

AWARD WINNING JAZZ TRIO BRING A BIT OF SOUTH AMERICA TO BRISBANE

Judith Wright Centre and Jazz Queensland present
BEN WINKELMAN TRIO: "ODYSSEYS" CD LAUNCH

"Splendid. Winkelman's 14 joyous originals embody the exhilaration of music making and not a hint of fat... here we come a little closer to the divine." *The Age*

**** "Just when we thought everything possible with jazz piano trios had been done, this Melbourne trio's debut album forces a rethink." *The Australian*

Brisbane audiences will be transported to South America and beyond when Melbourne's internationally renowned **Ben Winkelman Trio** ignite the Judith Wright Centre stage with their energetic jazz tunes on Friday 30 July 2010.

The award winning piano trio will perform new music from their third album, *Odysseys* (Jazzhead), with original compositions that relish in the romantic and energetic, from Afro-Cuban and Brazilian music to stride piano, Argentinean tango and classical.

"Our music spans a diverse range of styles, moods and emotional terrain," Winkelman said.

"The Latin influence in my music was inspired by my working life as I played in a salsa band, Rumberos, for 17 years. The music is fun; it strikes the middle ground between being complex and interesting to play but accessible to audiences at the same time," he said.

"Audiences can expect a concert that is eclectic, dynamic, hard-hitting, free-thinking and entertaining, with lots of group interplay," he said.

Born in the US and hailing from a musical family, including a grandmother who played saxophone in an all-women's ragtime band in the 20s in the US, **Ben Winkelman** grew up listening to the likes of Herbie Hancock, Thelonious Monk and Keith Jarrett.

Ben Winkelman has toured nationally and internationally, playing with the likes of Rene Geyer, Julie O'Hara, Ali McGregor (wife of Adam Hills) and for seven months with Eddie Perfect in *Shane Warne The Musical*.

Winkelman has also recorded with James Morrison on Ali McGregor's jazz album *Jazz Cigarette*. (not released yet)

Well known on the Australian festival circuit, **Ben Winkelman** has played the Melbourne Arts Festival, Sydney Arts Festival, Wangaratta Jazz Festival and Melbourne International Jazz Festival to name a few.

The **Ben Winkelman Trio** won critical acclaim for their first two albums, *The Spanish Tinge* (2007 AIR Award winner for Best Independent Jazz Release) and *Stomps, Pieces & Variations* (2006 Australian Jazz Bell Award nominee for Best Classic Jazz Album).

The Ben Winkelman Trio are Ben Winkelman (piano), Sam Anning (bass) and Ben Vanderwal (drums).

The Contemporary Music Touring Program aims to give all Australians, wherever they live, better access to some of the country's best live contemporary music. The Australian Government is proud to be associated with the Ben Winkelman Trio's performances.

-ENDS-

Date	Friday 30 July 2010
Time	7.30pm
Venue	Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts
Tickets	Full \$32, Concession \$27
Bookings	07 3872 9000 www.judithwrightcentre.com

**For further information, images and interview opportunities please contact
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