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BMW Welt Jazz Award 2016

The eighth edition will be following the motto “Inspired by Legends”

Inauguration of BMW Welt Young Artist Jazz Award

Munich. The BMW Welt Jazz Award will enter its eighth season in January 2016. Following the motto “Inspired by Legends”, six outstanding international ensembles will be presented at the double-coned structure of BMW Welt in a total of six free Sunday matinees between January and March 2016. The featured musicians come from the US, Israel, Switzerland, Italy and Germany. In addition, this new season will see the inauguration of the BMW Welt Young Artist Jazz Award, presented as a collaboration of BMW and the city of Munich. The final concert and competition for the BMW Welt Jazz Award’s prize money totalling 15,000 Euro will take place on May 7, 2016 at the auditorium of BMW Welt.

This year’s motto will focus on the influence of outstanding personalities. In their innovative live performances, the participating artists will give a taste of how various inspirations from disciplines other than jazz can be interpreted.

After the sixth and last matinee, a panel of expert jurors will nominate two of the participating ensembles to perform the final concert at the auditorium on May 7, 2016. In addition to a prize of 10,000 Euro, the winner will receive a trophy designed specially by BMW Design; the runner-up will receive 5,000 Euro. The ensemble with the best combined average of all concerts will receive the audience award which includes an appearance at the Jazz Classica Festival 2016 at resort Schloss Elmau.

Maximilian Schöberl, Senior Vice President, Corporate and Governmental Affairs, BMW Group, said, “In its eighth season, the BMW Welt Jazz Award is looking back on a great tradition while being oriented towards the future. For more than forty years, BMW Group has been a consistent partner of hundreds of cultural initiatives. We want to continue to inspire all visitors. An initiative which has established itself across the country would not be possible without the engagement of our international ensembles and our panel of expert jurors.”

For the very first time, this coming season will see the inauguration of the BMW Welt Young Artist Award, presented in cooperation with the city of Munich. “As mayor of the city of Munich, I am delighted that starting this year, BMW Group will expand its BMW Welt Jazz Award by adding a special advancement award for Munich’s up-and-coming-jazz musicians. It is yet another reminder of how great a value this company places on its social responsibility and its long-term commitment to promoting culture,” added Dieter Reiter.

In addition to receiving prize money, the winner will be awarded the opportunity to give a concert at Munich’s jazz club “Unterfahrt” as well as to appear at the jazz festival in Leipzig. All young jazz musicians, individuals and ensembles alike, hailing from the greater Munich area are eligible. Candidates will be selected by the members of the expert jury of the BMW Welt Jazz Award.

Programme of BMW Welt Jazz Award 2016

Matinees: 11 am to c.1:30 pm at the double-coned structure of BMW Welt:

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February 28, 2016	Latham-Carniaux-Egan: Constellations
March 20, 2016	Indra Rios-Moore

Admission is free of charge but seating is limited. Tickets are subject to availability. Doors open at 10.30 am.

Grand finale at the auditorium of BMW Welt at 7 pm

May 7, 2016 Final concert featuring the two nominated finalists

Tickets for the grand finale on May 7, 2016, will be available as of January 24, 2016, at BMW Welt and München Ticket.

As in previous years, the programme will be hosted by Beate Sampson, jazz expert and editor at the German broadcasting station "BR-KLASSIK".

Jury

The distinguished panel of expert jurors will be headed by **Oliver Hochkeppel** (journalist for music and cultural affairs at the German daily "Süddeutsche Zeitung") and will include the following members:

Roland Spiegel, editor at the music desk and jazz expert at the German broadcasting station Bayerischer Rundfunk "BR-KLASSIK";

Andreas Kolb, editor-in-chief of the magazines "JazzZeitung" and "neue musikzeitung" and co-publisher of the new music magazine "SILBERHORN";

Heike Lies, musicologist, Music and Music Theatre Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs of the state capital Munich;

Christiane Böhnke-Geisse, Artistic Director of the international jazz festival "Bingen swingt".

Artists and ensembles**January 24, 2016: Dieter Ilg**

In "My Beethoven", bassist Dieter Ilg together with the other two members of his trio, pianist Rainer Böhm and drummer Patrice Héral, transforms Beethoven's music into timeless jazz. Originally from the city of Freiburg, this musician has worked alongside famous musicians such as Randy Brecker, Albert Mangelsdorf and Charlie Mariano, and he has been working as Till Brönner's bassist of choice. Since the early 1990s, he has been working on the transformation of other music styles into jazz, and in 2010, he made his own wish come true by transforming Giuseppe Verdi's "Otello". Ever since, Ilg's trio has maintained this new outlook on classical music, which most recently led to the publication of Wagner's "Parsifal". For both of these works, "Otello" in 2012 and "Parsifal" in 2014, Dieter Ilg was awarded "Bassist of the Year" at the German music award "Echo Jazz".

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January 31, 2016: Oded Tzur Quartet

The famous tales of “The Arabian Nights” is the theme of the first album “Like A Great River” by Israeli saxophonist Oded Tzur. The melodies change from meditative flow to rapid dynamism creating a musical link between the Orient, the Occident and the artist’s chosen home of North America. In Munich, Tzur will be accompanied by bassist Petros Klampanis, Shai Maestro, expected to be the next shooting star of the piano world, and another well-known musician linked to numerous big stars of the New York scene, drummer Ziv Ravitz.

February 14, 2016: Stefano Battaglia Trio

For many years, Italian pianist Stefano Battaglia has been active in the field of musical rendering of both literature and film. As early as 2007, he dedicated a double album to the great author and producer, Pier Paolo Pasolini. Battaglia’s latest project, recorded with his regular trio including bassist Salvatore Maiore and drummer Roberto Dani, includes interpretation of works by Alfred Kubin, Jonathan Swift, Italo Calvino, Edgar Allan Poe, Adalbert Stifter and Homer. His other recent album, “In The Morning“, is devoted to the music of Alec Wilder, the American composer of theatre and film scores, who died in 1980.

February 21, 2016: Stucky-Doran-Studer-Tacuma: Play Hendrix!

As an iconic guitar player, Jimi Hendrix is famous far beyond the world of rock music, which is why many jazz musicians keep returning to his music. Almost twenty-five years ago, Swiss guitarist Christy Doran, together with different musicians, began his own Hendrix project, combining melodies and riffs with songs such as “Hey Jude” by the Beatles or “Purple Rain” by Prince and to which he added complex rhythms. During this year’s BMW Welt Jazz Award, his partner will be American-Swiss singer/performer Erika Stucky, who for many years has been famous for her unique mix of entertainment, pop music and avant-garde jazz. The quartet is completed by American E-bassist Jamaaladeen Tacuma and Swiss drummer Fredy Studer.

February 28, 2016: Latham-Carniaux-Egan: Constellations

With her unique voice and unconventional performances, Icelandic artist Björk became her nation’s most famous musician, who gathered fans from outside the world of pop music the world over. One of them is 54-year old American drummer Karl Latham, who, together with his quartet members bassist Mark Egan, trumpet player Ryan Carniaux and keyboard player Nick Rolfe, recorded an entire album of works written by Björk only. In “Constellations”, a work of fusion jazz, they combine Björk’s musical cosmos and her unique timbre with a wealth of synthetic sounds reminiscent of Japanese artist Isao Tomita or Miles Davis’ electric bands.

March 20, 2016: Indra Rios-Moore

For New York-raised singer Indra Rios-Moore, daughter of a Puerto-Rican social worker and jazz bassist Don Moore, her new album “Heartland” is an exploration of her roots. Her reduced retro sound includes references to great musicians from the world of pop and rock music such as David Bowie and Pink Floyd. Today, she lives in Denmark with saxophone player Benjamin Traerup, but for the recordings under the direction of star producer Larry Klein she made her way back to the US. Her quartet, the winner of the

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Danish Music Award 2012, will be completed by bassist Thomas Sejthen and guitarist Uffe Stephen.

This edition of the BMW Welt Jazz Award will once again enjoy the generous support of BR-KLASSIK, the new music magazine SILBERHORN, resort Schloss Elmau and the Department of Cultural Affairs of the city of Munich.

Photographic material is available at BMW PressClub (www.press.bmwgroup.com) and via LoeschHundLiepold Kommunikation GmbH on behalf of the department for public relations of BMW Welt.
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About BMW's Cultural Commitment

For more than 40 years now, the BMW Group has initiated and engaged in over 100 cultural cooperations worldwide. The company places the main focus of its long-term commitment on modern and contemporary art, jazz and classical music as well as architecture and design. In 1972, three large-scale paintings were created by the artist Gerhard Richter specifically for the foyer of the BMW Group's Munich headquarters. Since then, artists such as Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Olafur Eliasson, Jeff Koons, Zubin Metha, Daniel Barenboim and Anna Netrebko have co-operated with BMW. The company has also commissioned famous architects such as Karl Schwanzer, Zaha Hadid and Coop Himmelb(l)au to design important corporate buildings and plants. In 2011, the BMW Guggenheim Lab, a global initiative of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, the Guggenheim Museum and the BMW Group celebrated its world premiere in New York. The BMW Group takes absolute creative freedom in all its cultural activities – as this initiative is as essential for producing groundbreaking artistic work as it is for major innovations in a successful business. Further information: www.bmwgroup.com/culture and www.bmwgroup.com/culture/overview

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BMW Welt – at the heart of the brand, on the pulse of the city

With more than 3 million visitors in 2014, BMW Welt in Munich is Bavaria's most visited attraction and has become a real magnet for visitors since its opening in 2007. With its pioneering architecture, BMW Welt is the heart of all the brands in the BMW Group – BMW, the sub-brands BMW M and BMW i, MINI, Rolls-Royce Motor Cars and BMW Motorrad, which are impressively presented in their own worlds of experience. But it is not only the exhibitions and the collection of new vehicles that are highlights for car lovers from all over the world. Visitors can enjoy a year-round programme of varied events covering culture, art and entertainment along with culinary delights in several restaurants. Whether it's a jazz concert, clubbing event, a film premiere, gala event or panel discussion – BMW Welt is the perfect platform for innovative events. In the BMW Welt

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Junior Campus, children and youngsters can enjoy exciting guided tours and workshops on the themes of mobility and sustainability.

The BMW Group

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 30 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2014, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.118 million cars and 123,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2014 was approximately € 8.71 billion on revenues amounting to € 80.40 billion. As of 31 December 2014, the BMW Group had a workforce of 116,324 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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