

# Charlie Haden The London Concerts



Iconic bassist, composer and bandleader Charlie Haden is featured in a special weekend residency.

**Saturday 21 May**

**CHARLIE HADEN QUARTET WEST**

**7.30pm, £20-£30**

**Produced by the Barbican in association with Serious**

**Sunday 22 May**

**CHARLIE HADEN'S LIBERATION MUSIC ORCHESTRA**

**7.30pm, £20-£30**

**Produced by the Barbican in association with Serious**

**Box Office: 0207 638 8891 [www.barbican.org.uk/contemporary](http://www.barbican.org.uk/contemporary)**

Barbican Centre Silk, Street London EC2Y 8DS

One of jazz's most influential musicians and celebrated band-leaders, **Charlie Haden** has been a pivotal figure in the music's development. A key member of Ornette Coleman's legendary late 1950s quartet he appeared on such seminal albums as 1959's *Shape Of Jazz To Come* and 1961's *This Is Our Music*. He would go on to record with the greatest names in contemporary jazz, including the likes of Don Cherry, Jan Garbarek, Bill Frisell, Pat Metheny, Brad Mehldau and of course Keith Jarrett, with whom Haden has featured both as a member of the pianist's legendary American Quartet of the 1970s and more recently on the acclaimed ECM duo recording *Jasmine*.

Saturday 21 May **CHARLIE HADEN QUARTET WEST**

The opening concert celebrates the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Quartet West's** atmospheric evocation of the essence of cool jazz, with special guest singers and the band's brilliant saxophonist, **Ernie Watts**, to recreate Haden's signature approach to the jazz standard repertoire, as heard on his brilliant new recording, *Sophisticated Ladies*.

Sunday 22 May **CHARLIE HADEN'S LIBERATION MUSIC ORCHESTRA**

The **Liberation Music Orchestra** speaks from the heart of an impassioned and humane world view. For over forty years and via landmark recordings for impulse!, ECM and Verve they have transformed songs of protest, revolution and the cause of endangered societies across the planet into a contemporary jazz tour-de-force. Co-led by Haden and the brilliant arranger **Carla Bley**, this Anglo-American ensemble also features stellar soloists of the caliber of **Tony Malaby**, **Jason Yarde**, **Andy Sheppard** and **John Parricelli** amongst others.

*"For Haden, there is always the richest kind of power-to-the-people music to be made. This superbly confident band helped him prove it." \*\*\*\*\* The Guardian*

The residency will be completed by a showing of the documentary film about Charlie Haden, *Rambling Boy* and a live interview with the artist. Detail of time and place tba.

**For more information and press tickets please contact:-**

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The Riotsquad Publicity logo, featuring three overlapping circles of varying shades of brown to the left of the text "riotsquad" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, with "publicity" in a smaller font below it.

Notes to editors:

Born in Shenandoah, Iowa, Charlie Haden began his life in music almost immediately, singing on his parents' country & western radio show at the tender age of 22 months. He started playing bass in his early teens and in 1957, left America's heartland for Los Angeles, where he met and played with such legends as Art Pepper, Hampton Hawes, and Dexter Gordon.

In 1959, Haden he teamed with Ornette Coleman to form the saxophonist's pioneering quartet (alongside trumpeter Don Cherry and drummer Billy Higgins). In addition to his still-influential work with Coleman, Haden also collaborated with a number of adventurous jazz giants, including John Coltrane, Archie Shepp, and Keith Jarrett, Pat Metheny.

In 1969, Haden joined forces with pianist/composer Carla Bley, founding the Liberation Music Orchestra. The group's self-titled debut is a true milestone of modern music, blending experimental big band jazz with the folk songs of the Spanish Civil War to create a powerfully original work of musical/political activism.

An acoustic bassist of extraordinary gifts, Haden's talents as a musician have been in constant demand by his fellow artists. As a result, he has collaborated with a genuinely stunning array of musicians, including Hank Jones, Don Cherry, Dewey Redman, Paul Motian, Jack DeJohnette, Michael Brecker, Kenny Barron, and Pat Metheny (with whom Haden shared a 1997 "Best Jazz Instrumental Individual/Small Group" Grammy® Award for their *Beyond the Missouri Sky*).

Haden's love of world music has also seen him teaming with a variety of diverse international players, including Brazilian guitarist Egberto Gismonti, Argentinean bandoneon master Dino Saluzzi, and Portuguese guitar giant Carlos Paredes. In addition, Haden has explored diverse streams of American popular music with both his acclaimed Quartet West, as well as on such recent collections as 2002's inventive alliance with Michael Brecker, "AMERICAN DREAMS."

Charlie Haden who was invited to establish the jazz studies program at California Institute of the Arts in 1982, has earned countless honors from around the globe, including and the Los Angeles Jazz Society prize for "Jazz Educator of the Year", two Grammy Awards (alongside a multitude of nominations), myriad Down Beat readers and critics poll winners, a Guggenheim fellowship, four NEA grants for composition, France's Grand Prix Du Disque (Charles Cros) Award, Japan's SWING Journal Gold, Silver and Bronze awards. Montreal Jazz Festival's Miles Davis Award