

“Sim Copans” Souillac Jazz Festival – 15-21 July 2013

PRESS RELEASE No. 1*

FONSECA, GARCIA-FONS, HUMAIR, PORTAL & PEIRANI ONSTAGE IN SOUILLAC THIS SUMMER

Souillac, France, 29 April 2013—The new jazz generation converges with its Afro-American roots this year at the Souillac Jazz Festival (Lot 46), to be held from 15 to 21 July.

SIX EVENING CONCERTS

- The [Trio d'en bas](#) will stage an entertaining and unusual spectacle in the Grottes de Lacave (16 July)
- The drummer [Daniel Humair](#) will lead his “Sweet & Sour” Quartet (double-bass player [Jérôme Regard](#), saxophonist [Emile Parisien](#) [winner of the Jazz Academy’s 2012 Django Reinhardt prize] and accordionist [Vincent Peirani](#)) in an evening of collective improvisations (18 July)
- The poet [Renaud Garcia-Fons](#) and his five-stringed double bass will cast a spell on the Souillac abbey with his Mediterranean-inspired melodies (19 July)
- [Michel Portal](#), clarinetist, and [Vincent Peirani](#), accordionist, will offer up a dazzling confrontation of aesthetics, folly and passion (19 July)
- Cuban pianist [Roberto Fonseca](#) (whose CD “Yo” was ranked No. 1 in the *Jazz News* 2012 Top Ten) and his sextet will blend Latino-Caribbean tempos with the dance-like frenzy of African music (20 July)
- American saxophonist [Abdu Salim](#) will pepper black American jazz with the fiery exuberance of five young Toulouse musicians, in front of the Pinsac church (21 July)

DAYTIME JAZZ

- Two exhibits: “Jazz, art, rhythm” performances and plastic arts, and “Sim Copans and French jazz”, based on the work of Sim Copans, an American radio jazzman in France and co-founder of the festival.
- **Music in the streets, on the squares and on café terraces:** with [Ad Hoc Trio](#), [Ulrike Hausmann](#), [Seb Necca quartet](#), [AfroJazz quartet](#), [Happy Feet](#), [Blue Mary Swing](#), local bands, brass bands and New Orleans groups, from Monday 15 to Saturday 20 July.

JAZZ AND OLD STONES

The Department of the Lot abounds in warm old stones. The festival’s opening concert will take place in the iconic **Grottes de Lacave**. The illuminated **Roman abbey** of Souillac will add magic to the four concerts on the place Pierre Betz. Pinsac’s **church square**, and Souillac’s **medieval streets, covered market, belfry** and **outdoor market** will resonate with jazz as the entire town is transformed into a stage.

JAZZ IN ITS LOCAL CONTEXT

The Souillac jazz festival association works closely with several local groups to contribute to the region’s cultural development: the Amis des Sentiers souillagais, for a jazz walk; the local producers’ market, for a jazz dinner; the Amis de l’orgue de l’abbaye Sainte-Marie, for a jazz organ performance; and the local movie theatre, for a screening of a film about jazz (Olivier Taïeb’s *Jazzmix in New York*).

The Souillac jazz festival, now in its 38th year, is funded by more than 150 local merchants, small businesses and tradespeople; patrons; and the Town of Souillac, the Department of the Lot, the Midi-Pyrénées region and the French Government, in recognition of its key role in local development.

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* For more information: www.souillacenjazz.fr, info@souillacenjazz.fr, or Robert Peyrillou, Artistic Director, robert.peyrillou@souillacenjazz.net, tel. +33 6.87.57.69.92. Online ticket sales: <http://www.weezevent.com/souillac-en-jazz-2013>. Online and print versions of the press kit will be available shortly.