



Anton Doyle: Chairman
Keith Niles: Director – Concert Production
Martin Wellington: Director
Rolf Doyle: Director – Marketing
Maria Wellington: Director
Nigel A. Campbell: Director

P.O. Box 1919,
WRIGHTSON ROAD,
PORT OF SPAIN,
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Phone: 868-620-6920 Fax: 868-632-1929
Email: info@productiononeltd.com
<http://www.productiononeltd.com>

PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release

Contact: Nigel Campbell ncampbell@productiononeltd.com (868) 366-6104

JAOTG 2019 MEDIA RELEASE #1

- WHAT: The 17th edition of Jazz Artists on the Greens™
- WHO: Production One Limited
- WHEN: Saturday 6th April 2019. Gates open from 3.30 p.m. Event start time: 5.00 p.m.
- WHERE: The Greens at Farm Road, St. Joseph (WASA Sports Grounds)
- TICKETS: General Admission Tickets priced at \$350.00 will be available at Ticket Outlets, from all NCLB Lotto/Via outlets, and online at <https://jaotg2019.eventbrite.com>. At the Door is \$400.00, Or call (868) 620-6920 for information

“Come for the lime ... Discover the Music!”

As soon as the 2019 Carnival season ends on Ash Wednesday, the urgency of the short jazz season begins in the islands. Jazz Artists on the Greens™ 2019 (JAOTG) returns to be the landmark event of the season on April 6, 2019 with its seventeenth edition of the largest Caribbean jazz event in the islands. World-class regional and local talent in a relaxed jazz picnic ambience combine to create the ultimate jazz and entertainment experience. “Come for the lime...discover the music” continues to resonate as a stamp of approval as patrons will again be entertained by some of the best talent in the industry.

In 2019, the cast of regional artists are Cuban pianist and singer **Janysett McPherson** celebrating the Latin American influence in the jazz; contemporary jazz guitarist and Caribbean jazz icon **Ronald 'Boo' Hinkson** from St Lucia; steelpan jazz virtuoso **Leon Foster Thomas** from Trinidad and Tobago along with local supporting acts, the **Emile Fortune Xperiment (EFX The Band)** and the **Holistic Music School Orchestra**. This mix of Creole and contemporary jazz, smooth jazz and sonic improvised experiments that utilise the best of local music and original music creates an atmosphere that complements the experience of a jazz picnic with opportunities for music and merchandise purchase, for complimentary food and beverage product and service executions, and for fun with friends and music fans.

[Janysett McPherson](#), from Guantánamo, Cuba is an award-winning pianist and singer who has worked with a who's who in the jazz scene from Buena Vista Social Club and Chucho Valdés in Cuba to Andy Narell and a number of French Antillean jazz musicians based in France, where she is also now resident. She has toured internationally to jazz festivals in Europe, North and South America, and Asia, and recorded albums in Cuba and France including a CD of duets of steelpan and piano on Andy Narell's



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2016 double album *Dis 1. 4. Raf*. Earlier last year, she did an intimate set at Kaiso Blues Café, and looks forward to her festival debut on the Greens. Her appearance is JAOTG is courtesy the Featured Artist Sponsor, **Firstline Securities Limited**.

[Ronald 'Boo' Hinkson](#) is an icon in St Lucian music, in Caribbean jazz, and in the industry of Caribbean music. The guitarist and songwriter will be coming to the Greens to showcase his fresh and innovative blend of jazz and Caribbean music, both instrumentals and songs. Recording since the 1960s with his combo the Tru-Tones, Boo has commanded stages worldwide — including a half-time performance at the Superbowl in 1979 — with the Caribbean guitar as a feature. His movement into contemporary jazz made him a fixture at the annual St Lucia Jazz Festival, and his albums, *Beyond* and *Shades* are staples on Caribbean jazz playlists. His presence on stage with the greats of guitar jazz, George Benson, Earl Klugh, Stanley Jordan among others, is proof that Boo Hinkson is among the best in the region and a performer who can enthrall and entertain.

[Leon Foster Thomas](#) is a pannist in demand. Ask Exodus Steelband in which he is working for Panorama 2019. He is also a man admired by critics and writers in jazz here and abroad. Based in Miami, and now with three albums under his belt, *What You Don't Know* (2010) and *Brand New Mischief* (2012) and *Metamorphosis* (2016), Thomas has tongues wagging and critics raving over his instrument and his playing. American jazz journalist Dan Bilawsky says that he is “poised to become the next big thing on his instrument.” Writer Carol Banks Weber describes him as “a man who can maintain the authenticity of the [steelpan] without missing a jazz beat,” and jazz critic S. Victor Aaron notes, “Thomas’ steel pan doesn’t sound exotic at all. Just good.” The jazz fusion music of Leon Foster Thomas is funky, jazzy, danceable and exciting, and he is adding his name to pan jazz pantheon.

Emile Fortune, back home from a couple years aboard a cruise ship, has put together a group of fine young musicians and singers, and is creating new music, covers and originals, that allows for emotion in the music to be heard. Contemporary, smooth and cutting edge, his Xperiment is making its festival debut after a few shows at Kaiso Blues and elsewhere. Holistic Music School Orchestra returns to the Greens, having performed there in 2011. This award-winning ensemble of young musicians continues the tradition of the jazz big band with pleasing results for all.

This eclectic cast continues the idea that Caribbean musicians both from here and the diaspora have as much demand as international stars. The result of seventeen years building a brand that reflects quality and serving as a template for a sustained regional jazz festival, JAOTG looks to be on the tourism map as a symbol of Caribbean integration and a festival of note in this Year of the Festival as declared by the Caribbean Tourism Organisation. Walk with your blanket, your collapsible chair, your picnic basket and small cooler and an attitude that says one is here to enjoy great music, great ambience, great company.

Visit the official Jazz Artists on the Greens™ 2019 festival website, www.jaotg.com for more information and tickets and follow the festival on Facebook (@JazzArtistsOnTheGreens) and Instagram (@jazzartists).