

In memory of Jean-Pierre Bailles

Jazz – a vehicle for peace, unity and dialogue and for enhanced cooperation between peoples*

Jazz has, by definition, always been a fusion of different musical genres. It has become a form of universal music. And in 2014 in Souillac, jazz will be crossing the frontiers of music.

We will be hearing shades of Sting, David Bowie and Lou Reed, but also perhaps Alexandre Scriabine and almost certainly Tom Waits and NIN - Nine Inch Nails. In a festival bringing together rock, classical music and pop music, it is not surprising that jazz musicians should wish to explore and bring a new dimension to well-known songs from the traditional repertoire, as will be the case in the concert in the caves at Lacave when we will discover the jazz side to Brel, Piaf, Bécaud and Trenet. Of course, this is nothing new: in 1966 Duke Ellington was playing The Beatles' music as Jean-Pierre Bailles, President of the Association for the "Sim Copans" jazz festival from 1978 to 1987, would have reminded us before departing from this world last November to join "his" jazz hero for a rendition of *"I want to hold your hand"*. We dedicate this festival to his memory.

Philippe Léogé will be playing songs from his latest album entitled *"French standards"* in the caves at Lacave. Following on from his tribute to Malcolm X in 2011, **Francesco Bearzatti** and his Tinissima Quartet will be presenting *"Monk'n'roll"*, their new project in celebration of Thelonious Monk. The amazing American trio **The Bad Plus** will regale the public with pieces from their latest album in a burst of energy and with all their usual flare. And last but not least, the divine **Youn Sun Nah**, goodwill ambassador for UNESCO and best-selling jazz musician in 2013, will be giving us the very best of jazz in a *"Momento magico"* with her musicians who will notably include the accordionist Vincent Peirani who played in two concerts at the Souillac festival in 2013 and who won the Django Reinhardt Jazz Academy prize for best French jazz musician that year.

The sound of jazz will also ring out from the streets of Souillac, Lachapelle-Auzac and Pinsac where **Red Fish, Light Blazer, Bloody Bagus, Fretswing and Demonsant/Doumerc** will be performing during the daytime.

The 39th Souillac jazz festival will be marked by a few major changes: events that usually take place on the closing day will be scheduled on the opening day and the daytime jazz hike will set off in the cool of the evening, but none of this will detract from the wonderful aura of the setting and the unique originality of the best of jazz in all its forms.

Robert Peyrillou, President of the Souillac Association for the "Sim Copans" Jazz Festival

*UNESCO Jazz Day 2013