



Jazzing Things Up

The NCPA blueFROG Concert Series brings you one of the most acclaimed and charismatic Jazz Saxophonists in the world – Joshua Redman – on September 7th & 8th, 2010, in Mumbai

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Mumbai, August 23rd, 2010: His slinky notes on the sax will echo across the Monsoon winds of Mumbai as we host one of the most influential saxophone players of the current jazz scene — Joshua Redman. **On September 7th, 2010, at the NCPA, and on September 8th, 2010, at Blue Frog,** the outstanding American saxophonist **Joshua Redman will perform as a trio with Matt Penman on bass and Gregory Hutchinson on drums.** For this city of ours, with its fabulous jazz history of the early 40s and 50s, Joshua Redman’s concert will be a treat for Jazz lovers.

It was in March 2010, when the **National Center for the Performing Arts (NCPA)** and **blueFROG** launched the **NCPA blueFROG Concert Series** to bring quality live music from India and around the world to Indian audiences. The idea was to create a collaboration that will consistently strive to bring in musical acts of an international standard to the city. In March, we presented Jazz guitarist **Mike Stern**. **The Joshua Redman Trio will be our second presentation.**

Joshua Redman is one of the most acclaimed and charismatic jazz artists to have emerged in the 1990s. Fifteen years ago when Joshua Redman released “*Wish*”, his second album, the *New York Times* called him “one of the brightest young stars in mainstream jazz”. Today, he’s well on his way to walking, with his smooth fluid style, into the Jazz Hall of Fame.

The son of the legendary saxophonist Dewey Redman, Joshua Redman was exposed at an early age to a variety of music (jazz, classical, rock, soul, Indian, Indonesian, Middle-Eastern, African) and instruments (recorder, piano, guitar, gatham, gamelan). His formal music training began when his mother enrolled him in Indonesian and Indian music classes at the Center for World Music in San Diego. “*Mridangam* was the instrument I learnt,” says Joshua Redman. He began playing the clarinet at age nine before switching to what became his primary instrument, the tenor saxophone.

Redman is known as one of the most ‘cerebral’ jazz musicians on the scene today. So perhaps it is not a surprise that he is a Harvard graduate, who got admission into the Yale Law School, which he deferred for one year to make a career in Music. And thank god for that as two years later, his first, self-titled album that was released in the spring of 1993, earned him his first Grammy nomination. Since then, Redman has released five critically acclaimed albums, and has performed or recorded with some of the world’s greatest musicians, including Dave Brubeck, Chick Corea, Charlie Haden, Lionel Hampton,

Quincy Jones, B.B. King, Christian McBride, Pat Metheny, Elvin Jones, Roy Hargrove, Jack DeJohnette, the Mingus Dynasty and Big Band.

“Jazz is a music of surprise; it's a music of spontaneity. I think jazz musicians live - I know I do - for being surprised and not knowing what's going to come next.” – Joshua Redman

Says **Romit Chaterji**, Senior advisor to the NCPA and a jazz enthusiast, *“We have been trying to introduce new age music and new genres to the NCPA’s bouquet of arts. A collaboration with a **progressive organisation like blueFROG**, which has been consistently bringing in well-known and exciting artists, is indeed the way to go. The **NCPA-Blue Frog Concert Series** is a step towards that. Joshua Redman is well on his way to reaching super star status as an artiste. We are thrilled to present Joshua Redman to the city of Mumbai. We hope to continue this association and bring some of the best musicians to this city, reaffirming Mumbai’s position as India’s cultural capital.”*

Speaking on the event, **Mahesh Mathai** partner **blueFROG** adds, *“The sheer size and grandeur of the **NCPA** is a major trump card for us to be a part of this collaboration. Jazz is still in its infancy in India and what better place than the **NCPA** for it to reach a lot more people than it would if we were to only have the concert at **blueFROG**.”*

Adds **Dhruv Ghanekar**, partner **blueFROG** and a well-known jazz musician in his own right, *“Joshua Redman is a heavy voice in the world of Jazz, he is a brilliant improviser and composer. We are lucky to get a glimpse of a young rising star in Jazz such as Joshua. I caught him 2 years ago at the North Sea Jazz Fest. It was one of the most incredible trio's I had ever seen. It is improvisation at its best. It's hard to talk about it, one has to hear it! I think he's going to blow a lot of people away! Be scared, very scared!”*

www.myspace.com/joshuaredmanofficial

SEPTEMBER 7th

NCPA – Nariman Point, Mumbai 400021

Call: Box Office: 9122 2282-4567

www.ncpamumbai.com

Tickets: 700, 500 and 300/-

For media queries, contact: Rashmi Dhanwani +919820060344

SEPTEMBER 8th

blueFROG – D/2 Mathuradas Mill Compound, N.M. Joshi Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai 400013

Call: 9122 6158-6158/6525-1716/6525-1718

www.bluefrog.co.in

Tickets: 1000, 700/-

For media queries, contact: Tina Kapur +919820319207



About the NCPA-blueFROG Concert Series:

In March 2010, **blueFROG** and the **National Center for the Performing Arts (NCPA)** came together to form the **NCPA-blueFROG Concert Series** to bring **quality live music** from India and around the world to Indian audiences. Whilst the music scene in India is rapidly burgeoning, there is still a dearth of musical talent available for discerning music lovers. The partnership between **blueFROG** and the **NCPA** seeks to remedy that. Using their respective competencies, the two organisations will create **a collaboration that will consistently strive to bring in musical acts of an International standard to the city**. Bearing in mind the varied tastes of their audiences, they hope to cover all bases by bringing in talent that will have a niche as well as a universal appeal. The coming together of these institutions can only be a boon to the avid music lovers.

In March, they presented Jazz guitarist Mike Stern. This September, it's American saxophonist Joshua Redman. This will be followed by two more jazz collaborations in the next six months.

About the NCPA:

Inaugurated in 1969, the National Centre for the Performing Arts, Mumbai, exists to provide leadership on a national level as India's premier performing arts, research and training centre through the presentation of Indian and international art forms, the promotion of excellence and the preservation of Indian & International cultural heritage.

About blueFROG:

Blue Frog Club is Mumbai's premier live music performance space. Housed in a 6,000 square foot defunct warehouse in Lower Parel, the club blends acoustic excellence and lush, opulent ambience design with live performances, inventive cuisine and an excellent bar. Live music runs 6 nights a week, EVERY week, with international artists featured regularly. Bands from all around the world have played at the Frog, Sara Tavares (Portugal), Mango Blue (Latin America via USA), Roy Paci (Italy), Susheela Raman (UK), Shri (UK), The Ploctones (Netherlands), Bugge Wesseltoft & Frost (Norway), Bela Fleck & Edgar Meyer (USA) Zakir Hussain (India), Magic Malik Orchestra (France), John McLaughlin, Richard Bona and many more.

