



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 27, 2023

**Coastal Jazz Presents IronFest IV October 26 - 28 in Association with the
Heart of the City Festival**

~ Returning Miniseries Features Three Nights of Improvisational, Experimental Jazz Music ~

(Vancouver, BC) – Coastal Jazz & Blues Society presents the fourth annual IronFest music series October 26 to 28 in association with the Downtown Eastside's Heart of the City Festival.

Over three evenings, audiences will be treated to imaginative jams and improvisational sets from a wide range of world-class jazz musicians, composers and bandleaders from Canada and the United States including composer/guitarist Tony Wilson, saxophonist Tim Berne, world class cellists Hank Roberts and Peggy Lee and pianist Craig Taborn. The three-day music series, now in its fourth incarnation, has historically featured unique collaborations of improvisational jazz musicians.

"This lineup brings attention to some of the same aspects our audiences have grown to love about these mini off-season festivals - a cast of new and emerging artists and familiar old favorites," said Cole Schmidt, Artistic Programmer at Coastal Jazz. "This year's program also highlights several new collaborative formations based out of New York, Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. We're also honored to be partnering again with the Heart of the City Festival in presenting some important work and music to do with the Downtown Eastside."

The Heart of the City Festival aims to promote, present and facilitate the development of artists, art forms, cultural traditions, history, activism, people and great stories about Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Most IronFest performances are scheduled to take place at The Ironworks, located at 235 Alexander Street.

"The Ironworks holds a special place in the hearts of the Coastal Jazz community," says Nina Horvath, Executive Director at Coastal Jazz, "and we're looking forward to returning and bringing some stellar musicians with us. IronFest IV promises alchemical collaborations, community spirit, and great music to warm up the chilly fall nights."

Tickets are on sale now at coastaljazz.ca.

Event: Tony Wilson: The Homeless Project

Date: October 26, 2023 at 7:30 pm

Location: Carnegie Community Centre Theatre, 401 Main Street

Tickets: Free admission



Description: The Homeless Project is a multimedia presentation that incorporates original music, film and narration, hoping to shine a light on the serious housing struggles people face in the Downtown Eastside and across Canada. Featuring Tony Wilson *composer/guitar*, J.P. Carter *trumpet*, Josh Zubot *violin*, Patsy Klein *vocals*, Russell Sholberg *bass*, Kenton Loewen *drums*, Cole Schmidt *guitar*, Michael McNamara *narration*, Jessica Heuchert *sign language* and Zsofin Sheehy *projectionist*.

Event: Beatings Are In The Body

Date: October 27, 2023 at 7:30 pm

Location: The Ironworks, 235 Alexander Street

Tickets: On sale to the general public [here](#)

Price: \$25 plus service fees

Description: Beatings Are In The Body is a powerful and enigmatic project from three of Canada's leading figures in experimental music — Vancouver-based *pianist/composer/improviser* Róisín Adams (of Hildegard's Ghost), Montréal-based experimental *vocalist/composer* Erika Angell (of Thus Owls), and fellow Vancouverite Peggy Lee — renowned *cellist/composer/improviser*. As their name indicates there's a raw, volatile dimension to the music they create, "it's an investigation of how memories, pain, and a spectrum of emotions are stored in and continue to be carried by our physical bodies."

Event: Oceans And: Tim Berne, Aurora Nealand, Hank Roberts

Date: October 27, 2023 at 9:30 pm

Location: The Ironworks, 235 Alexander Street

Tickets: On sale to the general public [here](#)

Price: \$25 plus service fees

Description: With *Oceans And*, *alto saxophonist* Tim Berne teams up with *accordionist/multi-instrumentalist* Aurora Nealand and *cellist* Hank Roberts to take the listener on a sonically adventurous journey, who delight with much imagination and amazing musical diversity. "The breathtaking music can be deservedly and on all accounts deemed: profound, probing, intriguing, distinct, intricate, raw, courageous, mysterious, and thoughtful."

Event: Josh Cole's Kind Mind

Date: October 28, 2023 at 7:30 pm

Location: The Ironworks, 235 Alexander Street

Tickets: On sale to the general public [here](#)

Price: \$25 plus service fees

Description: Josh Cole's Kind Mind is an electro-acoustic chamber ensemble based in Toronto featuring three of Canada's premiere improvising musicians – Karen Ng *alto*



saxophone/clarinet/synth, Michael Davidson *vibraphone/marimba/pedals* and Josh Cole *double bass/pedals/synth/sampler*. Rooted in an approach to improvisation that has been brewing in the Toronto creative music hub “The Tranzac” for decades, the trio explores a fractured, sparse, and timbral approach reinforced by brief compositions and a long history of collective music making.

Event: Craig Taborn

Date: October 28, 2023 at 9:30 pm

Location: The Ironworks, 235 Alexander Street

Tickets: On sale to the general public [here](#)

Price: \$25 plus service fees

Description: Brooklyn-based *pianist* Craig Taborn has been performing piano and electronic music in the jazz, improvisational, and creative music scene for over 25 years. He has experience composing for and performing in a wide variety of situations including jazz, new music, electronic, rock, noise and avant garde contexts. *The New York Times Magazine* calls Taborn “One of the best jazz pianists alive.”

[About Coastal Jazz and Blues Society:](#)

Founded in 1985 and incorporated in 1986, the Coastal Jazz & Blues Society is a community-based, not-for-profit, charitable arts organization that has worked diligently to establish Vancouver as a centre for creating and exchanging sounds and ideas between local, national, and international music communities. The Society’s mission is to increase music appreciation and strengthen the arts community by developing special projects, artistic exchanges, partnerships, educational initiatives, community programs, and collaborations that further the art form. Ranked as British Columbia’s largest not-for-profit music presenter, The Coastal Jazz & Blues Society produces the annual Vancouver International Jazz Festival and year-round concerts and has a long-standing commitment to music education with the Sounds of Youth performance stage, workshops, children’s music programs, and more. The Society is proud to be a significant part of Vancouver’s and B.C.’s economic engine and tourism industry, attracting over half a million people to its annual festival attracting over half a million people to its annual festival and generating over \$30 million in economic activity.
www.coastaljazz.ca

[About the Heart of the City Festival:](#)

For 20 years, the Heart of the City Festival has been grounded in the Downtown Eastside and focused on listening and learning from the cultural practices of the community. The Festival works with, for and about the Downtown Eastside community to carry forward our community’s



stories, ancestral memory, cultural traditions, lived experiences, and artistic processes to illuminate pathways of resistance and resilience.

Contact:

Leesa Butler, Director of Marketing

Coastal Jazz & Blues Society

leesa@coastaljazz.ca

(416) 417- 4517

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