



For further information, please contact:

MESSE BREMEN · M3B GmbH

Frank Schümann, T +49 421 3505 - 453

schuemann@messe-bremen.de

www.messe-bremen.de

jazzahead! 2022: “Finally...Canada!”

The jazzahead! festival will run from 14 April to 1 May – The opening evening of the festival is on 14 April with Erin Costelo – the gala concert with Laila Biali and Malika Tirolien is on 29 April – Advance Booking is now open

Bremen – all the dates are now in place and advance booking is open: a grand opening concert by Nova Scotia singer-songwriter Erin Costelo at the ‘Theater am Goetheplatz’ on Thursday, 14 April will set the jazzahead! festival 2022 in motion. This year’s partner country is Canada. The main event, the jazz trade fair including CLUBNIGHT and the gala concert, will then take place from Thursday 28 April until Sunday, 1 May. jazzahead! is produced by MESSE BREMEN.

“Finally...Canada” says Sybille Kornitschky, who runs jazzahead! for MESSE BREMEN. ‘Finally’ because Canada was originally due to be presented in 2020, and then again in 2021, but these plans fell victim to the Corona pandemic – not once but twice. Whereas in 2021 there was a digital jazzahead!, the 2022 trade fair will take place as a hybrid event. This means that the international audience of jazz industry people will, to a significant extent, be able to follow the events on the internet. That said, the festival programme component of jazzahead! will only be available to those attending live and in person.

“Especially now it is important that we formulate a clear offer,” says Kornitschky. “So a key element of our programme is, as ever, a major gala concert. It will take place on Friday 29 April at concert hall ‘Die Glocke’. Laila Biali and Malika Tirolien will be performing a double bill, starting at 8 pm.

For the opening concert on 14 April, jazzahead!’s artistic directors Uli Beckerhoff and Peter Schulze have also chosen a female artist, Nova Scotia singer-songwriter Erin Costelo. “With these three strong female voices we feel we are sending out a clear message,” says Sybille Kornitschky.

These three artists bear witness to the breadth and the depth of the Canadian music scene. **Erin Costelo** has often been compared to Nina Simone and Carole King, she has toured with Dr. John and Boz Scaggs and also played with Levon Helm (from “The Band”). The two artists appearing at the gala concert also stand for a concept of jazz which is both broad and inclusive: pianist/singer/songwriter **Laila Biali** has already performed once before at jazzahead!: her performance thrilled the audience at the showcase festival in 2016. Her music is in the tradition of the Canadian greats such as Diana Krall and Michael Bublé – but also of Joni Mitchell and Leonard Cohen. Influences from jazz, soul, blues, folk and pop combine in Laila Biali’s music in a way that is very natural. **Malika Tirolien** is best known internationally for her various collaborations, including Cirque du Soleil, Snarky Puppy and the Metropole Orkest. The singer/songwriter/producer is originally from Guadeloupe and is based in Montreal.



Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung
für Kultur und Medien





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Her music combines big emotions and a fresh perspective on different genres which stems from a deep understanding of jazz. Her voice has been described as "always sublime".

jazzahead! is the trade fair for jazz. It has been held at MESSE BREMEN since 2006 and is now regarded as the world's largest gathering for the jazz scene. One of the features of jazzahead! is that a city-wide music and cultural programme is formulated with a host of cooperation partners, in a way that that can reach people and have an impact throughout the city. As part of the trade fair and festival, a partner country is presented –and in 2022 Canada will become the first jazzahead! partner country from the other side of the Atlantic.

jazzahead! 2022 - including the culture festival - will take place from Thursday 14 April to Sunday 1 May 2022. During these two weeks, the city of Bremen will be placing a spotlight on international jazz - and on Canadian culture. The programme also includes the popular jazzahead! CLUBNIGHT, which will take place on Saturday 30 April 2022 and will feature a host of artists in a wide variety of venues.

Tickets for the festival opening and for the gala concert are available from Northwest Ticket at their advance booking offices or by calling +49 421 - 36 36 36 or via the festival's own webshop. or online at www.jazzahead.de/en.

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About jazzahead! Launched in 2006, jazzahead! is the largest jazz trade fair in the world. Having grown steadily, the industry gathering is also known as the "family get-together of jazz"; it has never lost its family character. The 40 showcase concerts during the fair and the jazzahead! Festival are also open to the general public. Since 2011, this festival, together with around 60 cooperation partners, has presented the cultural scene of a different partner country each year, and bands from all over the world. These bands perform, among other things, in the CLUBNIGHT in 30 venues in Bremen. Since 2015, jazzahead! has been funded by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media. In 2019 jazzahead! was awarded the title of European Cultural Brand of the Year. In 2021, the industry event took place digitally for the first time due to the pandemic, and the CLUBNIGHT and the gala concert had to be cancelled for the first time.

