroundings modeled after turn-of-the-century New York pubs. Performers have included the Ernie Krivda Fat Tuesday Big Band and the Sammy DeLeon Latin Jazz Sextet.

## WISCONSIN

### The Jazz Estate

2423 N. Murray Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI  
(414) 964-9923

[jazzestate.com](http://jazzestate.com)

Hosting local and regional jazz and jazz-adjacent music, the Jazz Estate has been operating since 1977. It's open seven days a week. The Bobby Broom Trio visited in December.

### Jazz Gallery Center for the Arts

926 E. Center St.  
Milwaukee, WI  
(414) 374-4722

[riverwestart.org](http://riverwestart.org)

The goal of the Riverwest Artists Association, which runs this venue, is to "foster reflective, innovative, and proactive art to enrich and stimulate our community." The organization presents local musicians and other events in an art-gallery setting. Jazz jam sessions occur on Tuesdays.



**past performers include**  
CHRIS POTTER  
BILL CHARLAP  
FRED HERSCH  
HOUSTON PERSON  
CYRILLE AIMEE  
CORY HENRY  
JEFF COFFIN  
JANE BUNNETT & MADJOUQUE  
DELFEAYO MARGALIS  
FREDDY COLE  
WALTER BEASLEY  
BECCA STEVENS  
GERALD CLAYTON  
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[blujazzakron.com](http://blujazzakron.com)

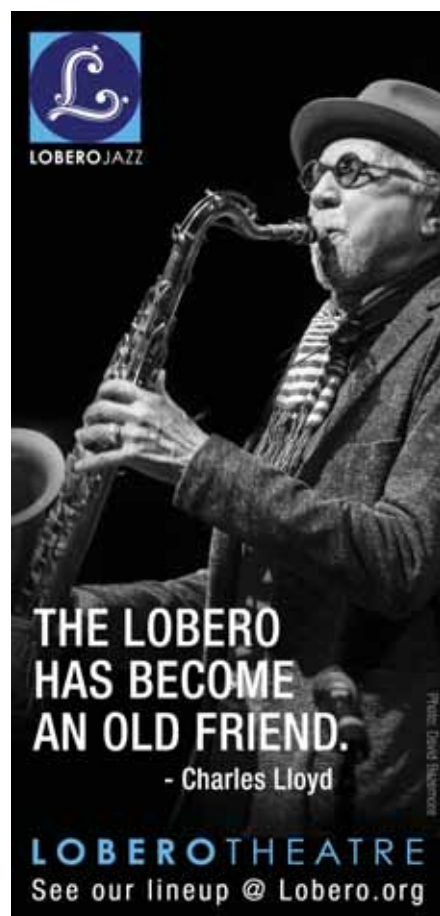


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- Charles Lloyd

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# WEST



Billy Hart (right) performs in a quartet at Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society in Half Moon Bay, California.

everyone from Oakland School for the Arts students to touring musicians.

## YOSHI'S OAKLAND

510 Embarcadero West  
Oakland, CA  
(510) 238-9200

[yoshis.com](http://yoshis.com)

A second location, which was in San Francisco, is no longer in business, but the original Yoshi's has been presenting world-class jazz in Oakland area since the 1970s. Listeners know Yoshi's is the spot for Japanese cuisine matched with the best touring musicians on the scene today. There's live music every night. Upcoming shows include Poncho Sanchez (Jan. 26–27) and Stanley Jordan (Feb. 16).

## ARIZONA

### Elliott's On Congress

135 E. Congress St.  
Tucson, AZ  
(520) 622-5500

[elliottsoncongress.com](http://elliottsoncongress.com)

On Tuesday nights, blues fans in Tucson can head to Elliott's to hear Tommy Tucker.

### The Nash

110 E. Roosevelt St.  
Phoenix, AZ  
(602) 795-0464

[thenash.org](http://thenash.org)

This downtown venue is owned by Jazz in Arizona, a nonprofit organization. The Nash hosts a mix of touring acts and local players, with a dedication to nurturing student musicians. Jam sessions happen on Sundays.

### Pastiche

3025 N. Campbell Ave.  
Tucson, AZ  
(520) 325-3333

[pastiche.com](http://pastiche.com)

Weekends are given over to jazz at this restaurant, which is located right down the street from the University of Arizona campus.

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

### BACH DANCING & DYNAMITE SOCIETY

311 Miranda Road  
Half Moon Bay, CA  
(650) 726-4143

[bachddsoc.org](http://bachddsoc.org)

This prized jazz haunt presents jazz, world music and classical performances on Sunday afternoons. As a nonprofit, the Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society has spent more than half a century hosting shows by artists such as Lew Tabackin and Jeremy Pelt at the picturesque Douglas Beach House.

### Blue Note Napa

1030 Main St.  
Napa, CA  
(707) 880-2300

[bluenotenapa.com](http://bluenotenapa.com)

Blue Note Napa bills itself as a mix of the

"Greenwich Village jazz club experience" with "wine country ambiance." And it all happens on the first floor of the 1800s Napa Valley Opera House. The programming includes jazz, rock and other genres. Upcoming shows include Brian Culbertson (Dec. 29–31), Spoon (Jan. 15) and Lee Ritenour (Feb. 16–17).

### KUUMBWA JAZZ CENTER

320 Cedar St.  
Santa Cruz, CA  
(831) 427-2227

[kuumbwajazz.org](http://kuumbwajazz.org)

More than 40 years ago, organizers founded the 200-seat Kuumba Jazz venue to bring touring jazz acts and educational programming to the area. The center also runs a jazz summer camp, brings artists to area schools and hosts a scholarship program. Upcoming shows include Jason Marsalis (Jan. 22), Katie Thiroux (Jan. 29) and Julian Lage (Feb. 19).

### Savanna Jazz

1189 Laurel St.  
San Carlos, CA  
(415) 624-4549

[savannajazz.com](http://savannajazz.com)

This venue books artists and runs the Savanna Jazz Agency. There's a sports bar in the front of the establishment, and there's jazz room in the back. Guitarist/vocalist Pascal Bokar frequently hits the stage.

### Sequoia Room

444 N. Main St.  
Fort Bragg, CA  
(707) 964-3400

[northcoastbrewing.com/calendar](http://northcoastbrewing.com/calendar)

On Friday and Saturday nights, jazz takes over in the North Coast Brewing Company's Sequoia Room. Owners book a range of local, regional and national talent. The Edward Simon Trio is booked for Jan. 13.

### The Sound Room

2147 Broadway  
Oakland, CA  
(510) 496-4180

[soundroom.org](http://soundroom.org)

The Sound Room is the concert arm of the Bay Area Jazz and Arts organization. In the performance space, owners welcome

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

### The Baked Potato

3787 Cahuenga Blvd.  
Studio City, CA  
(818) 980-1615

[thebakedpotato.com](http://thebakedpotato.com)

Open nightly for jazz, this venue has been presenting local and national music for nearly 50 years. Upcoming shows include Jeff Lorber Fusion (Jan. 12–13), Vivino Brothers (Jan. 17) and Brian Charette (Jan. 31).

### Blue Whale

123 Astronaut E. S. Onizuka Street #301  
Los Angeles, CA  
(213) 620-0908

[bluewhalemusic.com](http://bluewhalemusic.com)

While listeners hear live jazz from a variety of performers, they can also scope out art in the adjoining gallery. Steve Coleman, Jen Shyu, Nicole Mitchell and Anthony Wilson all played the Blue Whale recently.

### Catalina Bar & Grill

6725 W. Sunset Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA  
(323) 466-2210

[catalinajazzclub.com](http://catalinajazzclub.com)

This is a supper club with "old-world charm" that is dedicated to presenting a who's who of jazz musicians. Catalina books acts like Adam Ben Ezra, Lizz Wright and Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band.

### LOBERO THEATRE

33. E Canon Perdido St.  
Santa Barbara, CA  
(805) 963-0761

[lobero.com](http://lobero.com)

The Lobero Theatre, which is closing in on its 150th birthday, has a rich musical past. In the middle of last century, the venue began showcasing jazz. These days, bookings run the musical gamut. The jazz series includes artists like Charles Lloyd and Arturo Sandoval.

### Upstairs at Vitello's

4349 Tujunga Ave.  
Studio City, CA  
(818) 769-0905

[vitellosjazz.com](http://vitellosjazz.com)

A club above a famed Italian restaurant,



the venue hosts a variety of acts—music, comedy, and everything in between. At Upstairs at Vitello's, listeners will find a blend of local and regional pop-leaning bands, but jazz musicians also stop by.

### Vibrato Grill Jazz

2930 N. Beverly Glen Circle  
Los Angeles, CA  
(310) 474-9400

[vibratogrilljazz.com](http://vibratogrilljazz.com)

Conceived by trumpeter Herb Alpert and with a dress code of "L.A. smart casual," this spot presents jazz, classic rock and pop. Much of the calendar, which is full of music every week, is reserved for local and regional acts.

## COLORADO

### Dazzle Jazz

1512 Curtis St.  
Denver, CO  
(303) 839-5100

[dazzlejazz.com](http://dazzlejazz.com)

Although Dazzle Jazz moved to its new location in May 2017, the club has been a Denver staple for two decades. With the move, owners recently added a small retail section for jazz record sales. Tuesday nights are reserved for jam sessions, with jazz brunch sessions on the weekends. Upcoming shows include Nate Birkey (Dec. 30), Diane Schuur (Jan. 16–17) and Billy Childs (Jan. 25).

### El Chapultepec

1962 Market St.  
Denver, CO  
(303) 295-9126

[thepeclodo.com](http://thepeclodo.com)

Visitors to Denver in the mid-1930s would have seen El Chapultepec sitting on the same corner on Market Street. The venue is the oldest jazz and blues club in Denver, and it offers Mexican food. Mondays are reserved for an open jazz jam.

### Nocturne

1330 27th St.  
Denver, CO  
(303) 295-3333

[nocturnejazz.com](http://nocturnejazz.com)

Jazz comes to Nocturne five nights each week. The club books artists for eight-week runs so the musicians can focus "on the exploration of a musical icon, the study of a particular era or genre of jazz, or their own original works."

## NEW MEXICO

### Outpost

210 Yale Blvd. SE  
Albuquerque, NM  
(505) 268-0044

[outpostspace.org](http://outpostspace.org)

This venue presents more than 100 shows each year. In addition to booking a wide variety of acts, Outpost Productions, which is a nonprofit, hosts educational programs.

## OREGON

### The Jack London Revue

529 SW 4th Ave.  
Portland, OR  
(866) 777-8932

[jacklondonrevue.com](http://jacklondonrevue.com)

This intimate performance space helps fill

the void created by the closing of the venue Jimmy Mak's. Upcoming shows include Jason Marsalis (Jan. 18) and bluesman Tinsley Ellis (Feb. 23).

### Jo Bar & Rotisserie

715 NW 23rd Ave.  
Portland, OR  
(503) 222-0048

[jobarpx.net](http://jobarpx.net)

Presenting diners with "wood-oven-fired and spit-roasted fare," Jo Bar also usually books jazz on Wednesday and Friday evenings and on the weekends.

### Wilfs Restaurant & Bar

800 NW 6th Ave.  
Portland, OR  
(503) 223-0070

[wilfsrestaurant.com](http://wilfsrestaurant.com)

Primarily booking jazz on Wednesday through Saturday nights, the occasional regional or local act will perform on Mondays or Tuesdays. The bookings include jazz as well as classical-crossover music.

## WASHINGTON

### Dimitriou's Jazz Alley

2033 Sixth Ave.  
Seattle, WA  
(206) 441-9729

[jazzalley.com](http://jazzalley.com)

Founded more than 30 years ago, Dimitriou's has become the nexus for jazz in the city, hosting the biggest musicians when they come through town. Roy Hargrove and Russell Malone are familiar faces at Dimitriou's. Upcoming shows include the Chick Corea Trio (Feb. 1–4), Mindi Abair (Feb. 13–15), Joey Alexander (Feb. 22–25) and Dr. Lonnie Smith (Feb. 27–28).

### Egan's Ballard Jam House

1707 NW Market St.  
Seattle, WA  
(206) 789-1621

[ballardjamhouse.com](http://ballardjamhouse.com)

By day, Egan's serves as an all-ages rehearsal and workshop space. At night, local and regional talent performs and holds jam sessions. When there is an entrance fee, it's usually \$10. Occasionally, touring acts will command a higher cover and a minimum.

### The Royal Room

5000 Rainier Ave S  
Seattle, WA  
(206) 906-9920

[theroyalroomseattle.com](http://theroyalroomseattle.com)

When local jazz players perform at the Royal Room, there's never a cover; the musicians "are compensated by your donations." Bookers bring a variety of music to the Royal Room, presenting all-ages shows next to events like the Jazz Night School, an educational set of shows and master classes.

### Tula's

2214 Second Ave.  
Seattle, WA  
(206) 443-4221

[tulas.com](http://tulas.com)

Tula's books regional and national jazz talent each night of the week. As one of the venues for the annual Earshot Jazz Festival, the dinner spot/listening room has become an integral part of the busy Seattle jazz scene.



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Sun of Goldfinger bandmates David Torn (left), Ches Smith and Tim Berne perform at the jazz club Porgy & Bess in Vienna, Austria.

ECKHART DERSCHMIDT



## Jazz Thrives in Vienna

**IN TERMS OF MUSIC HISTORY, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE** to understate the importance of Vienna. Its storied history includes the groundbreaking work of Haydn in the late 18th century; Beethoven, Mozart and Schubert in the early 19th century; the populist superstars of the Johann Strauss clan (Jr. and Sr.), waltz-royalty in the late 19th century; Mahler in the romantic-cum-modern era; and the revolutionary “Second Viennese” school of 12-tone architect Arnold Schönberg and protégés Alban Berg and Anton Webern in the 20th century.

Lesser known is the city’s vitality as a center of jazz activity and support systems. Within the past half century, two primary jazz clubs—the city’s oldest continuous venue, the more traditional-oriented Jazzland (founded in 1972) and the world-renowned, programmatically adventurous Porgy & Bess (established 1993)—have been significant club hubs, featuring musicians from the States, Europe and elsewhere, while numerous other clubs, such as the Blue Tomato, keep the scene buzzing. Meanwhile, the Vienna Jazz Festival is a draw for artists and fans from around the world.

Jazzland’s founding director, Axel Melhardt, noted that in Vienna, “the jazz audience is better than ever. Besides the Porgy and Jazzland, there are about eight to 10 other venues with jazz and surrounding types of music.”

But the jazz-club pulse here was not always thus. As Melhardt explained, when Jazzland opened its doors in ’72, the jazz club options were limited, with the Storyville Club offering trad jazz and early swing, after the closure of other venues.

Porgy & Bess co-founder Christoph Huber commented that “of course, Vienna is associated with Mozart, Beethoven, Mahler, Schönberg, etc., but we also had a saxophone titan named Hans Koller.”

At the inception of Jazzland, Melhardt said, “I was mainly into traditional jazz but with at least a small inclination toward Charlie Parker, Dizzy, Adderley and early Coltrane—they were the avant-garde in those days. [Musicians] tried to find a new place to perform and they looked for someone who would be able to bring old and new jazz together, and they found me.” Early bookings included Ben Webster and Albert Nicholas.

As Melhardt admitted, “Since my personal taste begins with country blues and ends with Coltrane’s *Blue Trane*, the program of Jazzland is more ’20s to ’50s than recent styles.” He recognized that, across town, Porgy & Bess is “a very good avant-garde club.”

As a recent example of the avant-garde component of Porgy’s program, last November’s calendar featured John Zorn, whose appearances there included a marathon of his epic “Bagatelles” project in 2016.

As Huber noted, the 400-capacity club is “officially called ‘Jazz & Music,’ [which] means that jazz is in the center, but there are also a lot of concerts in the category ‘& Music,’ which can be electronic, contemporary serious music, singer/songwriter, etc. We program traditional Americans, [such as] Benny Golson, Ron Carter and Houston Person, avant-garde veterans like Cecil Taylor, Archie Shepp or Pharoah Sanders, straightforward players like Joshua Redman and Branford Marsalis or modern players like Steve Lehman and Rudresh Mahanthappa.”

A few layers of Viennese history are entrenched in Porgy & Bess’ history. Its origin story, starting in 1993, goes back to when the famously multi-tasking Swiss-turned-Viennese musician Mathias Rüegg, the mastermind and leader of the venturesome big band known as the Vienna Art Orchestra, launched the venue in what

was formerly known as the “Fledermaus Bar,” dating back to Johann Strauss II’s operetta classic. At the time, the notion and gumption of bringing international jazz musicians through Vienna was a unique enterprise, apart from Jazzland’s efforts in that direction. The current location of Porgy & Bess, as of 2000, involves rooms dating back to mid-19th century theater groups.

“Porgy & Bess is my favorite club in Europe,” said reedist Dave Liebman, one notable American musician who has played the venue many times. “The reasons are simple, but not so easily attainable, unless there is a care and concern that things are done correctly. Porgy is run like a business with excellent backline equipment, a great piano and even good food. The Vienna audience is one of the most sophisticated in the world. Do you think it is because Vienna was the center of Western music for years?”

Liebman added that, as a passionate founder and emotionally invested owner, Huber “takes care of business and respects the musicians and the music. You really get a true feeling of interest in what you are playing. The Porgy schedule reflects our present period of musical eclecticism with featured projects from all over the world.”

Liebman has played with many Viennese musicians over the years, including a decades-deep relationship with drummer Wolfgang Reisinger. He said that “the level of musicianship is beyond the norm, and again, with such a rich tradition and concerts all over Vienna, seemingly on a daily level, it couldn’t but be that way in this historical cultural center.”

Porgy & Bess, which celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2018, also gains traction and networking power through working closely with a circuit of other major clubs in Europe, through its connection with the European Jazz Network (EJN). A “member card” system, launched in 1994, enables holders to gain access to other clubs, such as the Jazzhouse in Copenhagen, Denmark; Stadtgarten in Cologne, Germany; Bimhuis in Amsterdam, the Netherlands; Moods in Zurich, Switzerland; and Unterfahrt in Munich, Germany.

One of the city’s most celebrated artists—the late Joe Zawinul (of Weather Report fame)—got into the Vienna jazz club scene late in life with his venue Birdland (2004–2008), named after his famed tune and running until shortly after his death. As Huber said, “For me, it was very important that he play Porgy & Bess before opening Birdland, which he did in 2003—three nights—after nearly 50 years after playing with [Austrian pianist] Friedrich Gulda.

“In the opening week of Birdland, we had Pharoah Sanders scheduled at P&B. After the Sanders concert, we went with him to Birdland, where he joined Joey DeFrancesco. That was our gesture. Vice versa, Zawinul showed up at P&B regularly when he was in town. He was a great musician and a great human being.”

—Josef Woodard



# INTERNATIONAL



nights a week. Touring acts from the United States, like Lew Tabackin and Scott Hamilton, play extended residencies when in town.

## GORGY & BESS

Riemergasse 11  
Vienna  
43 1 512 88 11

[porgy.at](http://porgy.at)

Celebrating its 25th birthday in 2018, Porgy & Bess books international jazz stars touring through Austria. Upcoming shows include Marc Ribot (Jan. 26), Dave Liebman (Jan. 27), David Murray (Feb. 10), Tim Berne (Feb. 12) and Chris Potter (March 1).

## STOCKWERK JAZZ

Jakominiplatz 18  
Graz  
43 316 821433

[stockwerkjazz.mur.at](http://stockwerkjazz.mur.at)

An inviting and intimate café serves as the entrance to this upstairs club, which has been presenting jazz for more than two decades. Upcoming shows include The Kandinsky Effect (March 9), JD Allen Trio (March 14) and Canada Day Quartet (March 22).

## Treibhaus

Angerzellgasse 8  
Innsbruck  
43 512 572000

[treibhaus.at](http://treibhaus.at)

This club is actually a functioning greenhouse, so the moniker Treibhaus, which is German for greenhouse, is more than just a clever name. The performance features jazz and other genres.

## BRAZIL

### Blue Note Rio

Av. Borges de Medeiros, 1424, Lagoa  
Rio de Janeiro  
55 21 3577 4477

[bluenerio.com.br](http://bluenerio.com.br)

The Blue Note Rio is part of an extended network of Blue Note clubs, which are also located in New York; Napa, California; Honolulu, Hawaii; Milan; Beijing; Tokyo; and Nagoya, Japan. Upcoming shows at the Blue Note Rio include Eliane Elias (Jan. 12–13), Joyne Moreno (Feb. 1) and Eumir Deodato (April 6–7).

### Bourbon Street Music Club

Rua dos Chanés, 127 – Moema  
São Paulo  
55 11 5095 6100

[bourbonstreet.com.br](http://bourbonstreet.com.br)

The aim of this club is to bring the food, spirit and sounds of New Orleans to Brazil. Besides jazz, the club also books pop and rock acts.

### The Maze

Rua Tavares Bastos 414/66  
Catete  
Rio de Janeiro  
55 21 2558 5547

[jazzrio.com](http://jazzrio.com)

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## ARGENTINA

### Notorious

Av. Callao 966  
Buenos Aires  
54 11 4813 6888

[notorious.com.ar](http://notorious.com.ar)

Programming music every night of the week, this venue also offers listeners a record store in the front, and a café in the back.

### Thelonious Club

Jerónimo Salguero 1884  
Buenos Aires  
54 11 4829 1562

[thelonious.com.ar](http://thelonious.com.ar)

Founded in 2000 by two jazz lovers inspired by the feel of New York nightclubs, this venue presents music four nights a week.

## AUSTRALIA

### Bennetts Lane

25 Bennetts Lane  
Melbourne, Victoria  
61 412 063 570

[facebook.com/bennettslane](http://facebook.com/bennettslane)

Bennetts Lane continues to adapt to changing circumstances. After a temporary closure in 2015, ownership has changed hands, and the club is primed for a resurgence. The owners are slated to open a new space at the Grand Hyatt complex on Flinders Lane.

### Elixir Tapas Bar

92 Abbott Street  
Cairns, Queensland  
61 406 534 996

[facebook.com/ElixirBarCairns](http://facebook.com/ElixirBarCairns)

This location, which was formerly was Pop & Co, presents music Wednesdays through Sundays. Two Fridays a month are reserved for a local jazz trio, while the Sunday shows spotlight blues artists.

### Foundry616

616 Harris Street  
Ultimo/Sydney  
02 9211 9442

[foundry616.com.au](http://foundry616.com.au)

Founded in 2013, Foundry616 is a relative newcomer to the scene, but it's made quite a splash already. Michael Griffin's Thelonious Monk Octet and the Michael Gordon Bebop Band have played at Foundry616.

### The Sound Lounge

City Road and Cleveland St.  
Chippendale, New South Wales  
61 2 9351 7940

[sima.org.au](http://sima.org.au)

Affiliated with the Sydney Improvised Music Association, this 120-seat lounge books jazz acts on Fridays and Saturdays.

### VENUE 505

280 Cleveland St.  
Surry Hills, New South Wales  
04 19 294 755

[venue505.com](http://venue505.com)

Started in 2004, Venue 505 (in the Sydney area) is part of a performing arts one-two punch: While Venue 505 is dedicated to promoting jazz and other music six nights a week, its sister venue, the Old 505 Theatre, presents theater productions. On Jan. 26–27, the venue presents Bandaluzia Flamenco with Paco Lara & Chachy Peñalver.

## AUSTRIA

### Blue Tomato

Wurmsergasse 21  
Vienna  
43 1 985 5960

[bluetomato.cc](http://bluetomato.cc)

In 2017, Blue Tomato celebrated its 35th year in business—a lengthy run for a jazz club. It has showcased a jazz, classical and other genres. The duo of Joe McPhee and Paal Nilssen-Love performed there recently.

### Jazzit

Elisabethstraße 11  
Salzburg  
43 662 883264

[jazzit.at](http://jazzit.at)

Jazzit has presented avant-garde jazz in Salzburg for more than four decades. Today the promoters book local, national and international groups like the Benjamin Schmid Jazz Quintet and the Jazzit Trio.

### Jazzland

Franz Josefs-Kai 29  
Vienna  
43 1 533 2575

[jazzland.at](http://jazzland.at)

As a venue entering its 46th year of operation, Jazzland, which operates out of a 500-year-old cellar, holds the title as the oldest jazz club in Austria. Live music is presented six



There's not a great distance between the patrons and musicians at Montreal venue Dièse Onze.

## Good Vibes at Montreal's Dièse Onze

**LISTENERS WHO WANT TO EXPERIENCE** jazz in Montreal would be well advised to check out the talent on tap at Dièse Onze. The intimate venue has become a key part of the Montreal jazz scene. Established in 2006 at 4115-A St. Denis, the semi-basement venue—whose French name translates to “sharp 11,” a musical reference with an especially hip connotation—presents two sets of high-quality music every night.

The club's proprietor, Gary Tremblay, makes an effort to offer his clientele diverse programming. On Mondays, the club is heated up with *Trabuco Habanero*, featuring artists from Montreal's Latin jazz scene. Tuesdays are reserved for a weekly jam session led by bassist Alex Bellegarde, running late into the night. Wednesdays are *Soul Therapy Night*, hosted by The Brooks collective. Thursdays feature a monthly spotlight. Fridays and Saturdays showcase mostly local, and some international, artists. And Sundays are vocal jazz jam nights, hosted by singer Kim Richardson.

Raised in Montreal, Tremblay grew up listening to Jimmy Smith, Marvin Gaye and Miles Davis. As a young man, he worked as a DJ and a clerk at a record store with a significant jazz section. Later he studied computer-assisted sound design and business management. He went on to manage several establishments, covering booking and sound, until walking into Dièse Onze

eight years ago. Impressed with the ambiance but disappointed by the service, he pointed out to the owner that “the manager had no smile,” and was soon hired to take over operations.

When Tremblay took ownership of the club in 2014, it was with the intention of transforming it into a jazz institution. “I was a little hesitant when I took over,” he recalled. “I had already been working 80- to 100-hour weeks, and knew there was a lot of work to be done. But I really dug the vibe. I was involved in the local jazz scene, and believed in it. So I decided to give it a go.”

Seeing the club as a long-term project, he envisioned it as a venue with the highest standards—both musical and culinary. “Every cent of profit since then has been re-invested into the club,” Tremblay continued, noting Dièse Onze's superior sound system, a new house drum kit, a Kawai piano and a completely re-equipped kitchen serving world-class cuisine.

The club's weekly jam session has been led by Bellegarde, a mainstay of Montreal's jazz scene, for the past eight years. The evening traditionally begins with a set by Bellegarde's trio with an invited guest—on the night of *DownBeat's* visit, it was Bulgarian saxophonist Tihomir Krastev. That's followed by an open jam that draws professional musicians (frequently including out-of-towners), university students and devoted hobbyists with its welcoming vibe. “Gary has done

a great job making musicians feel at home,” Bellegarde said.

Mentored by American-born bassist Skip Bey, Bellegarde had been leading jam sessions at various Montreal establishments for well over a decade before taking the gig at Dièse Onze. “The problem had always been finding venues that had a good vibe, which I think is super important for a good jam,” he said. “It was a no-brainer for me to finally get to do it in a proper jazz club.”

“The common thread of our clientele is that they are all real music lovers, whether they're 18 or 90,” Tremblay noted. Starting in January, he will begin a major renovation, moving the stage and raising the banquettes to enhance the audience's experience.

Dièse Onze partners with L'OFF Festival de Jazz de Montréal, and this past October presented multiple shows during the fest, including alto saxophonist Jason Stillman's Quartet. The venue also hosts its own series as part of the Montreal Jazz Festival. During the 2016 edition of that massive fest, Dièse Onze drew an international crowd for sets from a quintet co-led by trumpeter Ingrid Jensen and saxophonist Christine Jensen.

“Montreal is a jazz city—always has been,” Tremblay said. “There used to be a late-night set, running till 2 a.m. And I want to bring it back.”

—Sharonne Cohen



at the same location where the music happens? This three-decades-old bed and breakfast is also an art gallery. Plus, the owner hosts a monthly jazz night.

## CANADA

### DIÈSE ONZE

4115-A St. Denis  
Montreal  
(514) 223-3543

[dieseonze.com](http://dieseonze.com)

Dièse Onze, which celebrated its 10th birthday in 2016, presents two shows a night, every day of the week. The schedule highlights the best local jazz musicians mixed with international artists. Past featured artists have included Harold Mabern and Ben Monder. The vocal jam happens on Sundays, and Tuesdays are reserved for an instrumental jam session.

### Frankie's Jazz

765 Beatty St.  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
(604) 688-6368

[frankiesitaliankitchen.ca](http://frankiesitaliankitchen.ca)

The Coastal Jazz and Blues Society books acts at Frankie's four nights a week. The Vancouver Legacy Jazz Orchestra has held a Gerry Mulligan tribute night at this club.

### L'Astral

305 Ste. Catherine St. W.  
Montreal, Quebec  
(514) 288-8882

[sallelastral.com](http://sallelastral.com)

Presenting more than just jazz, L'Astral has focused on bringing quality live music to Montreal since 2009. Artists who have played L'Astral include the Orchestre National de Jazz, Sass Jordan, the Simon Denizart Trio and Sleigh Bells.

### The Rex Jazz & Blues Bar

194 Queen St. W.  
Toronto, Ontario  
(416) 598-2475

[therex.ca](http://therex.ca)

This hotel/jazz venue, which has been in operation since 1992, books local, national and international acts on a nightly basis. Jazz ensembles from the University of Toronto frequently take the stage.

### Upstairs Jazz Bar & Grill

1254 MacKay St.  
Montreal, Quebec  
(514) 931-6808

[upstairsjazz.com](http://upstairsjazz.com)

This venue has been a vital part of the Montreal scene for more than two decades. The club showcases McGill University jazz students twice a week, chairs two jam sessions each week, and books local and international talent on the weekends.

### Yardbird Suite

11 Tommy Banks Way  
Edmonton, Alberta  
(780) 432-0428

[yardbirdsuite.com](http://yardbirdsuite.com)

Yardbird Suite has been helping shape Edmonton's jazz scene since 1957, and the venue has been in its current location for three decades. Yardbird Suite, which hosts jam sessions each Tuesday and a Canadian jazz festival in November, is the headquarters of the Edmonton Jazz Society.

## CHINA

### Fringe Club

2 Lower Albert Road, Central  
Hong Kong  
852 2521 7251

[hkfringeclub.com](http://hkfringeclub.com)

For nearly 35 years, the Fringe Club (a former dairy show) has been presenting a range of jazz and other music, as well as performing arts events, in Hong Kong.

## COSTA RICA

### Jazz Cafe

Carretera Interamericana  
San Pedro, Montes de Oca Canton  
506 2253 8933

[jazzcafecostarica.com](http://jazzcafecostarica.com)

This 220-seat club is often filled with tourists, locals and expats. The owners book jazz, pop, rock and comedy shows.

## CZECH REPUBLIC

### AghaRTA Jazz Centrum

Zelezna 16  
Prague  
420 222 211 275

[agharta.cz](http://agharta.cz)

A smooth-jazz ensemble, a vocal jazz trio, a modern ensemble and a straightahead group are representative of the diversity of bookings at this Old Town club. The venue also hosts Prague Jazz Festival shows.

### The Jazz Dock

Janackovo Nabrezi 2  
Prague  
420 774 058 838

[jazzdock.cz](http://jazzdock.cz)

The Jazz Dock is an extremely literal place—this club is on the edge of the Vltava River, offering a beautiful backdrop to the music. Julian Lage and forward-leaning European jazz musicians typify the club's offerings.

### Lucerna Music Bar

Vodi kova 36  
Prague  
420 224 224 537

[musicbar.cz](http://musicbar.cz)

The owners' first inclination isn't to book jazz, as this venue leans toward more rock and pop acts, but intrepid listeners can find improvised music at the venue.

## DENMARK

### Copenhagen Jazzhouse

Niels Hemmingsens Gade 10  
Copenhagen  
45 3315 4700

[jazzhouse.dk](http://jazzhouse.dk)

Jazz trio The Necks, who performed at the Jazzhouse recently, epitomize the club's mission of "a place for experiments." The venue hosts these jazz experiments a few times each month.

### Jazzhus Montmartre

St. Regnegade 19A  
Copenhagen  
45 70 20 20 96

[jazzhusmontmartre.dk](http://jazzhusmontmartre.dk)

Jazzhus has been bringing top-quality jazz to Copenhagen audiences since 1959. The venue served as the European base of operations for Dexter Gordon and Ben



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Webster. Nowadays, the club hosts a wide variety of music, but focuses on jazz.

## ENGLAND

### The 606 Club

90 Lots Road  
London  
44 20 7352 5953

[606club.co.uk](http://606club.co.uk)

Opened in 1976 as a basement venue, the 606 Club moved above ground in the late 1980s to a space that has ample room for listeners to catch 10 bands each week. The venue rarely books visiting acts, choosing instead to focus on the London scene.

### Cafe OTO

18–22 Ashwin St.  
Dalston  
London  
44 20 7923 1231

[cafeoto.co.uk](http://cafeoto.co.uk)

This venue is a café by day and a club by night. Bookers highlight an array of avant-garde styles, include jazz, rock and experimental music.

### Jazz Cafe

5 Parkway  
London  
44 20 7485 6834

[thejazzcafelondon.com](http://thejazzcafelondon.com)

Seven nights a week, the Jazz Cafe books jazz, hip-hop, pop and blues artists.

### PizzaExpress Jazz Club

10 Dean St.  
London  
44 20 7437 9595

[pizzaexpress.com](http://pizzaexpress.com)

At this venue, jazz and pizza are a natural pairing. The actual club is nestled right below PizzaExpress restaurant, and the music lineup is anything but cheesy. The Kenny Werner Trio recently appeared at the club.

### Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club

47 Frith St.  
London  
44 20 7439 0747

[ronniescotts.co.uk](http://ronniescotts.co.uk)

What the venerated Village Vanguard is to New York City, Ronnie Scott's is to London. Jazz, blues and jazz-leaning rock musicians play every night of the week at this legendary venue, which has been in operation since 1959. Upcoming shows include the Brubeck Brothers (Jan. 11–14), Kurt Rosenwinkel (Jan. 15) and Django Bates (Jan. 30).

### The Vortex

11 Gillett Square  
London  
44 20 7254 4097

[vortexjazz.co.uk](http://vortexjazz.co.uk)

This small, not-for-profit club has been a London staple for more than 20 years. The owners book contemporary jazz and hold a jam session each Sunday. The London Jazz Orchestra has a long-running residency here.

## FINLAND

### Rytmihäiriöklubi / Juttutupa

Säästöpankinranta 6  
Helsinki  
358 20 7424240

[juttutupa.com](http://juttutupa.com)

The Juttutupa restaurant is the oldest of its kind in Helsinki, and the owners claim its legacy goes back to the 1880s. The 20-year-old club inside presents jazz and blues, with an emphasis on young Finnish musicians.

### Storyville

Museigatan 8  
Helsinki  
358 50 363 2664

[storyville.fi](http://storyville.fi)

A century ago, excess mixed with hot jazz was the norm in New Orleans' Storyville district, and this Helsinki spot aims to recreate some of that festive vibe. Hosting music four nights a week until 4 a.m., the venue books jazz, swing, blues and rock.

## FRANCE

### Duc Des Lombards

42 Rue des Lombards  
Paris  
1 4233 2288

[ducdeslombards.fr](http://ducdeslombards.fr)

The Kenny Werner Trio, Mark Turner and Marquis Hill recently performed at this venue. When not booking international jazz talent, the club fills its six-nights-a-week music calendar with jazz talent from throughout Europe.

### Le Caveau de la Huchette

5 Rue de la Huchette  
Paris  
33 1 4326 6505

[caveaudelahuchette.fr](http://caveaudelahuchette.fr)

Aiming for a Cotton Club vibe, the Le Caveau de la Huchette features nightly jazz music that is perfect for dancing. Need proof? The venue was featured in the film "La La

Land." Le Caveau sits in a building originally constructed in the 1500s, but the club itself has only been around since 1946.

### New Morning

7-9 Rue des Petites Écuries  
Paris  
33 1 45 23 51 41

[newmorning.com](http://newmorning.com)

While it has presented jazz since its founding more than 30 years ago, the venue now hosts rock, funk and hip-hop acts. Jazz stars come here for short residencies.

### Le Piano Barge

Allée Loïc Caradec, 56000  
Vannes  
33 2 97 47 76 05

[pianobarge.com](http://pianobarge.com)

Le Piano Barge allows jazz listeners to have a fine dining experience on a permanently docked boat overlooking the Marle River. The venue presents funk acts and improv theater.

### Sunset-Sunside

60 Rue des Lombards  
Paris  
33 0 1 40 26 46 60

[sunset-sunside.com](http://sunset-sunside.com)

Monday night jam sessions draw musicians to this venue, which has been open for nearly 35 years. During the week, European and French jazz dominates, though international acts are occasionally booked at this famous club. Enrico Rava is booked for Jan. 18–19.

## GERMANY

### A-Trane

1 Bleibtreustraße St.  
Berlin  
49 30 3132550

[a-trane.de](http://a-trane.de)

For more than 25 years, A-Trane has been presenting European and international jazz artists. The venue also serves as one of the main spots for Jazzfest Berlin. Upcoming shows include Lionel Loueke & Céline Rudolph (Jan. 16), the Fly Trio (Jan. 21) and Bernhard Meyer (Jan. 31).

### Aufsturz

Oranienburger Straße 67  
Berlin  
49 30 2804 74 07

[aufsturz.de](http://aufsturz.de)

Aufsturz opened its doors in 2004, hoping to bring a heavy dose of jazz to the community—along with a weekly swing dance party, complete with lessons. Aufsturz boasts a 100-selection beer menu. The club also serves as a gallery space and a lecture hall.

### B-Flat

Dircksenstraße 40  
Berlin  
49 30 2833 123

[b-flat-berlin.de](http://b-flat-berlin.de)

Modern jazz, soul, r&b—this jazz-leaning club has it all. Touring musicians and local acts take the stage each night of the week, with Wednesdays reserved for jam sessions. Recent performers include the Eden Bareket Trio and the Heiko Fischer Quartett.



## Jazz im Prinz Karl

Gradmann Weg 7  
Tübingen  
07 07 1376 01

[jipk.net](http://jipk.net)

Fred Hersch and Chris Potter recently played this venue, which has been presenting top-notch jazz for more than 40 years.

## Jazzkeller

Kleine Bockenheimer Str. 18a  
Frankfurt  
49 69 288537

[jazzkeller.com](http://jazzkeller.com)

It's been more than six decades since trumpeter Carlo Bohländer founded this basement space. Local artists and international acts are presented five nights a week. Ernie Watts performed in December. Upcoming shows include the Uta Dobberthien Quintet (Jan. 20), the Jesse Davis Quartet (Jan. 23) and Juliana Da Silva (Jan. 25).

## Quasimodo

Kantstraße 12A  
Berlin  
49 30 318 045 60

[quasimodo.de](http://quasimodo.de)

Quasimodo may have started out as a jazz-dominant spot five decades ago, but over the years, bookers started promoting a wider range of acts. But Quasimodo remains one of the main Berlin jazz spots.

## Stadtgarten

Venloer Straße 40  
Köln  
49 0221 952994 0

[stadtgarten.de](http://stadtgarten.de)

Stadgarten encompasses both a concert hall and a smaller performance area. While the primary focus is jazz, some of the shows branch out into other genres. Among the stars who've played Stadgarten are Jimmy Heath, Bill Frisell and Theo Bleckmann.

## Unterfahrt

Einsteinstrasse 42  
Munich  
49 0 89 448 27 94

[unterfahrt.de](http://unterfahrt.de)

Sunday is jam-session day at Unteffahrt, a jazz venue that also serves as an art gallery. Recent performers included the Dusko Goykovich Big Band, the Yosuke Onuma Quartet and Dieter Ilg Trio B-A-C-H.

## GREECE

### Half Note Jazz Club

Trivonianou 17  
Athens  
30 21 0921 3310

[halfnote.gr](http://halfnote.gr)

Greek jazz musicians always have a home at the Half Note, which presents music nearly every night of the week. In addition to jazz, the owners also book blues and world music.

## HUNGARY

### Budapest Jazz Club

Hollan Erno Utca 7  
Budapest  
36 70 413 9837

[bjc.hu](http://bjc.hu)

This venue aims to support jazz youth. There

are jam sessions three nights a week and classical music every Sunday.

## ISRAEL

### Beit Haamudim

Rambam 14  
Tel Aviv  
972 3 510 9228

[facebook.com/BeitHaamudim](http://facebook.com/BeitHaamudim)

The best Israeli jazz musicians play Betit Haamudim every night of the week. Vegetarian fare is served in this small club.

### Shablul Jazz

Airport Hangar 13  
Tel Aviv  
972 3 546 1891

[shabluljazz.com](http://shabluljazz.com)

Blues, reggae, pop, jazz—it's all presented at the Shablul, which has been active in the community for more than a decade. Jazz is still prominent at the club, and it comes mostly via regional and European acts.

## ITALY

### Alexanderplatz

Via Ostia, 9  
Rome  
06 39 06 8377 5604

[alexanderplatzjazzclub.com](http://alexanderplatzjazzclub.com)

The oldest jazz club in Italy, Alexanderplatz has been presenting jazz to locals and tourists at its home near St. Peter's Basilica for more than 30 years. Local and regional jazz musicians are frequently featured.

### Cantina Bentivoglio

Via Mascarella, 4/B  
Bologna  
39 051 265416

[cantinabentivoglio.it](http://cantinabentivoglio.it)

This small jazz venue presents jazz nearly every night. Barry Harris and the Smalls Club All Stars performed at the club during the Bologna Jazz Festival.

### Jazz Club Ferrara

Via 167, Rampari di Belfiore  
Ferrara  
39 0532 171 6739

[jazzclubferrara.com](http://jazzclubferrara.com)

Programming at this venue is heavy on the jazz. Situated within St. John's Tower, this club has presented jazz since 1999. Monday nights are reserved for jam sessions.

### La Salumeria Della Musica

Via Pasinetti 4  
Milan  
39 02 5680 7350

[lasalumeriadellamusica.com](http://lasalumeriadellamusica.com)

For about two decades, this venue has been booking emerging jazz artists, established Italian jazz talent and touring international musicians. Pop and rock acts also play here.

### Tramjazz

Departs from the Porta Maggiore plaza  
Rome  
3 39 6 334 700

[tramjazz.com](http://tramjazz.com)

A cable car serves as the evening's venue, as patrons are served a meal, given a tour of Rome and offered a jazz concert.



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[stockwerkjazz.mur.at](http://stockwerkjazz.mur.at)

**Graz City of Jazz**



Louise Phelan Quintet performs at La Casa del MENDRUGO in Puebla, Mexico.

each Wednesday night. The musicians are mainly from New Zealand; occasionally the venue will feature an international guest.

## NORWAY

### Victoria Nasjonal Jazz Scene

Karl Johans Gate 35  
Oslo  
47 23 89 69 23

[nasjonaljazzscene.no/en](http://nasjonaljazzscene.no/en)

This 300-person club is a great place to hear a blend of local and regional musicians mixed with international jazz stars, such as David Murray, Mike Stern and the Nels Cline Four.

## PORTUGAL

### HOT CLUBE DE PORTUGAL

Praca de Alegria 48  
Lisbon  
351 21 346 0305

[hcp.pt](http://hcp.pt)

In 1948, broadcaster Luis Villas-Boas founded the original club to foster the Portuguese jazz scene. In 2009, the music had to move when the club was hit with extensive water damage from flooding. In the relatively new space, jam sessions are held every Tuesday.

## RUSSIA

### IGOR BUTMAN JAZZ CLUB

21, Verkhnyaya  
Radischevskaya St.  
Moscow  
7 (495) 792-21-09

[butmanclub.ru](http://butmanclub.ru)

Igor Butman, the most famous saxophone player to come out of Russia, owns his namesake club in Moscow. At the venue, he showcases Russian jazz, but also books huge stars from the States, such as Christian McBride, Chris Potter and Ron Carter.

### JFC Jazz Club

Shpalernaya St. 33  
St. Petersburg  
7 812 272 9850

[jfc-club.spb.ru](http://jfc-club.spb.ru)

Russia-based musicians from various genres flock to JFC to perform. The venue showcases New Orleans style jazz, along with rock, blues and avant-garde music.

## SCOTLAND

### The Jazz Bar

1A Chambers Street  
Edinburgh  
44 0 131 220 4298

[thejazzbar.co.uk](http://thejazzbar.co.uk)

The Jazz Bar programs r&b, soul, rock and jazz. One of the more inventive running gigs is the World Premiere Quintet, a Saturday night show during which a random selection of five jazz players unite to create music—no set list, no rehearsal time, just improvised music.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### The Crypt

St. George's Cathedral, 1 Wale St and Adderley St.  
Cape Town  
27 79 683 4658

[thecryptjazz.com](http://thecryptjazz.com)

Located under a church, this venue presents live jazz Tuesday through Saturday.

## JAPAN

### Alfie Jazz House

6-2-35 Roppongi  
Hama Roppongi Bldg. 5F  
Tokyo  
81 3 3479 2037

[facebook.com/pages/Alfie/147192971998741](https://facebook.com/pages/Alfie/147192971998741)

Owners book mostly local musicians in this intimate venue, which was founded by the late drummer Motohiko "Toko" Hino.

### Body And Soul

6-13-9 Minamiaoyama  
Tokyo  
81 3 5466 3348

[bodyandsoul.co.jp](http://bodyandsoul.co.jp)

Presenting local jazz music six days a week for two shows each night, Body And Soul serves as an advocate for Tokyo jazz musicians. International touring acts occasionally stop into the club.

### Downbeat

Miyamoto Bldg, 2F 1-43  
Yokohama  
045 241 6167

[yokohama-downbeat.com/index.html](http://yokohama-downbeat.com/index.html)

You've got to be doing something right if you've been presenting jazz in Tokyo since the mid-1950s. This venue has built a great jazz legacy in an intimate setting.

### Jz Brat

26-1 Sakuragaokach  
Shibuya  
Tokyo  
81 03 5728 0168

[jzbrat.com](http://jzbrat.com)

Jz Brat focuses on jazz—for example, the recent appearance of Jun Saito and Hiroyuki Wanatabe's Drum Talk—but ownership presents rock, hip-hop and r&b.

### Shinjuku Pit Inn

2-12-4 Accord Bldg. B1  
Shinjuku shinjuku-ku  
Tokyo  
81 3 3354 2024

[pit-inn.com](http://pit-inn.com)

This club books a lot of large ensembles: In December, the Otomo Yoshihide Special Big Band closed out the year with eight concerts, and the month began with a concert by the Shibusasirazu Orchestra. The club features mostly local jazz artists.

## MEXICO

### La Casa del MENDRUGO

Calle 4 Sur 304, Centro Histórico  
Puebla de Zaragoza, Puebla  
52 222 232 5148

[casadelmendrug.com](http://casadelmendrug.com)

Live jazz is at the center of La Casa del MENDRUGO, but it's certainly not the only thing this venue has to offer. It also has a full restaurant, a museum and an art gallery.

### Zinco Jazz Club

Calle Motolinia 20, Centro  
Mexico City  
52 55 5512 3369

[zincojazz.com](http://zincojazz.com)

In December, the Zinco Big Band shared the calendar with the Dannah Garay Quinet and a tribute concert celebrating Amy Winehouse. Programming at Zinco may run the gamut from pop to jazz, but the club's dedication to improvised music is unmistakable.

## THE NETHERLANDS

### BIMHUIS

Piet Heinkade 3  
Amsterdam  
31 20 788 2150

[bimhuis.com](http://bimhuis.com)

Since 2005, when it moved to a modern building right on the water, Bimhuis has been a crowning jewel among European jazz venues. Bimhuis presents more than 300 concerts each year, billing local, European and international artists. Jam sessions happen each Tuesday. Upcoming shows include the Marcín Wasilewski Trio (Jan. 31), Mike Reed's Flesh & Bone (Feb. 3) and the Charles McPherson Quartet (March 8).

### Jazz Cafe Alto

Korte Leidsdwardsstraat 115  
Amsterdam

[jazz-cafe-alto.nl/home](http://jazz-cafe-alto.nl/home)

This venue presents jazz and blues shows every night of the week.

## NEW ZEALAND

### Creative Jazz Club Aotearoa

1885 Britomart  
27 Galway St.  
Auckland  
0212 389 747

[creativejazzclub.co.nz](http://creativejazzclub.co.nz)

Creative Jazz Club presents a jazz showcase



### The Orbit

81 De Korte St.  
Johannesburg  
27 11 339 6645

[theorbit.co.za](http://theorbit.co.za)

This welcoming, regional jazz spot presents music nearly every night of the week.

### SPAIN

#### Bogui Jazz

Calle Barquillo 29  
Madrid  
34 915 21 15 68

[bogui.es](http://bogui.es)

Bogui features stars from the Spanish and European jazz scenes as well Americans such as Greg Osby.

#### Cafe Central

Plaza del Angel 10  
Madrid  
34 913 69 41 43

[cafecentralmadrid.com](http://cafecentralmadrid.com)

Founded more than 35 years ago, this club, an Art Deco wonderland, offers jazz, gospel, blues and other genres. The venue has presented Wallace Roney and Ernie Watts.

#### Harlem Jazz Club

Carrer de Contessa de Sobradriel 8  
Barcelona  
34 933 10 07 55

[harlemjazzclub.es](http://harlemjazzclub.es)

Now in its 31st year, this Club has become a touchstone of the jazz world in Barcelona. The programming also includes blues, funk and soul. There's a blues jam every Monday.

### Jamboree Jazz Club

Plaça Reial 17  
Barcelona  
34 933 19 17 89

[masimas.com](http://masimas.com)

Founded in 1960, this club hosts the best jazz musicians in Catalonia, as well as international stars such as Harold Mabern.

#### Jimmy Glass Jazz Bar

Calle Baja 28  
Valencia  
34 656 89 01 43

[jimmyglassjazz.net](http://jimmyglassjazz.net)

This club, which is 25 years old, presents Spanish jazz artists and international stars.

### SWEDEN

#### Fasching

Kungsgatan 63  
Stockholm  
46 8 20 00 66

[fasching.se](http://fasching.se)

In 1977, Fasching opened its doors to showcase Scandinavian artists. Today, patrons flock to the club to hear stars like Chris Potter rub elbows with Stockholm Jazz Underground and other regional artists. The club also offers reggae, indie pop and soul.

#### Glenn Miller Café

Brunnsgatan 21  
Stockholm  
46 76 882 45 49

[glennmillerprogram.se](http://glennmillerprogram.se)

This small venue showcases jazz on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

### SWITZERLAND

#### Marian's Jazz Room

Engestrass 54  
Bern  
41 31 3096 111

[mariansjazzroom.ch](http://mariansjazzroom.ch)

This venue, which is located in the Innere Enge Hotel, has presented world-class jazz for more than 25 years. Closed during the summer months, bookers program jazz artists five days a week from September to May.

### THAILAND

#### Saxophone Pub

3/8 Phayathai Rd. Victory Monument  
Bangkok  
+66 022 465 472

[saxophonepub.com](http://saxophonepub.com)

For more than three decades, Thailand's jazz musicians have performed at Saxophone Pub. Music happens seven nights a week. The booking leans heavily toward jazz, but other genres are occasionally presented.

### TURKEY

#### Nardis Jazz Club

Kuledibi Sok. No:8  
Istanbul  
90 212 244 6327

[nardisjazz.com](http://nardisjazz.com)

Turkish jazz musicians share space with artists from a range of genres at this 120-seat venue. Shows happen every night of the week. The venue has recently hosted a Django Reinhardt-style jazz group, a Latin music ensemble and numerous straightahead musicians.

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- Roy Hargrove
- James Moody
- Jimmy Smith
- Billy Cobham

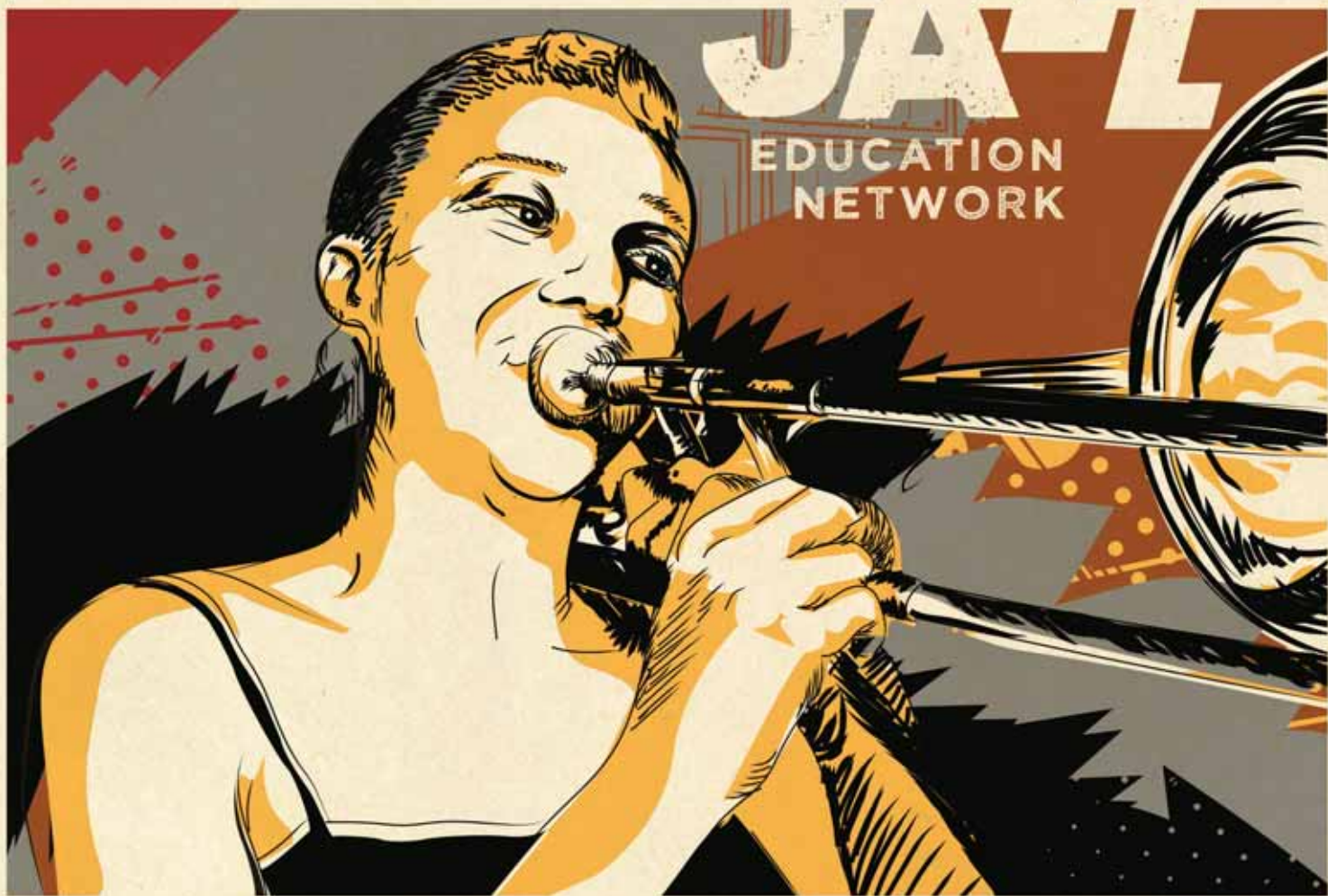
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