

## NJA Patrons

**John Altman** is a highly accomplished jazz musician. He has performed with Chet Baker, Bud Freeman, Percy Heath and many others. He conducted the Stan Tracey Big Band and the Durham Cathedral Choir for an album of Duke Ellington's Sacred Music. He is a frequent guest conductor for the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and served on the board of the American Society of Music Arrangers and Composers (ASMAC), and as a member of the governing Council of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA).

**Baroness Valerie Amos** CH, PC was appointed a Labour life peer in 1997 and was the first black woman to serve as a Minister in the British cabinet and in the House of Lords. She has consistently sustained an interest in, and a commitment to, development issues, and to equality and human rights. In 2015 Baroness Amos became the ninth Director of SOAS University of London. Her work in the voluntary and charity sectors and in other non-governmental organisations has gone hand-in-hand with her policy and political work.

**Liane Carroll** is a vocalist, pianist and keyboard player. She began her musical career at the age of 15. Along the way she has collaborated with a diverse range of artists. She is a great supporter of young and emerging artists and is much in demand by youth orchestras, ensembles and colleges for her inspirational approach to teaching. She runs regular workshops for aspiring vocalists at all levels of experience and teaches at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She is a regular performer at Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club and the 606 Club in London, and has made several albums.

**Deirdre Cartwright** began to play guitar from the age of 17 with a variety of bands from rock to big band jazz. In 1991 she formed her own group. The Deirdre Cartwright Group has played extensively in the UK on tours supported by Jazz Services and the Arts Council. She helped to found the music course at Lewisham College, and went on to teach on the Certificate of Jazz and Pop Music at Goldsmiths College, London University and on the Music Technology degree at Rose Bruford College. In September 2004 she was artist in residence at Lincoln Jazz Festival working with a jazz big band and young teenage groups.

**Gary Crosby** OBE is a leading jazz double bassist, bandleader, composer/arranger, educator, record producer, company director and facilitator, and was a founder member of the Jazz Warriors. He is the Founder and Artistic Director of Tomorrow's Warriors, providing a platform for talented young musicians who wish to pursue a career in jazz. Since it was founded in 2004, the Tomorrow's Warriors Jazz Café Jam Session has become an institution and developed many Warriors, including Denys Baptiste, J-Life and Soweto Kinch.

**Paul Jones** is a singer, actor, harmonica player, radio personality and television presenter. He was the lead vocalist and harmonica player of the successful 1960s group Manfred Mann. In 1979, he founded The Blues Band and is a member of the Manfreds. He started presenting a series for BBC Radio 2 on rhythm and blues in 1986, later to be known as The Blues Show, which was a fixture in the schedules for 32 years. Paul Jones was awarded 'Harmonica Player of the Year' in the British Blues Awards of 2010, 2011 and 2012, as well as Blues Broadcaster of the year and a Lifetime Achievement award in 2011.

**Soweto Kinch** is an award winning alto-saxophonist and MC. He is one of the most exciting and versatile young musicians in the British jazz and hip hop scenes. He has received accolades and awards on both sides of the Atlantic – including a Mercury Music Prize nomination, two UMA Awards and a MOBO for best Jazz Act in 2003. In October 2007, he won his second MOBO Award, at the O2 Arena, London as the winner in the Best Jazz Act category. His skills as a hip hop MC and producer have also brought him recognition in the urban music world.

**Dame Cleo Laine** OBE is an enormously versatile singer and actress. She has played at venues from dance halls to London's Royal Albert Hall, Carnegie Hall to the Blue Note Cafe. She has been on stage on Broadway and in London's West End, performed opera and broadcast frequently. She lived with her husband, the late Sir John Dankworth in Wavendon, Buckinghamshire, where in 1969 they founded the charity, The Wavendon Allmusic Plan, with the aim of helping people broaden their views about music through performance and musical education. In the converted stable block in the grounds of their home they established an arts centre that has become internationally renowned.

**Professor Stuart Nicholson** is an author, lecturer and critic. He studied music at the Welsh College of Music and Drama. He led a jazz-rock band in the 1970s, appearing on BBC TV, BBC Radio and ITV. He is a seasoned speaker, commentator and guest lecturer, with regular worldwide appearances and engagements as panellist, keynote speaker, interviewer and interviewee. He is also a sought-after judge and panel chair for various jazz awards, including the European Jazz Prize (Austria) and the Australian Jazz Awards.

**Sir Michael Parkinson** CBE is an English broadcaster, journalist and author. He presented his television talk show, Parkinson, from 1971 to 1982 and from 1998 to 2007, as well as other talk shows and programmes both in the UK and internationally. He has also worked in radio broadcasting. Parkinson took over BBC Radio 4's Desert Island Discs series in 1986 for three years. He presented a morning show on BBC Radio 2 called Parkinson's Sunday Supplement. With his penchant for jazz and big-band music, he is considered responsible for promoting jazz singers to a more mainstream audience during the run of his BBC radio show.

**Courtney Pine** CBE is a British jazz musician, who was the principal founder in the 1980s of the black British band the Jazz Warriors. Although known primarily for his saxophone playing, Pine is a multi-instrumentalist, also playing the flute, clarinet, bass clarinet and keyboards. His recent music integrates modern British music like drum and bass and UK garage with contemporary jazz styles. He runs his own band and integrates many contemporary musicians in his performances.

**John Prescott**, The Right Honourable The Lord Prescott, is a British politician who was Deputy Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1997 to 2007. He was also head of the Department for Environment, Transport and the Regions. He was introduced in the House of Lords on 8 July 2010 as Baron Prescott, of Kingston upon Hull.

**Clare Teal** is a singer and broadcaster who is famous not only for her singing, but also for having signed the biggest recording contract by a British jazz singer. Clare Teal is on her mission to bring big band and swing to music lovers everywhere, to demonstrate that this genre is ever evolving and still relevant today. Alongside her concerts, she presents her own live show on BBC Radio 2 every Sunday night. Clare Teal won British Jazz Singer of the year in 2005, 2007, 2015 and 2017, BBC Jazz Singer of the Year in 2006 and Boisdale Jazz Singer of the year 2016. She was awarded Arts & Entertainment Personality of the Year in 2004 and 2011 Yorkshire Awards, a coveted Gold Badge by the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors (BASCA) in 2011.

**Kate Westbrook** is an artist following the professions of painter and musician. Her musical work centres on her career as a vocalist, predominantly with the bands of her husband, British composer and bandleader Mike Westbrook. She also works extensively as librettist and doubles as instrumentalist (tenor horn and piccolo). Kate Westbrook's wide vocal range embraces jazz, music theatre, contemporary music, opera and music hall. She has performed all over Europe and as far afield as the Far East and North America. In collaboration with her husband she has generated a series of jazz/cabarets and music-theatre pieces.

**Mike Westbrook** is a jazz pianist, composer, and writer of orchestrated jazz pieces. Together with Chris McGregor's Brotherhood of Breath, Westbrook shared the role of house band at Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club. He became a key figure in the development of British jazz, producing several big-band records, with the newly formed Mike Westbrook Concert Band, between 1967 and 1969. In 1972/73 he worked in the context of his jazz-rock band Solid Gold Cadillac. Mike was 80 years old in 2016 and as part of the celebrations recorded his first solo piano album for 40 years, entitled PARIS, recorded live over two nights in Paris by Jon Hiseman.