

# The Gypsy Swingers



Burning Gypsy Swing from Bach to Django to today, plus a bunch of original tunes add up to a night of non-stop swingin' fun. A dynamic trio with virtuoso guitars and double bass, guaranteed to keep the joint jumpin!!!

Formed in 2008, each member comes from a long background of performance in various fields. Add to that a good blend of Hot Club Jazz and many experiences in Montreaux, London, Dublin, Edinburgh, Seville, Barcelona and Paris and you have a well seasoned group of world class musicians.

The Gypsy Swingers audiences will be treated to three exceptional musicians who entertain by performing original compositions plus a host of classics with a little bit of history as to their origins.

**Cameron Ford**  
**Flamenco and Gypsy Jazz Guitarist**  
**Concert Performer and Composer**



Cameron has played guitar for more than 20 years gathering broad experience in all styles leading him to specialise in Flamenco and Gypsy Jazz. In 2007 he lived in Spain and immersed himself in the Andalusian atmosphere, performing and jamming with friends in Sevilla, Cordoba and Jerez. He was also based in Barcelona where he performed concerts to much acclaim. During 2004 he studied in Sevilla and Granada learning from teachers and from seeing shows in the cuervas and tablaos. He

then moved to England and performed private concerts at Henley on Thames. Additionally he was guest artist for the 'Total Guitar Sundays' series of lectures, workshops and concerts in Dublin, Ireland. Previous overseas experiences have seen Cameron undertake contracts in Thailand, Christmas Island and Indonesia.

For the past 3 years Cameron has been involved with the Queensland Arts Council 'On tour By Request' program. In 2007 he lead two groups: Manouche Jazz group 'Cam's Gypsy Quartet' and the flamenco guitar trio 'Tres Guitarras'. He has also been part of the Queensland Music Festival for the past two seasons, of which the latest show was 'The Dream Catchers' devised and directed by John Rodgers in conjunction with Paul Grabowsky. He performed in the Northern Rivers Jazz Festival 2006 and continues to perform concerts regularly as a soloist and with other groups throughout the Northern Rivers region.

Locally, Cameron has lead groups in several World Music Cafes at QPAC as well as numerous lunchtime concerts in the Brisbane City Hall Main Auditorium. He has also played at the Woodford Folk Festival, Valley Fiesta, Powerhouse Theatre, Tivoli Theatre, King George Square, Stanthorpe Wine Fest, and many Corporate shows at the Hilton and Sheraton Hotels Brisbane, Noosa and Gold Coast and the Marriott Surfers Paradise.

## **Peter Walters**

### **Master of Music**

**Acoustic Bassist, Electric Bassist, Guitarist, Composer, Arranger and Teacher**



Peter has distinguished himself over the years as Brisbane's most sought after bassist, particularly in the jazz milieu. Classically trained by Ken Poggioli (Queensland Orchestra) he quickly established his jazz credentials with strong and imaginative playing. Through the 80's and 90's he worked with many artists from overseas and Australia including singers Annie Ross, Sheila Jordan, Vince Jones and Kerrie Biddell, saxophonists Clifford Jordan, Johnny Griffin, Don Burrows and Don Menza, pianists Joachim Kuhn, Jason Rebello (Sting), James Morrison and a host of others.

Peter teaches tertiary level jazz bass studies at three universities: Queensland University of Technology (Creative Industries), Griffith University (Queensland Conservatorium) and Central Queensland University (Mackay Conservatorium).

Whilst working professionally in all sorts of genres (Jazz, Blues, Latin, World) and after having worked in Japan and other SE Asian locales, Peter embarked on a Composition Masters degree, which he completed in 2005. He continues to compose and arrange alone and in collaboration with other local artists. He has composed and arranged for film and theatre his latest being 'Black Soldier Blues' for SBS.

Peter's recent collaboration with guitarist Cameron Ford finds him immersed in the Manouche style of French jazz of the thirties and in modern Flamenco.

## **Nigel Date**

### **Guitarist and Composer**



Nigel works as a freelance guitarist for many different bands including many of Sydney's best jazz musicians.

His own bands Peppermint T, The Gypsy Swingers, Eye of Chaos, Fred, The Straight Back Fellows, The Djangologists and The Ticklers play a mixture of

jazz, rock, pop, reggae, blues, latin styles, Jewish, Gypsy, world music fusion and original compositions.

Nigel is particularly well known for his work as 'gypsy jazz' stylist. This is the style created by Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli in France in the 1930's. Nigel works with the best of the other stylists of this music in Australia including the violinists George Washingmachine, Daniel Weltlinger and Ian Cooper.

Nigel's brother Ian Date is considered one of the greats of Australian guitar and the champion of Django's music in the country for more than two decades. Together they work as the Date Brothers. They have appeared all over the world.

In recent years Nigel has played at major festivals and has been invited to more this year including The Cork International Jazz Fest (Ireland), The Gypsy Jazz Fest (New Caledonia), The Bay of Islands Jazz Fest (NZ), Wangaratta Jazz Fest, National Folk Fest, Woodford Folk Fest, Bellingen Jazz Fest, Manouche Fest Brisbane and many more.

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