

Edinburgh-born drummer aims to encourage jazz's next generation

Drummer Andrew Bain is one of a team of five top tutors who will be on hand to help aspiring jazz musicians develop their skills at the residential Summer Jazz Camp Scotland from 8 to 12 August.

Now in its second year and located at Wiston Lodge, a Victorian hunting lodge near Biggar, the summer camp is geared towards players aged 12 to 22 years. It covers all aspects of jazz music, from the fundamentals of jazz theory to advanced techniques in big band and ensemble playing.

Edinburgh-born Bain, who studied in London and New York and is now Head of Jazz at the Welsh College of Music and Drama, is joined on the staff by trumpeter Ryan Quigley, saxophonist Helena Kay, pianist Tom Gibbs, and double bassist Brodie Laird-Jarvie.

A much in-demand lead trumpeter, Ryan Quigley's touring and recording credits include work with popular music icons Quincy Jones, Aretha Franklin, Michael Buble, and Burt Bacharach as well as bass legend Ron Carter and many of Europe's leading orchestras.

Helena Kay, who in addition to playing with the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra, leads an outstanding quartet and

works with pianist Zoe Rahman, violinist Seonaid Aitken and trumpeter Yazz Ahmed. Tom Gibbs teaches on the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland jazz course and has recorded with New Yorkers, drummer Ari Hoenig and guitarist Gilad Hekselman, and Brodie Laird-Jarvie is a graduate from Amsterdam Conservatoire. He has also worked with musicians including saxophonists Tommy Smith and Brian Molley and the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra.

“There really is a wealth of professional experience in this team of tutors,” says Bain, whose CV includes performances with leading trumpeters Wynton Marsalis, Randy Brecker and Kenny Wheeler, percussionist Evelyn Glennie and vocalist Jacqui Dankworth.

All five tutors believe that jazz is a powerful tool for personal and artistic growth and they will be striving to give their students the passion and self-belief that will allow them to improvise, collaborate, and perform with ease.

“Above all, we want students to enjoy playing jazz and to feel a sense of achievement in their own playing and in playing with other musicians,” says Bain.

The summer camp venue, Wiston Lodge is only an hour’s drive from both Edinburgh and Glasgow but it is miles away from the distractions of city life.

“We know from last year that it’s an inspiring environment,” says Bain. “The accommodation is ideal and the food is all about balance and nutrition. Everything is set up so that students get the most out of the experience.”

The five-day course costs £650 and includes all meals and accommodation onsite. A deposit of £150 is required and the full balance is due by 30th June. Bookings made after 30th June must be accompanied by the full fee for the course. Deposits are non-refundable.

Further details are available from info@summerjazzcamp.org

