



2016 ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY JAZZ AWARDS NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

The nominations have today been announced for the 2016 Parliamentary Jazz Awards, now Britain's premier awards for the jazz loving public and fans in both Houses. Editor in Chief of Jazzwise **Jon Newey** returns to compere the ceremony, now in its twelfth year, and which is organised by the All Party Parliamentary Jazz Appreciation Group (APPJAG). Back by popular demand, special guest performances by James Pearson and The Ronnie Scott's All Stars will also feature at this year's ceremony.

The nominees feature a broad array of jazz talent from the UK jazz scene including Eska, short-listed for the 2015 Mercury Prize; Welsh-born singer Ian Shaw a consummate performer, pianist and stand-up comedian; the internationally recognised pianist and composer Django Bates; Julian Argüelles' album of big band arrangements by exiled South African jazz composers, *'Let It Be Told'*; Nikki Iles and The Printmakers; Seven Jazz Leeds; and vying for Newcomer of the Year, Binker and Moses, Scottish drummer Corrie Dick and Theon Cross.

Sponsored by music licensing company PPL, the award categories reflect the ever-increasing scope of talent from within the UK's jazz scene. They include: Jazz Vocalist of the Year; Jazz Instrumentalist of the Year; Jazz Album of the Year; Jazz Ensemble of the Year; Jazz Newcomer of the Year; Jazz Venue of the Year; Jazz Media Award; Jazz Education Award; and the Services to Jazz Award.

Following an online public vote for the Awards via the JazzUK website, the shortlist was then voted upon by the Selection Panel who represent a broad cross-section of backgrounds united in their love and knowledge of jazz. The winners are chosen by judging members of APPJAG in Parliament and will be announced at the awards ceremony which will take place at the House of Commons, Terrace Pavilion, on **Tuesday 10 May**.

"We at PPL are delighted to continue our long standing relationship with APPJAG and to be the main sponsor of these Awards. I would like to extend my personal thanks and appreciation to Jason McCartney MP and to Lord Colwyn for doing such a fantastic job in co-chairing and running APPJAG. I

would also like to thank all of the judges for their time and welcome back Jon Newey as the Awards' presenter." said **Peter Leatham, CEO, PPL.**

Jason McCartney MP, Co-Chair of APPJAG, said: "These shortlists demonstrate the wealth of talent and commitment that exists in the British jazz scene. Now in its 12th year, the Parliamentary Jazz Awards honours the best of British jazz. MPs and Peers in the All Party Group are delighted to host another ceremony in the House of Commons and we are extremely grateful to PPL for sponsoring the event."

The full list of nominees is as follows:

Jazz Vocalist of the Year	Emilia Martensson Eska Ian Shaw
Jazz Instrumentalist of the Year	Alex Hawkins Django Bates Evan Parker Liam Noble
Jazz Album of the Year	Julian Argüelles 'Let It Be Told' Liam Noble 'A Room Somewhere' Liane Carroll 'Seaside'
Jazz Ensemble of the Year	Empirical Loose Tubes The Printmakers
Jazz Newcomer of the Year	Binker and Moses Corrie Dick Theon Cross
Jazz Venue of the Year	Jazz Re:freshed Mau Mau's London Seven Jazz Leeds Watermill Jazz Dorking
Jazz Media Award	Chris Philips Jazz In London/Mary Greig Jez Nelson/BBC Jazz on 3 Richard Williams
Jazz Education Award	Dr Tommy Smith Gary Crosby/Tomorrow's Warriors Jamil Sheriff, Leeds College of Music
Services to Jazz Award	Evan Parker Mary Greig Michael Janisch

APPJAG currently has over 80 members from the House of Commons and House of Lords across all political parties. Their aim is to encourage wider and deeper enjoyment of jazz, to increase Parliamentarians' understanding of the jazz industry and issues surrounding it, to promote jazz as a musical form and to raise its profile inside and outside Parliament. The Group's officers are Co-Chairs Jason McCartney MP and Lord Colwyn, Secretary, Baroness Coussins, Vice Chairs Kelvin Hopkins MP and Mark Pritchard MP, Treasurer, David Morris MP.

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Notes to editors

The categories for the 2016 Awards reflect the ever-increasing scope of talent from within the UK's jazz scene and include:

- Jazz Album of the Year (released in 2015 by a UK band or musicians)
- Jazz Vocalist of the Year (UK-based vocalist who impressed in 2015)
- Jazz Instrumentalist of the Year (UK-based musician who impressed in 2015)
- Jazz Ensemble of the Year (UK-based group who impressed in 2015)
- Jazz Venue of the Year (including jazz clubs, venues, festivals and promoters)
- Jazz Media Award (including broadcasters, journalists, magazines, blogs, listings and books)
- Jazz Education Award (to an educator or project for raising the standard of jazz education in the UK)
- Jazz Newcomer of the Year (UK-based artist, musician or group with a debut album released in 2015)
- Services to Jazz Award (to a living person for their outstanding contribution to jazz in the UK).

PPL has been supporting the awards since 2005. APPJAG has over 80 members from the House of Commons and House of Lords, across all political parties. Its aim is to encourage a wider and deeper enjoyment of jazz, to increase Parliamentarians' understanding of the industry and issues surrounding it, as well as promoting jazz as a musical form, and to raise its profile both inside and outside of Parliament.

About JazzUK – working hard for UK jazz!

Ignite the senses and free the spirit with the rich and diverse colours of jazz.

www.jazzuk.org.uk

About PPL

PPL is the music licensing company which works on behalf of record companies and performers to license recorded music played in public (at pubs, nightclubs, restaurants, shops, offices and many other business types) and broadcast on TV and radio across the UK. Our members include major record labels and independents as well as globally successful performers and session musicians, ranging from orchestral players to percussionists and singers. PPL also operates an international royalty collection service helping members to get paid when their music is played internationally. ppluk.com / [@PPLUK](https://twitter.com/PPLUK)