

Media Information  
January 30, 2015**BMW Welt Jazz Award 2015 presents the February matinees following the motto “Playing my Guitar”  
The ensembles “Camila Meza Quartet” and “Hellmüller Risso Zanolli” on stage at BMW Welt on February 8 and 22, 2015**

**Munich.** On February 8 and 22, the BMW Welt Jazz Award will present the third and fourth edition of a total of six Sunday morning matinee concerts offered free of charge at BMW Welt. Following the January performance of two trios from Israel and Austria, the American ensemble “Camila Meza Quartet” and the Swiss-Italian trio “Hellmüller Risso Zanolli” will now be given the opportunity to dazzle the jury as well as expert audiences. Both ensembles will showcase the entire range of the jazz guitar in order to qualify for the grand finale of this year’s BMW Welt Jazz Award held on April 18, 2015.

On **February 8**, the “**Camila Meza Quartet**” will be presented at the double-coned structure of BMW Welt. Raised in Santiago de Chile and educated in New York City, guitarist Camila Meza will be accompanied by some of the “hottest” young jazz musicians: Shai Maestro (piano), Linda Oh (bass) and Kendrick Scott (drums). This Chilean-born musician made a name for herself in New York City because of her remarkably broad range of musical skills: as a guitarist Camila Meza displays outstanding technique, on top of which she is a very expressive singer as well as a talented composer. Which is why it came as no surprise that renowned jazz musicians such as Paquito D’Rivera or Aaron Goldberg (who produced the latest of her three albums) were keen to collaborate with this artist.

On **February 22**, the trio **Hellmüller Risso Zanolli** will enter the competition for a spot at the grand finale. Franz Hellmüller, who has become one of Switzerland’s most important jazz guitarists ever since the release of his latest two albums, will be coming to Munich with two Italian musicians – Stefano Risso (bass) and Marco Zanolli (drums). The ensemble impresses with improvised pieces that are being performed and composed simultaneously (free improvisation). Their compositions, while being highly complex and equally variable, never cease to be catchy and harmonious. Franz Hellmüller was a student of several distinguished masters including Dave Liebman, Frank Möbus, John Abercrombie and Kurt Rosenwinkel. He has played alongside renowned Swiss jazz musicians such as Nat Su and Norbert Pfammater and he was a band member of Jochen Baldes Subnoder, Galeone and H<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>.

**Programme of BMW Welt Jazz Award 2015****Matinees: 11 am to c.1:30 pm at the double-coned structure of BMW Welt:**

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January 18, 2015  
January 25, 2015  
February 8, 2015  
February 22, 2015  
March 8, 2015  
March 15, 2015

Michel Sajrawy Trio  
FAT – Fabulous Austrian Trio  
Camila Meza Quartet  
Hellmüller Risso Zanolli  
Manu Codjia Trio  
Carl Mörner Ringström Majestic Orchestra

## Media Information

Date January 30, 2015

Subject BMW Welt Jazz Award 2015 presents the February matinees following the motto "Playing my Guitar"

Page 2

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

**Grand finale in the auditorium of BMW Welt at 7 pm**

April 18, 2015, final concert by the two nominated finalists

Tickets for the grand finale on April 18, 2015 have been available at BMW Welt and München Ticket since January 18, 2015.

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 experts, chaired by **Oliver Hochkeppel** (music and culture journalist at Süddeutsche Zeitung) includes:

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

**Andreas Kolb**, editor-in-chief of the magazines "JazzZeitung" and "neue musikzeitung";

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

**Christiane Böhnke-Geisse**, Jazz & Music Consulting and Promotion.

This edition of the BMW Welt Jazz Award will once again enjoy the generous support of "BR-KLASSIK", "JazzZeitung", Ludwig Beck department store, 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](http://www.press.bmwgroup.com))

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## Media Information

Date January 30, 2015

Subject BMW Welt Jazz Award 2015 presents the February matinees following the motto "Playing my Guitar"

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 the cultural activities it is involved in for granted – as this is just as essential for groundbreaking artistic work as it is for major innovations in a successful business.

Further information: [www.bmwgroup.com/culture](http://www.bmwgroup.com/culture) and [www.bmwgroup.com/culture/overview](http://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 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 première, 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 2014, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.118 million cars and 123,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2013 was € 7.91 billion on revenues amounting to approximately € 76.06 billion. As of 31 December 2013, the BMW Group had a workforce of 110,351 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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