

DOWN SOUTH JAZZ CLUB PRESENTS
GEORGE WASHINGMACHINE
“FEEL THE MANOUCHE”



Featuring

GEORGE WASHINGMACHINE (VIOLIN/VOCALS)
CLARE O'MEARA (PIANO ACCORD/VOCALS)
ARTHUR WASHINGTON (GUITAR)
JERRY WASHINGTON (GUITAR)
STAN VALACOS (BASS)

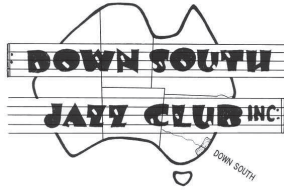
WHERE & WHEN

AT CLUB SAPPHIRE
THURSDAY 15TH FEBRUARY

COST: \$15 JAZZ CLUB MEMBERS
\$20 VISITORS

MUSIC STARTS AT 7.30 PM

***Seats or tables may be booked with Kevin/Aileen on 64959853,
at bookings@downsouthjazzclub.org.au, or at door on the night***



DOWN SOUTH JAZZ CLUB

PO BOX 346 MERIMBULA, 2548

February 2018

Dear Member



On Thursday 15th February, the Down South Jazz Club is delighted once again to bring to the stage of Club Sapphire, Merimbula, George Washingmachine's "Feel the Manouche". As on his last visit in April 2016, the band features George Washingmachine (violin/ukulele/vocals), Clare O'Meara (accordion/vocals), Arthur Washington (guitar), Jerry Washington (guitar), and Stan Valacos (double bass). That was a great night, and we look forward very much to their show again this year.

George Washingmachine, who is Russian born, has had a vast and varied career in the entertainment business. As a child he trained for seven years as a classical violinist, leaving that behind to form a rhythm and blues band as guitarist, until 1984, when he moved to Sydney and started playing jazz fiddle with The Conway Brothers Hiccup Orchestra. George and his band are once again doing another national tour with "Feel the Manouche". Manouche is a term derived from the Romany gypsies of Europe, what we in Australia call gypsy jazz. This fine band has been put together by its individual members as an exercise in small group swing and George has toured extensively overseas with it. Feel the Manouche has a 'world music' feel. Through its use of double bass, guitar, accordion & fiddle, the band achieves a strong melodic groove that can take on gypsy waltzes, swing jazz, and many other flavours of music from our diverse planet.

Clare O'Meara is a professional musician from Sydney with a career spanning the last two decades. She is a multi-instrumentalist/songwriter and artist in her own right and brings fiddle, piano accordion and harmonies to the line-up. She has toured and recorded with virtually all Australian contemporary music artists and bands both nationally and internationally (too many to include in this bio) including appearances at every major music festival and many TV appearances.

Guitarists Arthur and Jerry Washington, happen to be George's two sons. Arthur apparently told the press he became "obsessed" with the guitar when he broke his knee in Year 7. He has been described as "displaying very impressive skills on the guitar" and we look forward to hearing him again.

Jerry is a young gun on the jazz guitar and the backbone of the rhythm section (think Freddy Green). He is an artist and has taken part in various group shows.

Stan Valacos is no stranger to the Down South Jazz Club and has also played regularly with different groups led by Geoff Bull, along with the Paul Furniss trio and other combinations. He is in high demand by most leading musicians on the Sydney jazz scene. At the Southern Highlands Classic Jazz and Ragtime Festival he played with three top musicians - Geoff Bull, Paul Furniss and Anthony Howe. Stan also plays 7-string guitar in a Brazilian Band called "Performing Brazil". He has played at the Ascona Jazz Festival in USA and also joined the Society Syncopators for several gigs in Europe prior to appearing for the Down South Jazz Club in July 2008 with the Geoff Bull Jazz Band.

We invite you to sit back and 'Feel the Manouche'. Cost is \$15 for jazz club members and \$20 for visitors. Seats and table bookings can be made by ringing Aileen or Kevin on 64959853, by email on bookings@downsouthjazzclub.org.au, or will be available at the door. The Club Sapphire bistro opens at 6.00 pm with its extensive menu, and music will commence at 7.30.