

15TH
EDITION



01 APRIL
2017



Jazz Artists on the Greens™

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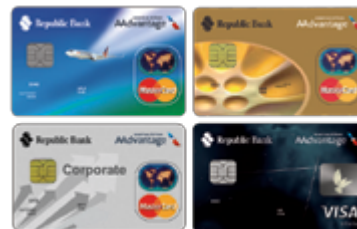
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PROGRAMME SCHEDULE*

Jazz Artists on the Greens™

Come for the time... Discover the music!

James Jessey Joseph.....	5:00 pm
William Roblejo's Trío.....	6:00 pm
Victor Provost.....	7:00 pm
Vaughnette Bigford.....	8:00 pm
Élan parlē.....	9:00 pm

*subject to change



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WELCOME FROM PRODUCTION ONE

Celebration time, as we welcome all music lovers and Caribbean jazz lovers to the 15th edition of **Jazz Artists on the Greens™**. A milestone in live music production, especially for a genre and title that is not the most popular in Trinidad and Tobago. From a gathering where jazz musicians could play for discerning fans to dreams of being as big as some of the regional jazz festivals—many of which have called it quits—to becoming an event on the calendar of many here, we at Production One Ltd are extremely proud of the achievements made to this point. We celebrate longevity!

Nothing is perfect, we have had a few missed commercial opportunities, we had resignations and we have seen the vagaries of audiences fluctuating when we had to make hard decisions on ticket prices and venue location over the years, but through it all, an ever growing fan base of dedicated patrons has made it possible to endure the ups and downs of festival management, the rainstorms, the competition from regional festivals that have ultimately gone with the wind. We celebrate persistence!

As our tag line states, *“Come for the lime...Discover the music,”* we continue to encourage patrons to come early, stay long, to walk with their picnic blankets and lounging chairs and umbrella, and discover the new, the familiar,

the fun. Over the years we have lost dedicated patrons and musicians, who graced us with their presence and sustained this festival. We celebrate them too!

Trinidad and Tobago in 2017 is not the same economically as it was in 2003. One constant however, is that people like to relax with music. Live music even better. The growth of the industry has allowed for a diversification of talent and the gradual elimination of that barrier people put up when the word ‘jazz’ is used. That was a goal from the inception, “to demystify jazz for a younger crowd.” Those circumstances over the years that have allowed the event to grow, and keep patrons coming back for more are cherished and won’t be taken for granted. We celebrate loyalty!

Looking down the road, we have recognised that the audience has grown with us—if you came to JAOTG 2003 as a young adult in your 20s, you could be 40 plus this year! Tastes change, style, change, but the constant is great performance and talent. A true pan-Caribbean Jazz event with artists from Haiti, US Virgin Islands, Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago awaits you. This 15th Anniversary of the biggest Caribbean Jazz event in Trinidad and Tobago aims to be one to remember. We celebrate you!

We look forward to seeing everyone again on **17 March, 2018** for the 16th edition of **Jazz Artists on the Greens™**.



Production One Ltd. is a company committed to the top quality production of high profile concerts and to expanding the audience for Caribbean jazz, and other live music in Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean. This will be achieved not by compromising the music but through a dynamic and highly visible marketing strategy and by developing the public's trust through a commitment to quality. In addition to fulfilling the role of a traditional concert promoter, we also specialize in providing opportunities for sponsorship by adding value to events through sophisticated marketing, advertising, design, public relations and production of collateral media.

Directors: Anton Doyle, Rolf Doyle, Martin Wellington, Maria Wellington, Keith Niles, Nigel A. Campbell

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PRODUCTION ONE LTD.

WHO'S ON THE GREENS IN 2017

With the Caribbean as our home, and the music of these islands influencing how we define, how we listen, how we enjoy this music called jazz, **Jazz Artists on the Greens™** is particularly proud of the cast of performers at this 15th Anniversary Celebration. Since 2003, the producers have endeavoured to select a balanced cast of performers that can entertain and sustain for the five hours we enjoy the Greens.

The cast is truly a pan-Caribbean one representing the Greater Antilles—Haiti and Cuba—and the Virgin Islands and Trinidad and Tobago. For one evening, we can all be one and celebrate the sounds, the vibes, the ambience of the musicians and singers. The 2017 cast features three acts that have performed on the Greens in prior years. Contemporary Caribbean jazz band **élan parlé** mark a triumphant return having performed



at the première edition of the event. **William Roblejo's Trio** from Cuba also perform a second time since their Greens debut in 2010 at the former location at the UWI Department of Creative and Festival Arts grounds in St Augustine. **Vaughnette Bigford** made her Greens debut there too in 2009.

Joining the returning jazz artists are two acts at different career points; Haitian guitarist **James Jessey Joseph** with his **A+ Band** now making the big move in the festival events, and US Virgin

Islander **Victor Provost** who is an acclaimed steelpan jazz virtuosos with touring and recording accolades to earn the respect of many.

Caribbean Jazz has come into its own, and we can now enjoy the fruits of the labour made by pioneers and music merchants that make us smile, dance and enjoy the Greens.

VAUGHNETTE BIGFORD (*Trinidad and Tobago*)

The creole chanteuse returns to the Greens. From her website: With her unusual name, her signature look, and a voice like the rustle of a velvet skirt, Vaughnette Bigford is hard to forget. This Trini performer is on a mission to remind us that local music does not begin and end with calypso and soca. "I want to delve into the music of Trinidad and Tobago, and bring to life the kind of music people aren't hearing now. I want to bring back music from people like Kalyan, Carol Addison and Mavis John. That's our music, too!"

And the fans have been responding. Her full-length concerts, *Shades of Vaughnette*, have been held before appreciative crowds for the past four years, and her new CD, *Born to Shine*, is poised to skyrocket her among the stars. She has nothing but love for those who love her. "My fans are amazing; they like what I do, so they follow me all over the place. I've had such good responses from them!"

This dynamic and ambitious lady from La Brea is never content to bask in the glow of her successes; she constantly seeks to upgrade her skills and expand



her repertoire, studying with some of the greatest mentors in pop and jazz. These days, Vaughnette is eagerly looking for opportunities to take her performances abroad, so she can share our music with the world.

Recognising her talent as a gift from God, she is determined to fulfil the destiny He has ordained for her, by constantly fine-tuning her craft, and embracing every opportunity to share that liquid, golden voice with others.



Thinking Outside The Box.. Wedding In A Recession

When it comes to weddings in Trinidad & Tobago, we tend to be very traditional and very narrow minded. Thinking outside the box while embracing the traditional cultural habits of our twin nation will go a long way to reducing the bottom line when hosting a Trini wedding in a recession. The immediate ideas of budget reductions will be just to go smaller, reduce your guest list, back yard venue, use a second hand dress or even a rental..but what about changing the concept all together of what we know as a wedding reception.

When we think weddings we think, speeches, dinner followed by a bruck out session.. right? Here are some novel ways of reducing your bottom line and embracing a True Trini Lime..

- 1. D Excursion Vibe..**lets face it at least 95% of our population would have attended an excursion at sometime during their lives...but you are probably thinking wait that sounding tacky..well I always tell folks that tacky is a matter of perception. Remember the goal here is to reduce and think outside the box...
- 2. It's a Picnic..**making use of a public space speaks to a number of huge savings. Picnic style weddings throws formality out the door and can also be expanded into a pot luck with guest contributing to the meal and drinks Dutch style.
- 3. Let go clubbing..**think about taking over your favourite night club as your wedding reception..in doing so you are saving yourself on many levels, venue, Dj, Lighting, Security . All that will be required is some pre planning with the club management to reserve a space for your party and arrange pre payment for admission. The same can be done with a boat ride but will require arrangements made to feed your guest when they disembark the boat.
- 4. Who say cooler fete..**this is a concept which has long been in practice as anyone who has been to a traditional East Indian wedding can attest. Bring what yuh drinking...we provide the food.

Now I know these ideas are not for everyone, but when it comes to thinking outside the box this is as good as it gets. As I said in the beginning we have to change the concept and image of what a wedding reception is in order to become comfortable with breaking away from the norm.

If however you are a traditionalist here are some cost cutting measures you can take: Non traditional venues like schools, community centres and residences, DIY invitations, local sweets as tokens, pre made playlist for dinner set and pre made mixes for dance session, DIY décor, Local simplified menu, serve alcohol only after dinner..these will go a long way in saving. BUT BE WARNED Do it yourself isn't as easy as it sounds, so you will need to have lots of help.

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VICTOR PROVOST (St John, US Virgin Islands)

From his website: “Victor Provost is widely regarded as one of the world’s leading voices on the unique, and often misunderstood, steel pan (or steel drum). Through appearances at concert halls, clubs, and stages throughout the world, he has been meticulously developing a reputation as a ‘dazzling’ soloist, crafting an impressive improvisational voice and style. With a strong foundation in Bebop, a contemporary sensibility, and deep roots in Caribbean music, he seamlessly melds and mixes genres. The *Washington D.C. City Paper*’s ‘Jazz Percussionist of the Year’ six years running, his new recording *Bright Eyes* debuted at #5 on the iTunes Top 40 Jazz Charts and has been met with praise from *The Washington Post*, *Downbeat Magazine*, and *Hot House Magazine*, as well as artists and presenters.”

Hailing from St John, US Virgin Islands, Victor Provost is taking the sound of the steelpan to new places via recordings and performances. Prior to his current release, *Bright Eyes*, Victor released *Her Favorite Shade of Yellow* which displayed his bebop influences handily, and showcased a rising talent in pan jazz circles.



When he is not touring and recording with jazz legends like Paquito D’Rivera, Wynton Marsalis, Hugh Masekela, Victor is teaching at George Mason University in Virginia. He and his fellow Virgin Islander musicians in the US jazz circuit have formed a band Dion Parson & 21st Century Band that explores their island roots. Never far from home, the current

album finds him in familiar territory where the islands’ influences come to the forefront. Pan jazz is here, and Victor Provost is a fine exemplar of the genre.



WILLIAM ROBLEJO’S TRÍO (Cuba)

William Roblejo is an excellent violin player who has paved a way as a professional artist in several popular music bands in his native Cuba. As violin player, he has developed a strong career as part of important bands that play Cuban pop, trova, son and fusion music, including the David Torrens band. From the technical perspective, he is well-known for his brilliant executions of his instrument; which is why he is a member of the Amadeo Roldán string quartet of the Cuban National Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as one of the rising stars in the Cuba Interactivo project.

It is important to mention that he teaches violin in the Amadeo Roldán Conservatory of music in Havana while concurrently heading the String Cathedra of the mentioned institution. William is has concluded his formal studies in Violin at the High Institute of Arts in Cuba (ISA).

In Cuba, William Roblejo has shared the stage with several internationally recognized musicians, and has performed at various festivals and venues in Europe and Latin America. He has appeared on a number of CDs



including the international best seller, “Buena vista Social Club”.

More than a violinist, William Roblejo is a one-man-show. Having given his violin a unique personality, he performs with a distinctive zeal that has earned him a place among the top in Cuba’s music scene. In 2013, William released his debut album *Dreaming*. This is the second time **William Roblejo’s Trío** is appearing at **Jazz Artists on the Greens™**.



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ÉLAN PARLĒ (*Trinidad and Tobago*)

From the website: “**Élan ParlĒ** is a Trinidad-based music ensemble that blends Caribbean rhythms with global music influences to create Caribbean/World Fusion. Using free-wheeling improvisations over carefully crafted compositions, élan parlĒ brings a Contemporary Jazz perspective to the musical and cultural traditions of Trinidad and Tobago.

“The vision for the group is reflected in the band’s name élan parlĒ, artistically interpreted to mean ‘Spirited Conversations.’ These Spirited Conversations are often spoken in a Caribbean dialect, discussing World issues, but from a Caribbean perspective.”

Critically, élan parlĒ and by extension, its band leader Michael “Ming” Low Chew Tung have been producing original music and highly sophisticated covers of the local song book since 2000. *Jazz in the Islands* magazine refers to Ming as “the architect of jazz in the 21st century in Trinidad and Tobago.” Prolific output, highly polished standards in composition and production, and an ear to new trends in music allow this band to continue to carry the flag of innovation in calypso jazz into its



second decade of existence.

With eight full length CD albums under its belt, the last one being the excellent *I Am Élan ParlĒ*, there is not stopping for the band. The is a full circle return since élan parlĒ were among the initial performers at the first **Jazz Artists on the Greens™**. Welcome back home. Rodney Alexander (bass), Tony Paul (saxophones) Richard Joseph (drums) and Michael Low Chew Tung (keyboards).



JAMES JESSEY JOSEPH (*Haiti*)

James Jessey Joseph from Haiti is a guitarist, composer, arranger and song writer. Born in a musical family, he had a passion for music from an early age. At eleven years old, he started learning to play the guitar. Within three months, he began to play in churches and bands. In 2005, He won first place in a music competition organized by the Ministry of Health. In 2011, He recorded his Gospel album entitled *Mwen Beni Non W Jezi*.

In 2016, James completed his BFA in Performing Arts with specialization in Music (Guitar) at the Academy for the Performing Arts of The University of Trinidad and Tobago. At UTT, he and some of his colleagues formed The A+ Band of which he is the Music Director today. **The A+ Band** is a musical performance group of past UTT colleagues. The band’s purpose is to share positivity through a fusion of Caribbean music.

He is presently enrolled in the Certificate in Music Technology Program at the same University. James has the desire to go as far as possible in his musical career. He believes that by putting God first and putting in hard



work, his music will continue to touch the entire world.

A remarkable aspect of James’ life is that he is a survivor of the cataclysm that shook Haiti in 2010. Buried alive, he prepared to meet his maker. The universe and God had different plans for him. He survived and escaped. We are grateful that the world beyond Haiti has an opportunity to hear James. Zouk, konpa, calypso, Caribbean jazz are all the many sounds that have influenced him and his band, and of course he is prepared to share the Caribbean with you.





LOCATIONS

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VOLUNTEER AT JAOTG™

Each year, PRODUCTION ONE LTD presents a world class musical experience at Jazz Artists on the Greens™. We could not pull off such an amazing event without the dedication and hard work of our volunteers. If you would like to volunteer for the next Jazz Artists on the Greens™ in 2018, email jaotg@productiononeltd.com

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PRODUCTION ONE LTD offers your organization an opportunity to partner with us in our presentation of the country's premier, open-air Caribbean Jazz concert and to benefit from the synergies to be obtained through an alignment with us. For more information, email jaotg@productiononeltd.com