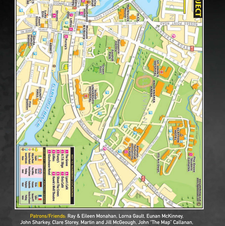
SLIGO JAZZ project

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL AND JAZZ FESTIVAL

21-26 JULY 2026

sligojazz.ie

funding music | Arts Council An Chomhairle Ealaíon | Sligo Borough District | Visit Sligo. | Fáilte Ireland | Wild Atlantic Way



Harmony/Friends: Roy & Eileen Monahan, Lorna Gault, Eanan McKinney, John Sharkey, Clare Storey, Martin and Jill McDeough, John 'The Mag' Callanan, MJ Galvin, David & Nonney Gunne, Norman Pugh
Venue partners: Hawk's Well Theatre, ATU Sligo, Lillies Cocktail Bar

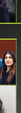
Hawk's Well Theatre FEATURE CONCERTS (Each. Sun 26 July)

Tuesday 21 July 8pm (€25 / €12.50. U-18s half price)

EUROPEAN VOICES DOUBLE BILL
Sun Mi Hong Quartet
Elina Duni & Rob Luft

Sun Mi Hong — South Korean drummer based in Amsterdam, leading her quartet in a set of her compositions inspired by the quartet plays music that bounces round grooves with exhilarating, lyrical outbursts — one of the most exciting bands in European jazz right now.
Elina Duni & Rob Luft — Swiss-Albanian vocalist and London guitarist, pianist, composer, arranger, Rob Luft, 2026 Jazz Album Academy nominee for their 2026 album Ten Songs, the duo's fourth album, reviews from The Guardian and Downbeat. Hushed, luminous and deeply affecting.

Wednesday 22 July 8pm (€25 / €12.50. U-18s half price)



EUROPEAN VOICES DOUBLE BILL
Jasper Hoiby's 3Elements
Liselotte Ostblom

Copenhagen-born, London-based bassist Jasper Hoiby bounded the landmark trio Phronesis before launching this new piano trio with Danish pianist Nikolaj Bentzon and Swedish drummer Conny Ahlin. Hoiby's music is fluid, lyrical, sometimes fierce, sometimes thrilling, and melodically rich.
Liselotte Ostblom — Stockholm-born, London-based vocalist, composer, and bandleader. A Royal Academy of Music graduate and Berklee Career Achievement Award winner, her music has been described as "a gem" (Jazzwise) and her album EP received airplay from Gilles Peterson and Jamie Cullum.

SEASON PASS
All ticketed Hawk's Well Theatre events across the full festival week
€150
BUY NOW

This project is supported by the Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon, funded by Sligo County Council through Creative Ireland as part of the Culture Programme for Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2026.

Thursday 23 July 8pm (€25 / €12.50. U-18s half price)

EUROPEAN VOICES DOUBLE BILL
Emma Rawicz Quartet
Lucia Cadotsch

Emma Rawicz Quartet — Devon-born saxophonist and composer, winner PRS for Music Young Jazz Musician of the Year Award 2016. Her ACT label recordings have been Guardian Album of the Month. Jamie Cullum calls her "an astonishing talent." She performs with her four-piece quartet of UK jazz stars.
Lucia Cadotsch — Zürich-born, Berlin-based vocalist. Swiss Music Prize winner, and ECHO Jazz Singer of the Year. Her chamber trio Speak Low earned maximum reviews from The Guardian and Downbeat. One of the most distinctive voices in European jazz today.

Friday 24 July 8pm (€25 / €12.50. U-18s half price)

Aaron Parks 2 Sets, 2 Lineups

Artist in Residence Aaron Parks is one of the most lyrical and forward-thinking pianists in jazz today. From his landmark Blue Note debut Invisible Cities (2008) to his acclaimed ECM releases on ECM and Blue Note, his music weaves jazz, indie rock, and Eastern modal traditions into something wholly original. Sometimes dark and hard-edged, sometimes tender and lyrical, it's always unique, always personal. Parks's work has been described as "one of the most distinctive voices in the world's contemporary jazz — a unique and unmistakable evening."

Saturday 25 July 8pm (€20 / €10. U-18s half price)

Gareth Lockrane Nonet

The UK's foremost jazz flautist, Gareth Lockrane is a Royal Academy of Music graduate whose septet album No Mission won the Parliamentary Jazz Awards Album of the Year and Jazz Musician of the Year (Leader). Joined by Jason Rebello (Sting, Mike + The Mechanics), he brings his full sextet for a programme of powerful, groove-driven original music — soul jazz, funk, and cinematic flair in equal measure.

Saturday 25 July 8pm (€25 / €12.50. U-18s half price)

SJP All Stars

The most electric night of the festival — the entire 2026 faculty on stage together. Hosted and conceived by Artist in Residence Aaron Parks. World-class musicians who've spent the week teaching, playing, and inspiring each other, now setting loose in front of a full house.

SLIGO JAZZ Day by Day

Tuesday 21 July

4.30pm Lillies Cocktail Bar: Lillies Sessions in Partnership with The White Hag
First 20 people in the bar receive a complimentary pint of Cloudless lager, courtesy of The White Hag
FREDDIE HENDRICK & FRIENDS [FREE]
New York trumpet player Freddie Hendrick — veteran on over 150 recordings, twice a White House performer — kicks off the week with an informal session at Lillies. Space is limited, come early.

8pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
FESTIVAL JAM SESSION [FREE]
The daily open jam gets the week underway — summer school participants and faculty from around the world sharing the same stage. Drop in, set up, see what happens.

8pm Hawk's Well Theatre Jazz Concert. See Reverse
SUN MI HONG QUARTET | ELINA DUNI & ROB LUFT

10.30pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
FESTIVAL CLUB JAM SESSION [FREE]
The night doesn't end at the theatre. The lobby becomes a late-night hub as musicians and faculty continue the conversation through music.

Wednesday 22 July

7pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
JUKEJTIME AT THE WELL — HONEY, INC. [FREE]
Rory Connolly first discovered jazz night here at Sligo Jazz Project's summer school, age 15. Now he's Berlin-based and has been scheduling his world's most renowned jazz venue in Bowien — proof of what community, mentorship and serious dedication can do. Rory is joined by some of Sligo's finest young jazz musicians for a set of originals and standards.

4.30pm Lillies Cocktail Bar: Lillies Sessions in Partnership with The White Hag
First 20 people in the bar receive a complimentary pint of Cloudless lager, courtesy of The White Hag
ECHITRA [FREE]
From Old Irish, meaning the adventures of heroes travelling the seas. That spirit of openness and discovery defines this ensemble — a musical diaspora scattered between Ireland, the UK and the Netherlands. Space is limited, come early.

8pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
FESTIVAL JAM SESSION [FREE]
The afternoon jam continues — open to all, guaranteed to surprise.

8pm Hawk's Well Theatre Jazz Concert See Reverse
JASPER HOIBY'S 3ELEMENTS | LISELOTTE OSTBLOM

9.30pm Shoot The Crows Pub
NoCROWS MEMBERS [FREE]
The beloved Wednesday night institution at Sligo's tiny ancient Shoot the Crows pub. World-music outfit NoCrows welcome faculty guests for a free-for-all acoustic session that's unpredictably good and completely unmissable.

10.30pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
FESTIVAL CLUB JAM SESSION [FREE]
The night doesn't end at the theatre. The lobby becomes a late-night hub as musicians and faculty continue the conversation through music.

Thursday 23 July

10am ATU Sligo. AbbVie Auditorium
HISTORY OF IRISH JAZZ 1945–1990 [PUBLIC €10] (DS FREE)
Archivist and broadcaster Ian Drummer and author Gerry Gallagher — the first ever documented timeline of Irish jazz, from the earliest 1947 recordings through to the digital era. Rare archive footage and recordings, with guests from Gallagher's personal collection. Not to be missed by jazz fans and students of Irish culture.

4.30pm Lillies Cocktail Bar: Lillies Sessions in Partnership with The White Hag
First 20 people in the bar receive a complimentary pint of Cloudless lager, courtesy of The White Hag
JOE O'CALLAGHAN QUARTET [FREE]
Two of Ireland's finest — guitarist Joe O Callaghan veteran of stages with Louis Stewart and Dave Liebman and saxophonist Cathal Roche — join forces for an intimate afternoon session. Space is limited, come early.

8pm Dale Cafe
FELIP CARBONELL & EDDIE McFARLANE [FREE]
Sligo Jazz regulars Felip Carbonell and Eddie McFarlane joined by a surprise guest. Fine food served. One of the most relaxed and enjoyable slots of the week.

8pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
FESTIVAL JAM SESSION [FREE]

8pm Hawk's Well Theatre Jazz Concert See Reverse
EMMA RAWICZ QUARTET | LUCIA CADOTSCH

9pm Furrys Pub
LEE MEEHAN ORGAN TRIO [FREE]
Dublin guitarist and vocalist Lee Meehan leads a swinging organ trio for a late-night set. A Newark/SOA post graduate and recipient of Cork Jazz Festival and Electric Picnic, his 2023 debut album was named among All About Jazz's top releases of 2024.

10.30pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
FESTIVAL CLUB JAM SESSION [FREE]

Friday 24 July

2.30pm Lyons Cafe
LEE MEEHAN & BRIAN QUESTA [FREE]
An afternoon duo set at one of Sligo's favourite cafes — Lee Meehan on guitar with bassist Brian Questa. Casual, warm, and thoroughly musical.

4.30pm Lillies Cocktail Bar: Lillies Sessions in Partnership with The White Hag
First 20 people in the bar receive a complimentary pint of Cloudless lager, courtesy of The White Hag
PAUL DUNLEA TRIO [FREE]
Cork trombonist, bandleader and musical director of the New Irish Jazz Orchestra. Paul Dunlea leads a trio session at Lillies. A rare chance to hear this composer-performer in an intimate setting.

5pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
FESTIVAL JAM SESSION [FREE]

8pm Hawk's Well Theatre Concert See Reverse
AARON PARKS 2 SETS, 2 LINEUPS

9pm The Dunes Strandhill
LEE MEEHAN TRIO [FREE]

10.30pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
FESTIVAL CLUB JAM SESSION [FREE]

Saturday 25 July

2pm Hawk's Well Theatre Concert See Reverse
GARETH LOCKRANE NONET

4.30pm Lillies Cocktail Bar: Lillies Sessions in Partnership with The White Hag
First 20 people in the bar receive a complimentary pint of Cloudless lager, courtesy of The White Hag
TOM OLLENDORFF TRIO [FREE]
British guitarist Tom Ollendorff — praised by The Guardian for elegant melodies and attentive improv — plays with his trio in the intimate Lillies setting. His recent collaboration with Aaron Parks made waves on both sides of the Atlantic.

5pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
FESTIVAL JAM SESSION [FREE]

7pm The Dunes Strandhill
AGOSTINO DI GIORGIO & TOM REMON [FREE]

8pm Hawk's Well Theatre Concert See Reverse
SJP ALL STARS

10.30pm Hawk's Well Theatre Lobby
FESTIVAL CLUB JAM SESSION [FREE]

Sunday 26 July

12 noon Hawk's Well Theatre
SJP BIG BASH [FREE]
The last revel around a pint of the summer school — the entire student body takes the Hawks Well stage in their ensembles, performing music they've worked on all week. A celebration, joyful, community event and always one of the warmest moments of the festival. All are welcome, no ticket required.

7.30pm Hawk's Well Theatre
SJP LITTLE BIG BAND — WRAP PARTY [€25 / €12 + FEES]
The festival closes in style. The SJP Little Big Band — a specially assembled ensemble led by Freddie Hendrix and Paul Dunlea, featuring arrangements by several 2026 faculty members — gives thanks to fond farewell. Part concert, part celebration, and the last chance to see the summer school's finest young talent perform as a big band home.

A big thank You to all the agency Fosterers, Venue Partners, Faculty Members, Performer Contributors and Volunteers who Make Sligo Jazz Festival possible.

SLIGO JAZZ project | prohaiveitis | Insure to Inspire | Sligo Borough District | Arts Council An Chomhairle Ealaíon | imro | Sligo Chamber | Music Generation Sligo | Sligo Chamber | Sligo Leader Partnership | Sligo Tourism | Sligo Arts Service