

## VOCALS, VIRTUOSOS AND IMPROVISATION

Brisbane Powerhouse presents

### *Brisbane Jazz Festival 2010*

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual *Brisbane Jazz Festival* celebrates the voices of jazz in 2010 with some of the world's most influential and acclaimed jazz vocalists, emerging artists and ensembles making their way to Brisbane Powerhouse from **Thursday 21 to Sunday 24 October**.

With five big shows across four days, this year's festival has distilled the essence of jazz down to the very cream of the crop with performances by Grammy-Award-winner, **Kurt Elling**; modern day Sinatra, **Sachal Vasandani**, and our very own **Mark Isaacs**; Portugese chanteuse, **Sara Serpa**; Ethiopia's **Mulatu Astatke** with **The Black Jesus Experience**; and the **James Muller Quartet**.

Kurt Elling, who has spent the last ten consecutive years at the top of the DownBeat Critics poll, heads our way for his very first Brisbane performance, fresh from his first Grammy Award win. Hailed as 'the standout male jazz vocalist of our time' by *The New York Times*, Elling has an awesome command of rhythm, texture, phrasing and dynamics, often sounding more like a virtuoso jazz musician than a mere singer.

In an exciting collaboration, rising star, Sachal Vasandani, who incorporates elements of rock, R&B and Brazilian music into his jazz, plays alongside Australia's own award-winning pianist Mark Isaacs. Mark, whose diversity and experience has seen him gain international acclaim, is the perfect complement to Sachal's flexible and understated voice.

A native of Portugal, New York-based vocalist and composer, Sara Serpa, has lived around music all her life. Creating melodies that seem to tell everyone a different story, she sings mostly wordless music, going beyond the traditional scat technique and is mentored by jazz saxophonist, Greg Osby.

Mulatu Astatke is one of Ethiopia's most influential and legendary musicians and the godfather of 'Ethio-Jazz', the infectious music dating back to the 1960s that combines Latin jazz and early funk and soul with traditional Ethiopian harmony. On this exclusive Australian debut tour he teams up with local ensemble, The Black Jesus Experience.

One of Australia's most in demand jazz guitarists and composers, James Muller, joins this year's festival with his renowned quartet format. Muller has been busy touring nationally and abroad with his own band and as a member of others, including The Jazzgroove Mothership Orchestra and the Mark Isaacs Resurgence Band.

Rounding out the festival line-up will be free performances by the Zac Hurren Trio, Louise Denson and Melbourne's Nat Bartsch. For more information call 07 3358 8600 or go to [brisbanepowerhouse.org](http://brisbanepowerhouse.org)

Brisbane Powerhouse is Brisbane City Council's leading arts performance venue helping to deliver a vibrant and creative city.

-ENDS-

<b>Date</b>	Thu 21 – Sun 24 Oct
<b>Time</b>	Varies
<b>Venue</b>	Powerhouse Theatre and Turbine Platform, Brisbane Powerhouse
<b>Tickets</b>	From \$29
<b>Bookings</b>	07 3358 8600 or <a href="http://brisbanepowerhouse.org">brisbanepowerhouse.org</a>

**For more information, images and interviews please contact  
Brisbane Powerhouse Publicist, Rachael Morgan  
p 07 3358 8670 m 0404 775 377 f 07 3358 8649  
e [rachaelm@brisbanepowerhouse.org](mailto:rachaelm@brisbanepowerhouse.org)**

