

Sing the blues

Celebrate International Jazz Day (30 April) at these venues around the SilkAir network



Maduro, Singapore

A highly accomplished jazz pianist in the 1980s, Peter Ng has once again entered the spotlight – this time with his own jazz lounge and bar. Tucked away in the upscale Dempsey Hill enclave, Maduro, which opened less than a year ago, is furnished with plush velvet couches and comfy leather armchairs – a space that Ng describes as “a living room for intimate concert-quality performances”. Unwind with a dram of whisky while listening to top musicians – which have included Aya Sekine and Jacqui Naylor – tickle the ivories on the baby grand piano. maduro.sg

Binh Minh Jazz Club, Hanoi

Located in the historic French Quarter, this long-standing club was opened back in 1998 by saxophonist Quyên Van Minh,

widely regarded as Vietnam’s first jazz star. Today, it’s the place to catch some of the city’s best pianists, bassists and saxophonists (including Minh himself). “After 20 years, we’re still keeping jazz alive every night,” Minh says. Modest in terms of décor – save for the framed photos of international jazz musicians on the walls – it’s clear the music is the main draw, with live performances ranging from funk to blues from 9pm daily. minhjazzvietnam.com

Windmills Craftworks, Bangalore

“I love the complex rhythms and bass lines of jazz. It’s music that gets into your bones and makes you want to dance,” enthuses Kamal Sagar, the owner of Windmills Craftworks. It’s home to what Sagar calls a jazz theatre: a warmly lit stage and a top-notch sound system. This is where artists

such as Malaysian singer Zee Avi and the Bruno Angelini Open Land Quartet from France have taken centre stage. As a bonus, the venue serves a selection of unique craft beers, among them a lush, malty stout and a crisp, floral golden ale. windmillscraftworks.com

Alexis Bistro, Kuala Lumpur

This established name has five locations across the city, but jazz lovers flock to its Ampang outpost for its raved-about live music programme, showcasing a wide range of talents on weekend nights – from homegrown singer Evelyn Feroza to English crooner Anita Wardell and Australian a capella ensemble The Idea of North. “The local jazz scene is very vibrant, with lots of young talent,” general manager Terence Tan says. “We do our best to provide a platform for them.” alexis.com.my