

# 'Improvisations'

The Newsletter of Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club  
March 2015  
Editor: Roy McKeen

## THE BEATLES Swing

STARRING  
**CRAIG MARTIN**  
(DIRECT FROM LIVERPOOL)  
& his **Swing Band**

★★★ **WORLD PREMIERE** ★★★

A MAGICAL SHOW CELEBRATING THE MUSIC OF THE FAB FOUR SWING STYLE!



**FRI 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

The Arts Centre Gold Coast  
Paradise Showroom 7.30pm  
(Bar & Bistro open 6pm)

**Bookings:** Call 5588 4000 or at the Box Office  
**Tickets:** Jazz Club Members \$23 | Visitors \$28  
**Venue:** The Arts Centre Gold Coast  
135 Bundall Rd, Surfers Paradise QLD 4217

[www.craigmartinmusic.com](http://www.craigmartinmusic.com) [www.theartscentregc.com.au](http://www.theartscentregc.com.au)





*CM*  
craigmartin

**CRAIG MARTIN**  
*SWINGS*  
**THE BEATLES**



# Editor Roy McKeen interviews Craig Martin about his new show



**Craig Martin**

## **Roy: How did you manage to get permission to perform the Beatles songs as brand new swing arrangements?**

*Craig: I just asked, Sony/ATV that is, who now own 99% of the Beatles songs. I told them about my idea to perform a 2 hour Beatles Swing show, I'm a huge fan, I was born in Liverpool. As a teenager I played lots of venues around Liverpool where the Beatles performed - The Cavern, The Jacaranda and I also mentioned that I had performed with other Merseybeat greats over the years - Gerry Marsden, The Searchers and Billy Kinsley from The Merseybeats.*

*What really helped me, I was told, was my idea NOT to use a guitar in the band line up! All guitar parts would be covered by piano, saxophone, trumpet or clarinet etc.. They really liked this idea as very few artists have covered Beatles songs without using a guitar.*

## **Did it help that you are Liverpool born and bred?**

*Yes, I'm convinced it did. Listening, singing and strumming along to Beatles songs as a kid was really my only form of a music education, I guess you could say, I had music lessons from John, Paul, George and Ringo!*

## **Have you ever met any of The Beatles?**

*Yes, I once met Pete Best. Does this count? He was the original drummer replaced by Ringo Starr. I auditioned for his band back in the 90's. Unfortunately I didn't get the job!*

## **Who now owns The Beatles songs?**

*Sony/ATV own most of them. They purchased them from Michael Jackson back in the 90s, But I also had to beg Paul McCartney's own publishing company MPL to allow me to perform a couple of songs he now owns and Universal Music the same.*

## **How many songs did you buy the copyright for?**

*I got permission to arrange and perform 25 songs, and I'll be performing 24 of them in the show. The early songs from '62/'63 right through to the classics from '69/'70.*

## **Who did the arrangements?**

*I used many great local arrangers from Brisbane, many of them I'd used before, some were new to me. I wanted to use as many different arrangers as possible to give the show variety. All arrangers, just like musicians, are unique and individual. I even asked legendary Aussie arranger Ed Wilson to do a couple for me, which are amazing!*

## **Are you sure that this is a World Premiere? Hasn't anyone ever done it before? Didn't Count Basie and Ella Fitzgerald record 'Can't Buy Me Love' in swing style?**

*Well, my "Beatles Swing "show" on March 13<sup>th</sup> is definitely a World Premiere for me!*

*Beatles songs have been covered over the years in many different styles, just think of Joe Cocker, Shirley Bassey, The Carpenters, Frank Sinatra etc.. and yes, the Beatles songs have swung before. Count Basie released two swinging Beatle albums in 1966 and 1969 featuring as you say, Ella Fitzgerald, but I don't think they ever performed the songs together 'live'. Sony/ATV informed me that I am currently the only artiste in the world with their permission to perform this many 'swing' Beatles songs in a show!*

### **What plans do you have for future concerts of this show?**

*Our first show at the Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club on March 13<sup>th</sup> is very important for many reasons. It's the opportunity to finally perform these songs after months of preparation & rehearsals and see what the audience reaction is to each song. I have plans to perform back in the UK at the 'Liverpool International Beatles Festival' in August, a tour around Australia and Asia would be fantastic but my dream is to perform a season in Vegas! Just like all my heroes have done - singers like Bobby Darin, Sinatra, Elvis, Tom Jones, Dean Martin and Engelbert Humperdinck.*

### **Is it true that Paul McCartney has to pay performance fees when he sings his own songs at a concert?**

*Yes, it's absolutely true, Paul McCartney sold his shares in Northern Songs in 1969 when he and John Lennon were unable to get 100% ownership of his songs. So, just like me, whenever he performs 'his' songs live he has to pay the performance rights fees. Of course he will receive a share of this fee as he is one of the songwriters!*

**That's hilarious! Well, Craig, I wish you well with your plans for THE BEATLES SWING and congratulate you on your initiative. You'll be pleased to know that sales for the show are coming in fast and we expect a big crowd. We have never had a WORLD PREMIERE at the Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club so it will be an exciting evening. Good luck!**

*Thanks, Roy! I can't wait!*







# The Marvellous Miz Demeanours

Friday 13th February

If you had read the CVs of **The Marvellous Miz Demeanours** in the February edition of *'Improvisations'* you would have realised that between them these ladies have clocked up an impressive record of success in show business.

So it was no surprise that on the evening of the show they held the attention of the audience in The Paradise Showroom for three hours ably supported by a magnificent pianist, John Hill and drummer Ben Schumann.

My lasting impression of the show is of how personable the ladies were and how well rehearsed the routines were. That doesn't just happen. It takes hours of hard work and dedication. There is obviously a great deal of respect and affection within the group.

The audience enjoyed the repartee and the opportunity given to join in the singing (e.g. *Minnie The Moocher*) and as they left the Paradise Showroom there were many smiles. That is what we like to see!

Five stars to The Marvellous Miz Demeanours!

# Membership Renewal

It is time to renew your membership of Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club. The new financial year commences on 1st April. We seek your cooperation by renewing promptly. This enables us to print and distribute the new membership cards efficiently.

You can join on-line by going to [www.goldcoastjazzclub.com](http://www.goldcoastjazzclub.com) Join Us (*top of the page*) and following the prompts. Alternatively, please print this page, complete and post to the P.O. Box below.



Jazz Action Society Gold Coast Inc. T/A  
**GOLD COAST JAZZ & BLUES CLUB**

### Membership Rates

Couple \$35 / Senior Couple \$25

Single \$25 / Senior Single \$20

Financial Year starts April 1<sup>st</sup>

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

April 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 - March 31<sup>st</sup> 2016

Renewing Member       New Member

Cheque \$.....      Cash \$.....

First Name/s .....

Surname/s .....

Address .....

.....

.....

P/Code ..... Phone .....

Email .....

**Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club**  
P.O. Box 6421 G.C.M.C 9726





The Jazz Action Society Gold Coast Inc. trading as Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club was founded in 1985 and meets monthly (except December) in The Paradise Showroom at The Arts Centre Gold Coast, 135 Bundall Road, Surfers Paradise on advertised dates. The club presents a wide variety of music and entertainment in the jazz and blues genre provided by bands, singers and entertainers from all over Australia and internationally.

If you are a visitor to our club we invite you to become a member and take advantage of discounted admission prices and at the bar and bistro. You will receive the club's newsletter monthly either electronically or hard copy. Members are admitted at members rates at affiliated jazz clubs world-wide. Membership application forms can be found at the desk in the foyer or you can join online.

**You will be made very welcome!**

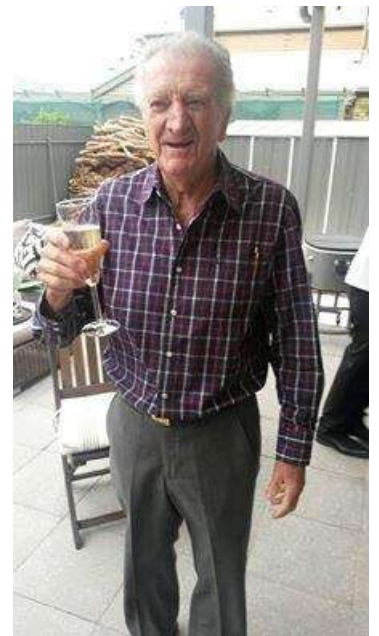


**DELL SILVESTER** was the winner of the Members Draw at the Galapagos Duck gig on 23rd January.

**PAUL FITZGERALD** was the winner at The Marvellous Miz Demeanours gig on 13th February.

The draw is held immediately after the drawing of the raffle and winners must be present.

Congratulations to Dell and Paul!



## Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club

President/Editor	Roy McKeen	5529-6562
Vice President	Nikki Murphy	0408 738 168
Treasurer	Simon Humble-Crofts	5679-2774
Secretary	John Simpson	5538-8821
Membership	Rob Speedie	5527- 5294
Raffles	Suzanne Rolls	0401 026 001
Production/Stage	Andy Dowdeswell	5597-0098



[www.goldcoastjazzclub.com](http://www.goldcoastjazzclub.com)  
[info@goldcoastjazzclub.com](mailto:info@goldcoastjazzclub.com)  
 P.O. Box 6421  
 GCMC 9726

**Coming Soon!**  
**Your new membership card**

★ Gold Coast Jazz & Blues Club presents ★

# Lee Gunness

with the

## Caxton Street Jazz Band



**“Hot Time in the  
Old Town Tonight”**

**RED HOT JAZZ  
BLUES & GOSPEL**



**Fri 1 May 2015, The Arts Centre Gold Coast (Paradise Room)**

7.30 pm Bar & Bistro open from 6.00 pm • Bookings: Phone the Box Office 5588 4000

Tickets: Jazz Club members \$23, Visitors \$28