



Bray Jazz Festival returns for its seventh year with a programme that again taps the rich vein of musical creativity and talent at work in the province of jazz.

We are proud and delighted to have on our programme for 2006 a truly great legend of jazz in pianist Andrew Hill, while elsewhere on the programme a broad range of musical innovators - from the US, France, Great Britain, South America, Africa and the Far East will illuminate the festival with their imagination, creativity and talent.

Bray Jazz continues to grow and develop – something made possible thanks to the continuing support of you – the public, and of our sponsors Budweiser, The Arts Council, Bray Town Council, Wicklow 400, Wicklow County Council, Lennox Estates, Newlyn Developments, East Coast FM, East Coast and Midlands Tourism, Alliance Francaise, Mermaid Arts Centre, and O'Brien's Wines – to whom we are extremely grateful.

We would also like to thank Bray's licenced vintners, Bray Tourism Ltd, The Heather House Hotel, Esplanade Hotel, Katie Gallaghers and Improvised Music Company for their support.

We hope you enjoy the weekend.

www.brayjazz.com



Main Stage at **Mermaid Arts Centre Friday 28th April 8pm 30 2 5**

Andrew Hill Quintet (USA)

Andrew Hill (piano), tbc (trumpet), Jason Yarde (sax), John Hebert (bass), Eric McPhearson, drums

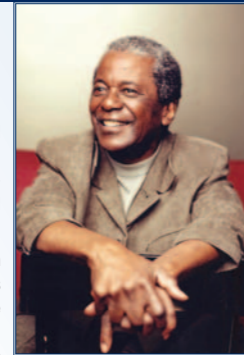
Over nearly half a century, composer, pianist and ensemble leader Andrew Hill has gained international jazz renown for his uniquely original music and recorded work - by turns dark, fragile, funny, unforgettable, tuneful and mysterious.

With the release in 2000 of "Dusk", his first album in ten years, Hill reached another peak, equaling the high points of composition and collaboration he achieved in the 1960's with such innovators as Eric Dolphy, Elvin Jones, and Sam Rivers -most often commissioned by Blue Note Records.

Hill was born in Chicago and raised in the heart of that city's black South Side, and began his career as a youth playing accordion and tap dancing outside his neighborhood's nightclubs and theatres.

During the 1950's he worked with Charlie Parker, Miles Davis and Dinah Washington, before in the 1960's being contracted as a leader by Alfred Lyons, the founder of Blue Note records, who proclaimed Hill his "last great protege".

New York Times - "One of the 1960's great jazz heroes"



www.andrewhilljazz.net

Featuring : The Phil Ware Trio (8.00pm)

Phil Ware has been one of Ireland's most in-demand pianists since moving from his native England to live in Dublin in 2000. A former 'Rising Star' of jazz in the UK, his fluent, easy style has won him a raft of admirers. His playing is complimented by Dave Redmond (bass) and Stephen Keogh (drums).

Main Stage at **Mermaid Arts Centre Saturday 29th April 8pm 2 5**

Andy Sheppard Quartet (UK)

Andy Sheppard (sax), John Paricelli (guitar), Dudley Phillips (bass), and Kuljit Bhamra (percussion)

Bray Jazz presents a double bill featuring two of the hottest tickets in jazz from the UK.

Andy Sheppard is one of Europe's foremost tenor and soprano saxophonists. Emerging as an artist to watch in the late 1970's, he based himself first in Paris, before returning to the UK in the mid-80s to release his debut album - an award winning and highly acclaimed work on which trumpeter Randy Brecker was amongst those who featured.

Often described as a serial collaborator, Sheppard has worked with an astonishing range of musical partners, from Carla Bley, George Russell and Gil Evans to the Indian violinist Shankar, Brazilian percussionist Nana Vasconcelos, and with artists from across the globe.

His new quartet features some of the greats of British jazz - augmented by the fast and furious tabla-led rhythms of master Indian percussionist Kuljit Bhamra.

Featuring : The Gwilym Simcock Quintet (UK)

Gwilym Simcock (piano), Stan Sulzmann (sax), John Paricelli (guitar), Martin France (drums) and Phil Donkin (bass).

25 year old Gwilym Simcock is the outstanding jazz pianist and composer of his generation. Winner of the 'Rising Star' award at this year's BBC Jazz Awards, and winner of the 'British Jazz Awards 2005', Gwilym Simcock is also an exceptional classical pianist and French horn player.

A recent item in The Guardian said that his live performance was so exceptional it made 'recording seem mandatory on every gig'.



His virtuosic head-long electric playing is certain to attract the guitar aficionados in their droves, but elsewhere expect intricately beautiful and near classical soundscapes that are uplifting and awe inspiring in their melodic inventiveness. Born in Paris from Vietnamese parents, he began to play drums at the age of 15, then took up guitar & electric bass.

His multi-ethnic recording 'Dé' was ranked by many reviews as the World Music Album of 1989. Nguyễn Le is a self-taught musician, with a wide scope of interests and influences, from rock and funk to the musics of North Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

www.nguyenle.com

Main Stage at **Mermaid Arts Centre Sunday 30th 8pm 25**

Nguyen Le 'Bakida Trio' (France/Vietnam)

Nguyen Le (guitar), Renaud Garica Fons (double bass), Patrice Heral (drums)

A brilliant and electricifying improviser, French/Vietnamese guitarist Nguyen Le's rich musical palate takes his audience on a musical tour which runs the gamut from Hendrix-inspired jazz funk through traditional Vietnamese music to ambient sounds and world fusion.

His virtuosic head-long electric playing is certain to attract the guitar aficionados in their droves, but elsewhere expect intricately beautiful and near classical soundscapes that are uplifting and awe inspiring in their melodic inventiveness. Born in Paris from Vietnamese parents, he began to play drums at the age of 15, then took up guitar & electric bass.

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Featuring : Simulacrum

'Simulacrum' is a welcome return by Irish bassist Ronan Guilfoyle to the composition that he premiered in Dublin in a 2003.

An extended piece that embraces Tango and Berber music and the influence of Bela Bartok and Ornette Coleman, this great Irish composer joins forces with such major European figures as French violinist Dominique Pifarély, cellist Vincent Courtis, as well as Tanya Kalmanovitch (Viola), Joe O'Callaghan (guitar), and Sean Carpio (drums).

Bray Jazz 2006 ... at a glance

Friday, 28th April

Town Hall	7.00pm	Mike Nielsen & Benjamin Dwyer
Mermaid Arts Centre	8.00pm	The Andrew Hill Quintet (USA) + Phil Ware Trio
World Music Stage	11.00pm	Sexteto Cafe (Colombia)

Saturday, 29th April

Town Hall	7.00pm	Niwel Tsumbu (Congo)
Mermaid Arts Centre	8.00pm	Andy Sheppard Quartet (UK) + Gwilym Simcock 5tet (UK)
The Piano Room	9.00pm	Berkman/Buckley Quartet (USA/Irl)
World Music Stage	11.00pm	Soweto Kinch (UK)
Late Night Club	12.00pm	Retrophonic (Ireland)

Sunday, 30th April

Town Hall	7.00pm	Bob Brozman (USA)
Mermaid Arts Centre	8.00pm	Nguyen Le 'Bakida' Trio (Fr/Vietnam) + Simulacrum
The Piano Room	9.00pm	Tommy Halferty's French Connection (France)
World Music Stage	11.00pm	New Cool Collective (Netherlands)
Late Night Club	12.00pm	The Company (Ireland)

Weekend Free Jazz.. supported by Budweiser 10pm

Friday, 28th	Enjoy Budweiser Responsibly	O'Driscolls Ardmore Bar The Martello Harbour Bar	Bourbon Street Gavin Povey Trio The Bluenotes Shawn Jones Quartet
Saturday, 29th		Hibernia Inn Harbour Bar Kavanagh's Dargle Tavern Vevay Inn Coach Inn	The Bluenotes Danny's Jazz Band Parchman Farm East Coast Jazz Band Bourbon Street Baddest Boys
Sunday, 30th		Royal Hotel (lunchtime) Atmospheric Bar (afternoon) Hibernia Inn Harbour Bar Kelly's Strand Hotel Kavanagh's	Blue Moon Gavin Povey Trio Shawn Jones Quartet Popular Front Blue Moon Setanta Cried Bourbon Street
Monday, 1st		The Martello (lunchtime)	Blue Moon

April 28th-30th

BRAY JAZZ 2006 featuring ANDREW HILL QUINTET / NGUYEN LE BAKIDA TRIO / ANDY SHEPPARD QUARTET / GWILYM SIMCOCK QUINTET / SOWETO KINCH / DAVID BERKMAN QUARTET / BOB BROZMAN / SIMULACRUM / SEXTETO CAFE / TOMMY HALFERTY'S FRENCH CONNECTION / NEW COOL COLLECTIVE / THE COMPANY / RETROPHONIC / NIWEL TSUMBU / MIKE NIELSEN & BEN DWYER / PHIL WARE TRIO / .. and more

www.brayjazz.com



Andrew Hill (USA)

Town Hall Friday 28th April 7.00pm 8

Mike Nielsen & Benjamin Dwyer (Irl)

Two of Ireland's great guitarists from different musical genres collaborate for the opening concert of this year's Jazz Festival.

One of Ireland's foremost jazz guitarists, Mike Nielsen teams up with the gifted classical guitarist and composer Benjamin Dwyer for a recital that is certain to be a compelling meeting of musical minds, along the fretboard. Sligo born Mike Nielsen is a highly acclaimed jazz guitarist, while Benjamin Dwyer is one of the most successful from the younger generation of Irish composers - an artist whose work is performed regularly both at home and abroad.



Bob Brozman (USA)

Bob Brozman is a remarkably prolific artist whose wit, energy, and remarkable musical technique combine to create an unforgettable performance.

A master of slide, fingerstyle, and percussive guitar, Bob's exhilarating show spans the global and musical spectrum, from Hawaii, India, Africa, to the Far East and American roots blues.

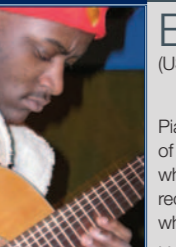
His fingerwork is staggering, his tricks having the audience looking for electronic effects that in fact don't exist - his show is the clean product of acoustic genius.

Town Hall Saturday 29th April 7.00pm 8

Niwel Tsumbu (Congo)

West Africa has a great guitar tradition - and Congo born Niwel Tsumbu is a worthy carrier of that torch. A brilliant player who was raised on Soukous and the Rhumba music of his homeland, he subsequently discovered jazz and classical playing, and has been on a remarkable musical journey ever since.

Appearance at Cork Jazz Festival and at the Festival of World Culture sealed Niwel's reputation as a musician of depth and substance. He is supported by Cork based percussionist Eamon Cagney.



Berkman/Buckley Quartet (USA/Irl/Scotland)

David Berkman (piano), Michael Buckley (sax), Aidan O'Donnell (bass) and Sean Carpio (drums)

Pianist and composer David Berkman has been an important part of the jazz scene in New York for over 20 years. A recording artist whose four Palmetto recordings have appeared on numerous best records of the year critic's lists, he is a composer and player whose work is widely admired.

He has played in countless bands including those of Cecil McBee, Tom Harrell and the Vanguard Orchestra, and has performed, composed and arranged for numerous jazz luminaries, including Brian Blade, Joe Lovano, Dave Douglas and Ray Drummond. This quartet provides Berkman, and Ireland's Michael Buckley with an opportunity to showcase their work, ably backed by a quartet that includes virtuoso Scottish bassist Aidan O'Donnell, and the supremely talented Irish drummer Sean Carpio.



Esplanade Hotel Piano Room Sunday 30th April 9pm 20



Tommy Halferty's French Connection (Irl/France)

Some of France's best known players join forces with great Irish guitarist Tommy Halferty for what promises to be a spell-binding night of Hiberno-Gallic musical exploration.

Halferty, who is one of the greats of contemporary Irish jazz lines up alongside Jean-Philippe Lavergne on Hammond organ for this and the gifted French saxophonist Boris Blanchett in a quartet that is completed by Irish drummer and regular Halferty collaborator Conor Guilfoyle.

A regular visitor to France, Derry born Halferty has drawn inspiration and found influences in the rich jazz tradition and idioms of our European neighbours. He is regarded as one of the first Irish jazz musicians to export a distinctly indigenous style to a more worldwide setting.



WORLD MUSIC STAGE @ Katie Gallagher's 11pm Saturday 29th 10

Soweto Kinch (UK)

Recipient of a Mercury Music Award and MOBO Album of the Year award in 2003, Soweto Kinch has won widespread acclaim for the innovative way he has succeeded in combining straight-ahead jazz with funky hip hop and rap.

A truly exciting innovator, Soweto Kinch has managed to bring hip hop to a jazz audience, and with the mainstream acclaim he has recently been receiving, is well on the way to bringing jazz to the hip hop audience as well.

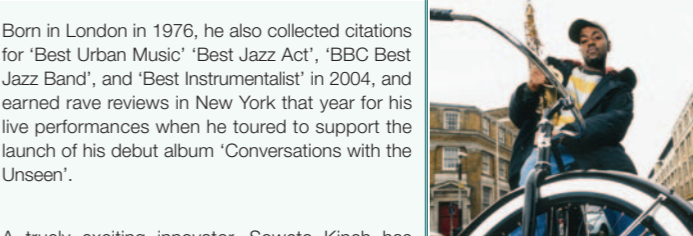


Sexteto Cafe (Colombia)

Single handedly responsible for reviving interest in the 'salsa vibes' sound with the release of their debut album in the mid 1990's, Sexteto Café is the brainchild of much in demand Latin composer and vibra-harpist Dorance Lorza.

His seven piece combo deliver high energy reworkings of original compositions and classic salsa songs, making Sexteto Café a dancefloor favourite for those who love their latin grooves packed with power and passion.

WORLD MUSIC STAGE @ Katie Gallagher's 11pm Friday 10



New Cool Collective was born over a decade ago when their founding eight members ignited the Amsterdam club scene, blazed a trail across Northern Europe, and quickly became a massive attraction at festivals across the world. From the start they were hot and never cooled down, releasing five albums, winning a Dutch Grammy award, and becoming a huge cross-over hit - as the bands steaming mix of highly danceable soul and jazz spiced with Latin flavors has turned on clubbers and jazz buffs alike.

A sensational live collective who have to be seen, and heard, to be believed!

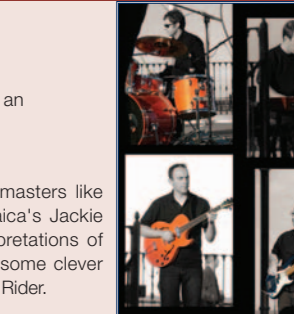
WORLD MUSIC STAGE Sunday 30th April 11pm 10

Late Night @ Heather House Hotel Sat 29th April 12pm 10

Retrophonic (Ireland)

This four piece band are at their best live, playing an infectious blend of funk, soul and jazz grooves.

Taking their set from the catalogues of funk masters like Booker T & the M.G.'s, The Meters and Jamaica's Jackie Mittoo, the band also include their own interpretations of modern artists such as Michael Jackson and some clever reworking of cult tv themes like Bullitt and Knight Rider.



Late night @ Heather House Hotel Sun 30th May 12pm 10

The Company (Ireland)

A hard-hitting combo who straddle the worlds of soul, funk and jazz with ease, The Company have been one of the busiest outfits on the Dublin scene for the past number of years.

Formed by members of the Trinity Jazz Society for a one-off event in November 2001, this seven piece outfit cooked up a storm, quickly realised that they were onto a good thing - and have never looked back. With influences ranging from the Jazz Messengers to James Brown, Marlena Shaw, and the great soul and Motown groups of the '60s and '70s, their choice of material will keep the audience guessing - from Chopin preludes to the latest Radiohead number, the result is an inimitable blend of hard-hitting funk, soulful ballads, and their unique take on the jazz tradition.



Bray Jazz Festival's Town Hall shows are being presented this year as part of the Wicklow 400 Celebrations, taking place in 2006 to mark the county's 400 years as an administrative centre.



BOX OFFICE INFORMATION: Tickets for all events at Mermaid Arts Centre, Bray Town Hall and The Piano Room @ Esplanade Hotel available from : **Mermaid Box Office (01) 2724030** Tickets for World Music Stage and Late Night Jazz Club on the door. www.mermaidartscentre.ie www.brayjazz.com

