

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## Contact:

Lesley Mitchell Clarke – LMC MEDIA  
[lmcmmedia@sympatico.ca](mailto:lmcmmedia@sympatico.ca)

Trevor Whittamore – SOCIAL TALK NOW  
[trevor@socialtalknow.com](mailto:trevor@socialtalknow.com)

## The 2021 TD NIAGARA JAZZ FESTIVAL • [www.niagarajazzfestival.com](http://www.niagarajazzfestival.com)

is excited to announce the presentation of their  
*VIRTUALLY POSSIBLE – FREE Livestreamed Celebration of*

## “International JAZZ Day” CELEBRATING THE JAZZ GREATS!

From Jelly Roll Morton to Ella Fitzgerald and beyond...  
FRIDAY, April 30<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

### Featuring:

James Bryan, Chris Northington, DeeAnn DiMeo  
and live from Holland, Cuban jazz pianist: Abel Marcel



*“In November of 2011, the UNESCO General Conference proclaimed the 30th of April as ‘International Jazz Day’. This International Day brings together communities, schools, artists, historians, academics, and jazz enthusiasts from all over the world to celebrate and learn about the art of jazz - its roots, its future and its impact. We will be Celebrating the Jazz Greats with another ‘Virtually Possible’ LIVE-streamed concert, and for our celebration, we have opened the borders for this livestreamed show and will be featuring guitarist James Bryan (Canada), Bass / Vocal duo Chris Northington and DeeAnn (US) and jazz pianist Abel Marcel (Cuba/Holland), bringing you compositions from their favourite jazz influences as well as some original compositions. Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Jelly Roll Morton and more...”*

*- Juliet Dunn and Peter Shea, TD Niagara Jazz Festival Co-Creators*

**TORONTO - ST. CATHARINES - NIAGARA -** The TD Niagara Jazz Festival is thrilled to be presenting another “VIRTUALLY POSSIBLE” event this spring, a celebration of **INTERNATIONAL JAZZ DAY** that will include dynamic performances by international artists, honouring the giants of jazz, who have made our contemporary understanding and love of jazz possible. **THIS IS A FREE EVENT – but donations to the TD Niagara Jazz Festival are always welcome.** The fine musicians participating in the International Jazz Day concert will include guitarist **JAMES BRYAN**, bassist **CHRIS NORTHINGTON**, vocalist **DEEANN DIMEO** – and ‘LIVE’ from Cuba, gifted pianist **ABEL MARCEL**. The TD NJF is particularly grateful to these talented artists, as they adapt to current COVID-19 regulations. The music itself will be performed in a pristine, acoustic motif, which will honour a prestigious line-up of the “Giants of Jazz” in a unique, incredible musical and highly personal way from the comfort of their own homes! **The TD NIAGARA JAZZ FESTIVAL’S Celebration of INTERNATIONAL JAZZ DAY will take place on FRIDAY, APRIL 30<sup>th</sup> – from 7:00 to 8:00 PM EDT. THIS IS A FREE EVENT – to access the concert, please log on to: [www.youtube.com/jazzniagara](http://www.youtube.com/jazzniagara), or enjoy on Facebook LIVE at [www.facebook.com/jazzniagara](http://www.facebook.com/jazzniagara)**

## Featured Artists Appearing at the TD Niagara Jazz Festival's INTERNATIONAL JAZZ DAY CELEBRATION include:



### **JAMES BRYAN - GUITARIST/COMPOSER/PRODUCER**

**James Bryan** is a Latin Grammy and JUNO-winning performer, songwriter/producer and native of St. Catharines, who is also known as a member of the prominent Canadian ensembles, "The Philosopher Kings" and "Prozzak". He has recorded and performed with an international roster of diverse stars including Shawn Mendes, Nelly Furtado and many, many more. Despite his musical versatility, at the heart of James' music is his unmistakable guitar style. Melodic and passionate, James makes his acoustic guitar sound like an entire band, as he embraces the music of not only jazz greats, but of contemporary artists, such as Bob Marley and Stevie Wonder, who's tunes are included in James' recent CD release, HUSH. For further information, please visit [www.jamesbryanmusic.com](http://www.jamesbryanmusic.com).

### **DEEANN DIMEO - VOCALIST/COMPOSER/RECORDING ARTIST**

More beautiful than ever, in a twenty-plus-year career, **DeeAnn** has just released a six-song collection of American Jazz and folk classics that is reminiscent of popular hits from the 1990's to the 2000's. The project is dedicated to her late brother, Fran DiMeo. DeeAnn initially took flight as a country singer, and now returns to pay homage to her first loves of Jazz and Pop. A self-described "Mother and human being first", DeeAnn possesses a timeless voice that reaches out to those who have felt pain, and who still stand in a shining light – despite the odds. With a voice that is rich and gorgeous, an intelligent mind and a heart that transforms suffering into beauty, DeeAnn sings for the enlightenment of our souls. For the "Giants of Jazz" Tribute, DeeAnn has selected material from the songbooks of Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington. From the small town of Niagara Falls, NY, DeeAnn was raised in a musical family, learning standards that would eventually become her melodious bastion. As a songstress, she draws much of her early inspiration from when she was introduced to the vocal stylings of Buffalo Blue Note legend, DoDo Green and attended multiple jazz jams – but more frequently she mimicked the smooth vocal stylings of her father, singer Frank DiMeo, who was a staple in both the local and larger community. In the 90's DeeAnn won "Best Female Vocalist" at the Buffalo Music Awards for two years in a row, and since her return to the stage in 2016, she received the "Best Female Blues Vocalist" for Buffalo Night Life Awards. After successfully producing her first full CD, *Desperately Seeking DeeAnn* in 2016, she received multiple award nominations for her composition, "Stay Here", DeeAnn broke boundaries with a searcher's spirit. DeeAnn currently performs with her Blues/Jazz quartet and appears throughout Western, NY. For further information, please visit [www.deeannmusic.com](http://www.deeannmusic.com).





### CHRIS NORTHINGTON - BASSIST

While performing at a benefit for “Camp Good Days”, **Chris Northington** was asked about his favourite kind of music he preferred to play, and the answer was simply “good”. For over thirty years, C-Note has been doing just that, playing good music with a variety of fine and funky ensembles. What began with vibrant Sunday night jam sessions in the 1980’s, morphed into a diverse and exciting career, which includes countless thrilling group performances as well as numerous headlining appearances at noted venues and Festivals, including the Rochester International Jazz Festival. At the TD Niagara Jazz Festival’s “Giants of Jazz” event, Chris is excited to be taking the stage with Buffalo-based DeeAnn Dimeo, as she pays tribute to the great jazz vocalists – from Ella Fitzgerald to Sarah Vaughan.

### ABEL MARCEL - JAZZ/LATIN PIANIST/COMPOSER

**Abel Marcel** is without question, one of the most versatile Cuban pianist to have emerged from his generation. He is an inspired composer, arranger, producer, pianist, band leader and music educator. Abel has been a busy, much-in-demand figure in the recording studio, and has performed on literally dozens of recordings that span the genres of Hip Hop to Salsa, and from Jazz to Classical Music. Abel’s highest calling is as an improviser, and as a classically trained pianist who also embraces his musical heritage, Abel is something of an anomaly. The two primary aspects of Abel (improviser and formalist) are often juxtaposed against each other – resulting in a kind of irresistible, controlled chaos. In performance, Abel is a charismatic figure, inspiring his fellow musicians with his dynamic playing, and his informed, improvisational approach to the music that is also rife with emotional power and humour.



For more information, please call: 1-844-LIV-JAZZ  
(1-844-548-5299), or visit us at [www.NiagaraJazzFestival.com](http://www.NiagaraJazzFestival.com)

## EXCITING NEWS!

The TD NIAGARA JAZZ FESTIVAL is PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE that we have now been granted the status of a CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION, so TAX RECEIPTS may now be issued for donations of \$25.00 or more!

To arrange a media opportunity with TD Niagara Jazz Festival Creators, Executive Director/Artistic Producer, **Juliet Dunn** and/or Co-Creator/Artistic Consultant, **Peter Shea**: Please contact LMC Media by phone at 1-416- 454-8041, or by e-mail [lmcmmedia@sympatico.ca](mailto:lmcmmedia@sympatico.ca)

