

Media Information
March 29, 2016

Female-led final at BMW Welt Jazz Award 2016

Indra-Rios Moore and Stucky-Doran-Studer-Tacuma: Play Hendrix! to compete for win on May 7

Munich. The finalists for the BMW Welt Jazz Award 2016 were chosen – incidentally, both ensembles qualified for this year’s finale of the competition to be held on May 7 are female-led. The American-Swiss ensemble Stucky-Doran-Studer-Tacuma with their “Play Hendrix!” programme and the American-Danish group of singer Indra Rios-Moore were able to convince the jury. The winning ensemble will be awarded a prize money of 10,000 Euro as well as a trophy designed by BMW Design specifically for this purpose. The runner-up will receive a prize money of 5,000 Euro.

For the eighth time, this prestigious international jazz competition takes place at BMW Welt. In a total of six free Sunday matinees held between January and March, participating ensembles were invited to convince both the jury and their audiences with their interpretations of this year’s theme “Inspired by Legends” at the double-cone structure of BMW Welt.

Finalists

Indra Rios-Moore (USA)

With her new album “Heartland”, New York-raised singer Indra Rios-Moore, the daughter of a Puerto-Rican social worker and jazz bassist Don Moore, will take her audience on a journey back to her roots. References to the stars of the world of folk and gospel music such as David Bowie and Pink Floyd, her musical idols of old, will become integrated into a reduced retro sound delivered in the hypnotic manner of Rios-Moore’s distinctive, bluesy voice. Together with her husband, Danish saxophone player Benjamin Traerup, bassist Thomas Sejthen and guitarist Uffe Stephen, the quartet won the Danish Music Award as early as 2012.

Stucky-Doran-Studer-Tacuma (Switzerland/USA)

Iconic guitar player Jimi Hendrix has been a source of inspiration far beyond the world of rock music, which is why many jazz musicians continue to return to his music. Almost twenty-five years ago, Swiss guitarist Christy Doran founded his very own Hendrix project featuring different musicians over time. In its music, this milestone of the European jazz scene combines melodies and riffs while adding complex rhythms. During the BMW Welt Jazz Award, Doran will be accompanied by American-Swiss singer and performer Erika Stucky, who for many years has been famous for her unique mix of entertainment, pop music and avant-garde jazz. With her charming alpine Voodoo, she creates new links between Hendrix and songs such as “Hey Jude” by the Beatles or “Purple Rain” by Prince. The quartet’s driving groove will be generated by American E-bassist Jamaaladeen Tacuma and powerful Swiss drummer Fredy Studer.

Jury

The distinguished panel of jurors includes renowned jazz experts and specialists of the jazz scene, who will choose the winner of the BMW Welt Jazz Award 2016. Led by Oliver Hochkeppel (journalist for music and cultural affairs at the German daily “Süddeutsche Zeitung”), the jury includes the following members: Andreas Kolb (editor-in-chief of the magazines “JazzZeitung” and “neue musikzeitung” and co-publisher of the new music magazine “SILBERHORN”), Roland Spiegel (editor at the music desk and jazz expert at the German broadcasting station Bayerischer Rundfunk “BR-KLASSIK”), Heike Lies

Media Information

Date March 29, 2016

Subject Female-led final at BMW Welt Jazz Award 2016

Page 2

(musicologist, Music and Music Theatre Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs of the state capital Munich) and Christiane Böhnke-Geisse (Artistic Director of the international jazz festival "Bingen swingt").

As seen during the Sunday matinees, the final concert will be hosted by Beate Sampson (editor at German broadcasting station "BR-KLASSIK"). Dr. Ian Robertson, Member of the Board of Management of BMW AG, Sales and Marketing BMW, Sales Channels BMW Group, will present the winners with the custom-made trophy designed by BMW.

The ensemble with the best combined average of the audience's votes of all concerts will receive the audience award donated by Schloss Elmau. The winner will receive an exclusive invitation to appear at this year's edition of the Jazz Classica Festival at resort Schloss Elmau in July.

The final concert followed by an award ceremony will take place on May 7 at 7 PM at the auditorium of BMW Welt. Currently, a limited number of tickets is still available at BMW Welt.

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.
Telephone: +49-89-720187-15
Email: bmw-welt@hlk.de

For further questions please contact:

Dr Thomas Girst
BMW Group Corporate and Intergovernmental Affairs
Head of Cultural Engagement
Telephone: +49-89-382-24753

Leonie Laskowski
BMW Group Corporate and Intergovernmental Affairs
Cultural Engagement
Telephone: +49-89-382-45382

Bernhard Ederer
BMW Group Corporate and Intergovernmental Affairs
Spokesperson BMW Welt
Telephone: +49-89-382-28556

www.press.bmwgroup.com
Email: presse@bmw.de

Media Information

Date March 29, 2016

Subject Female-led final at BMW Welt Jazz Award 2016

Page 3

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

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

With more than 3 million visitors in 2015, 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 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 2015, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.247 million cars and nearly 137,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2015 was approximately € 9.22 billion on revenues amounting to € 92.18 billion. As of 31 December 2015, the BMW Group had a workforce of 122,244 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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