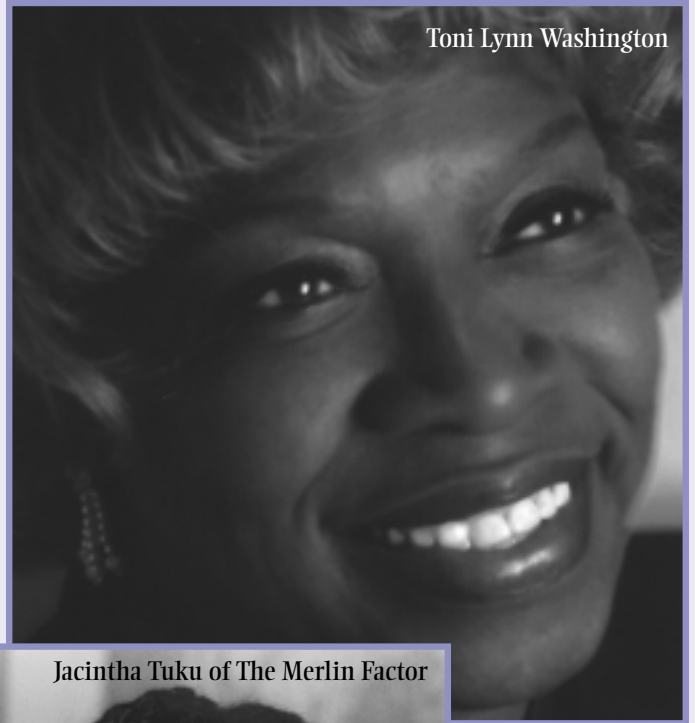




At the Suite

- Toni Lynn Washington
- Don Berner's Legacy Big Band
- Daniel Schnee Quartet
- The Merlin Factor
- Dino Dominelli Quartet
- Jim Brenan Trio
- Möbius Quartet
- Bob Tildesley's Indigenous Aliens
- The Doug Riley Quartet featuring P.J. Perry
- David Braid Sextet
- Simon Fisk Trio



Toni Lynn Washington



Jacintha Tuku of The Merlin Factor



Bob Tildesley



Doug Riley

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Yardbird Suite JAM SESSIONS

Every Tuesday! Members & Guests \$3 • Doors: 8pm Show: 9pm



January 27
Dean Pierno Trio

February 3
Greg Dust Combo

February 10
Don Berner Quartet

February 17
Thom Golub Combo

February 24
Doug Organ Quartet


TUESDAY NIGHT
JAM SESSIONS

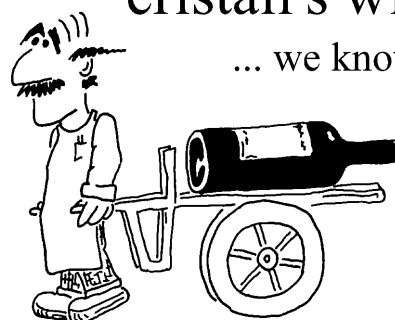
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Toni Lynn Washington

with Bruce Bears and the Lionel Rault Band

Yardbird Suite **BLUES**

Toni Lynn Washington, the queen of the blues in Boston for the past fifteen years, will be making her first appearance in Edmonton when she visits the Yardbird Suite January 16 and 17. She'll be accompanied by her own keyboardist from Boston, Bruce Bears, and a backing band of veteran R&B players from Edmonton led by the Rault brothers.

Toni Lynn has been singing the blues since she was a teenager, but she only formed her own band in 1992. Since then she has released four CDs, and all of them have received glowing reviews. Her latest CD, *Been So Long*, was released in 2003 on Canada's NorthernBlues label, and finds her singing in the vein of Dinah Washington and Ruth Brown in front of a band led by Duke Robillard. Putney Thomas of Blues on Stage describes *Been So Long* as "one of the best CDs I've heard all year. Not just one of the best by a female vocalist but one of the best, period."

Toni Lynn has been nominated for five W.C. Handy Awards – and in fact her band played at the VIP party during the Handy Awards ceremonies

last May in Memphis. She is a great favourite in Europe: in 1999, for instance, Toni Lynn played for two weeks at the Lionel Hampton Jazz Club in Paris, and she is due to play a return engagement there in February of 2004. She has also played many North American blues festivals, from the Chicago Blues Festival to the Salmon Arm Roots and Blues Festival in Salmon Arm, BC.

Toni Lynn Washington caresses each song with absolute conviction, bringing out a depth and subtlety that few could match – she calls down some real magic.

Jeff Harris, Bad Dog Blues

Y Toni Lynn Washington - vocals
Bruce Bears - keyboards
Lionel Rault - guitar
Ken Hoffman - saxophone
Bob Tildesley - trumpet
Ron Rault - bass
Grant Stovel - drum



FRI & SAT 4 JANUARY 16-17

DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$16/GUESTS \$20

ticketmaster

Don Berner's Legacy Big Band

Juno Award winner P.J. Perry has called Don Berner "one of Canada's fastest rising saxophone stars." Berner, 29, is based in Edmonton, Alberta. A young alto saxophone player and noted doubler, Don has performed with many renowned Canadian and international jazz musicians including Pat LaBarbera, Bobby Shew, Hugh Fraser, Slide Hampton, P.J. Perry and Tommy Banks as well as having played in the orchestras of Tommy Banks, Bob Stroup, and Gary Guthman.

Don can be heard on several CD's including his own debut release, *Sextet*. He has performed at festivals, embassies, and clubs across North America, Hong Kong, and most recently, his sextet played Mexico's *Festival Internacional Cervantino*, Latin America's largest music festival.

For this occasion Berner has assembled some of Edmonton's first call jazz musicians and some of

the strongest leaders in the Edmonton music community. With his Legacy Big Band, Berner will be paying homage to the Edmonton band leaders of the past as well as using original material to explore the shape of the future in large ensemble. Get ready to have the time of your life as some of Edmonton's finest perform musical pyrotechnics in a stunning setting with a surprising visual component!

Y Don Berner, Jim Brennan,
Ken Hoffman - saxophones
Craig Brennan, Ryan Purchase
- trombones
Bob Tildesley, Joel Gray - trumpets
Andrew Glover - piano
Rubim DeToledo - bass
Sandro Dominelli - drums
Mario Allende - percussion

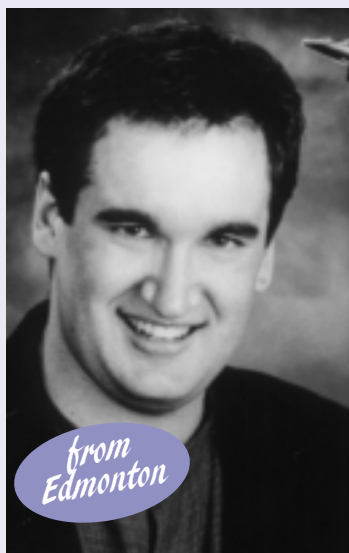


FRIDAY 4 JANUARY 23

DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$6/GUESTS \$10

ticketmaster

The Daniel Schnee Quartet Plays Old And New Dreams



from
Edmonton

There have been many great collaborations of top jazz artists in the past, and the men who called themselves Old And New Dreams were no exception. All first rate sidemen and bandleaders respectively, OAND were the cream of the 1970's modern/free jazz scene. The group consisted of Dewey Redman (tenor), Don Cherry (trumpet), Charlie Haden (bass), and Ed Blackwell (drums). Formed out of their individual associations with saxophonist Ornette Coleman, they released albums and performed live in the late 1970s and early 80s.

The Daniel Schnee Quartet Plays project is a chance to introduce Edmonton audiences to the work of OAND, as well as re-introduce the Quartet to the city after Daniel's

lengthy stay in Japan to study classical Noh theater and court music.

Daniel Schnee is an Edmonton based jazz saxophonist who has played all over the planet with an amazingly diverse list of artists from literally all genres of music. Among other things, he has performed Japanese court music in Japan, Sufi music with Pakistani Ismaili Muslims, free jazz in Iceland with some of their top players, and spent time in New York working on his own compositions with advice and instruction from renowned composers Philip Glass and Ornette Coleman himself. He is a recording artist for both the Japanese Parallax and Canadian Iolanthe labels, and is currently organizing a series of solo soprano saxophone concerts in South Korea. If you have been waiting to hear something new in jazz music, suffice it to say, here's your chance.

Gord Graber is known throughout Canada as a consummate drummer

and clinician and can be regularly seen in Alberta's top jazz ensembles. With a performing list as long as your arm, don't miss the opportunity to hear this truly world class talent on the drums!

Eric Weiden is an exciting young trumpet player who has been touring throughout Canada and the United States, and has recently returned to our city as of late. His playing has drawn rave comparisons to the work of Don Cherry, Bill Dixon, and the 1965-68 period of Miles Davis.

Greg Dust is a local bass player who is known for his highly creative rhythm section work with local groups such as the fabulous quartets and trios led by pianists Charlie Austin and Bill Richards.

Y Daniel Schnee - tenor/soprano saxophones
Greg Dust - bass
Eric Weiden - trumpet
Gord Graber - drums

SATURDAY 4 JANUARY 24 **ticketmaster**
DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$5/GUESTS \$9

The Merlin Factor

Drummer Jim Hillman is well known in Canadian jazz circles for his work with such artists as guitarist Sonny Greenwich, pianist Oliver Jones and vocalist Raneé Lee. He is also a bandleader in his own right, however, having led The Merlin Factor since 1987.

The Merlin Factor has recorded four CDs and is touring in support of their most recent disc, *Choose*. Their first album received a Juno award in 1995 for Best Contemporary Jazz Album. Their second recording was nominated for a Juno award in the same category in 1996. The group was also named as the Electric Jazz Group of the Year by Jazz Report magazine in 1994, 1995 and 1996.

Kenneth Wyatt described the first recording in Jazziz magazine as "an exceptional debut effort." The Globe and Mail's influential jazz critic Mark Miller commented that the second CD, *Frontier Tunes* was "full of fresh ideas, strikingly original songs and strong production values," "no shortage of originality..." and "it gets off to a fast start and maintains the pace throughout"

was what Cadence magazine said about *Relationships*, the third disc released by The Merlin Factor.

Jim Hillman's career as a leader goes back to the 1970s and spans acoustic jazz, salsa, Brazilian music, fusion jazz as well as his leadership of The Merlin Factor. He has recorded as a sideman on over twenty jazz albums. His performance credits include work with many of the top jazz artists in Toronto and Montreal. In addition, he has performed with many popular artists and blues and funk players.

Jacintha Tuku has had an extremely varied vocal career to date, having worked with Amy Sky, Marc Jordan, Roch Voisine, Michael Burgess, Jeff Healey, Deborah Cox, as well as a number of rap and hip hop performers. She was even the featured voice in a national McDonald's advertising campaign.

Other than a couple of years spent in New York City in the early 1990s, pianist Steve Amirault has resided in Montreal since the mid-1980s. Well-established on the Montreal jazz scene, he has released recordings

under his own name and has worked with many jazz greats including Joe Lovano, Tim Hagans, Bob Moses, Harvey Swartz, Eddie Gomez and Seamus Blake.

Toronto-based electric bassist Rich Brown was inspired by Jaco Pastorius and Alain Caron and has become an in-demand bassist in Toronto working with jazz musicians such as Andy Milne and Carol Welsman. He has also performed on several television shows and in films.

Alan Heatherington has traveled and studied widely in South America and the Caribbean. He is well versed in a variety of Latin percussion styles and, in particular, Brazilian music. In fact, he has spent over fifteen winters in Brazil honing his craft and avoiding the snow and cold of his Toronto home.

The Merlin Factor presents a unique voice in contemporary jazz. Drawing on more than just the traditional jazz format, the



from
Toronto

group features contemporary drum grooves, acoustic piano and synthesizers combined with electric bass and percussion, and superb vocals. The result is eclectic, yet accessible and rich in imagination.

Y Jacintha Tuku - vocals
Steve Amirault - piano, keyboards
Rich Brown - electric bass
Alan Heatherington - percussion
Jim Hillman - drums



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FRIDAY 4 JANUARY 30 **ticketmaster**
DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$8/GUESTS \$12

Dino Dominelli Quartet



Edmonton saxophonist Dino Dominelli brings his quartet to the Yardbird Suite stage for the first time. Younger brother of Edmonton's premier jazz drummer Sandro, Dino has studied with Edmonton saxophonist P.J. Perry. In 1995, he moved to Toronto to study the principles of John Coltrane's music at Humber College with Pat LaBarbera. In recent years Dino traveled throughout Asia, where he studied Asian culture and music. While in Hong Kong, he had the opportunity to study the Asian wood flute with notable masters such as Xao Bioa, as well as to record with vocalist Luna, and in Taipei, with vocalist Jessica Shu.

Dino Dominelli holds a Jazz Performance diploma from Canada's Humber College jazz program and is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Music through the British Columbia Open University.

Dino has had the pleasure of playing or sitting in with some of the world's most notable musicians such as Bob Mover, Norman Marshall Villeneuve, Vito Retza, Arturo Sandoval, Gladys Knight, Switzerland's Piano Seven, and with the Charles Blenzig Trio at the Blue Note.

Currently, Dino resides in Edmonton and works as a freelance musician throughout Edmonton and surrounding regions. He performs in a wide variety of musical situations, ranging from original projects to traditional and modern jazz, and works as a clinician for the Public and Catholic schools.



Dino Dominelli - sax
Chris Andrew - piano
Mike Lent - bass
Sandro Dominelli - drums

Jim Brenan Trio



Jim Brenan established himself as a top-notch performer and educator in the North American jazz community before accepting the position of Coordinator of Jazz Studies at The School of Creative and Performing Arts at the University of Auckland in 2002.

Mr. Brenan holds a Bachelor in Jazz Studies from St. Francis Xavier University and a Masters in Jazz Studies from Rutgers University in New Jersey, where he studied with renowned master saxophonist Ralph Bowen. Along with formal study Jim performed in the tri-state area, New York, Philadelphia and New Jersey. In this capacity Jim had occasion to play with Michael Mossman, Ralph Bowen, Kenny Barron, Slide Hampton, Kenny Wheeler, Ravi Coltrane, and Kenny Drew jr. among others. As well Jim performed with Phil Woods, Illinois Jacquet and Flip Philips for the New Jersey Jazz Hall of Fame concerts.

Kenny Barron describes Jim Brenan as "a thoroughly modern tenor saxophonist with a deep understanding of jazz tradition. He plays with an intense maturity rare in musicians of his age".



Jim Brenan - sax
Chris Andrew - piano
Sandro Dominelli - drums

SATURDAY 4 JANUARY 31 
DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$5/GUESTS \$9

FRIDAY 4 FEBRUARY 6 
DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$5/GUESTS \$9

Möbius Quartet

from
Edmonton

The four performers/composers didn't have a name for past collaborations – they "...just got together to play for an audience when they weren't busy doing other gigs." It was not long ago that they came together as Möbius for the first time. The name was adopted because it expresses the ever-changing aspect of jazz itself – which is about change and changes. Theirs is the sound of ever-changing emotion.

Members of the band have contributed to the Edmonton and Alberta music scenes since the 1970s. This concert is the result of

their continuing explorations into the world of jazz and improvisation.

Bill Damur and Don Ehret teach at Alberta College. Damur cites his influences as Koffman, Monk, and Coltrane. Ehret, a former student of the Berklee College of Music in Boston, has drawn from such diverse guitarists as Kenny Burrell, John McLaughlin, Eric Johnson, and Mike Stern.

Don Bradshaw has also been influenced by a wide variety of artists. "I always find something that influences me," he says. His tastes are eclectic and so are his influences, which range from Dave

Holland and Gary Peacock to Chris Squire. Bradshaw has played with a number of people including Diana Krall and Charlie Rouse.

Dan Skakun is the newest member of the quartet. Max Roach, Kenny Clarke, Tony Williams and "any drummer named Jones

(Elvin, Philly Joe, and Papa Jo)" have influenced his playing.



Bill Damur - flute
Don Ehret - guitar
Don Bradshaw - bass
Dan Skakun - drums



SATURDAY 4 FEBRUARY 7 **ticketmaster**
DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$5/GUESTS \$9

Bob Tildesley's Indigenous Aliens



Attention Earthlings! You are cordially invited to configure your coordinates to destination Yardbird Suite, for an evening of eclectic musical exploration featuring the Indigenous Aliens. Converging from their respective musical galaxies to join Bob on trumpet and keyboard will be Mo Lefever on guitar, Bryan Sim on piano and keyboard, Dwayne Hrynkiw on percussion, Cliff Minchau on bass, Brett Miles on saxophones, flute and percussion, and John Logan on drums. Mostly original

compositions combine with organic improvisation to fuel the journey. Take me to your (band) leader!



Bob Tildesley - trumpet
Bill Jamieson - sax
Mo Lefever - guitar
Brett Miles - sax & percussion
Bryan Sim - piano, keyboards
Cliff Minchau - bass
John Logan - drums
Dwayne Hrynkiw - percussion

FRI&SAT 4 FEBRUARY 20-21 **ticketmaster**
DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$5/GUESTS \$9

The Doug Riley Quartet featuring P.J. Perry

from
Vancouver,
Edmonton,
Toronto

The return of Doug Riley marks his third appearance at the Suite, which indicates the high regard we have for his musicianship as both a performer and a composer. Doug has developed a remarkable musical history having played with groups such as Dr. Music, David Clayton Thomas and Blood Sweat and Tears, and Ray Charles. He has composed, performed and recorded his P.E.I. Suite, a remarkable achievement.

On this occasion he is joined by yet another renowned saxophonist, Edmonton's pride and joy, P.J. Perry. Last year P.J. and Doug collaborated on a duo recording and presently P.J. is putting the finishing touches on a recording made at the Cellar Club in Vancouver featuring trumpeter Bobby Shew.

Rounding out the quartet is a member of Doug's working band, guitarist Jake Langley, and one of Edmonton's finest percussionists, Sandro Dominelli. We are very pleased to have Jake back with us as he has established a reputation as one



of Canada's top guitarists.

You will also have an opportunity to hear our new Hammond A-100 and Leslie 145, a very generous donation by Murray Schneider of Harmony Organ Repair.

The gig at the Suite begins a four city tour which will also include a live recording. So come clap your hands, snap your fingers or tap your feet to an evening of swinging music!



Doug Riley - Hammond B3
P.J. Perry - sax
Jake Langley - guitar
Sandro Dominelli - drums

FRI & SAT 4 FEBRUARY 27-28 **ticketmaster**
DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$00/GUESTS \$00

David Braid Sextet

Although originally trained in classical music, pianist David Braid was intrigued with jazz and entered the Jazz Performance Program at the University of Toronto on a four

year scholarship. Graduating with honours, at 28 he is now the youngest faculty member in the same program.

He has accomplished a lot in a very short time. In 1998, he was a semi-finalist at the Martial Solal Jazz Piano Competition in Paris. That same year, he was commissioned by the Global Knowledge Foundation to write and perform an original piece honouring Dr. Stephen Hawking. He has performed with most of the top Toronto-based jazz musicians. Braid is also becoming well-known as an outstanding composer.

Perhaps the greatest tribute to his talents as a player and a composer is

that he has been able to form his own sextet featuring several of the best Canadian musicians - John McLeod on trumpet, Mike Murley on saxophone, Gene Smith on trombone, Steve Wallace on bass and Terry Clarke on drums. It's not often that a young player can attract players of such stature to perform, record and tour with him.

Braid's eponymous debut CD was released in 2002. It featured eight of his compositions performed by the sextet which will be appearing at the Yardbird Suite. The group was nominated in the category of Best Canadian Jazz Ensemble at the 2003 National Jazz Awards. David was nominated personally for Best Pianist and Best Composer. Listeners are astounded by the remarkable dynamic between the band members and Braid's original compositions. In all, Braid has composed thirty originals specifically for this sextet.

A second album recorded live at the Top O' The Senator in Toronto will be released to coincide with the group's March 2004 Canadian tour.

One of David Braid's goals is to

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disseminate a musical experience to his audience that will maintain and revitalize interest in jazz for a newer generation of musicians and jazz lovers. He wants to engage and sustain the curiosity of his audience, producing a rich and inspiring musical experience which will emphasize the beauty and complexity of jazz harmony, melody and rhythm.

Unfortunately, space limitations do not allow for any extensive information on the other five members of the David Braid Sextet. Suffice it to say, they are all jazz musicians of national and international repute and they are, no doubt, well-known to those who listen regularly to jazz.

This event is presented with the support of the Touring Office of the Canada Council for the Arts.



FRIDAY 4 MARCH 5

DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$14/GUESTS \$18



David Braid - piano
John McLeod - trumpet
Mike Murley - sax
Gene Smith - trombone
Steve Wallace - bass
Terry Clarke - drums

Simon Fisk Trio

Following his graduation from St. Francis Xavier University, Halifax-born bassist Simon Fisk moved to Vancouver in 1995. Almost immediately upon his arrival he started working with pianist Chris Gestrin. The following year Tom Foster took the drum chair to form the Simon Fisk Trio.

This eight year old group has issued one recording, 2002's *Trainwrecks*, a Western Canadian Music Awards nominee in 2003 for

Outstanding Jazz Recording, and has a live recording with a concert DVD scheduled for release in early 2004.

Fisk studied with the great American bassist Gary Peacock, a veteran of many outstanding piano trios. One of Simon's main performing credits is as the bassist for the Michael Kaeshammer Trio for three years. These experiences have helped him develop an individual style and given him a deep appreciation for the trio format. "I

like the interaction that the trio setting provides," says Fisk.

He has become a sought-after bassist in Vancouver and developed national stature through his touring with Kaeshammer as well as other west coast-based groups.

The other members of the trio, Chris Gestrin and Tom Foster, are both highly-regarded members of the Vancouver jazz community. Chris Gestrin is a Berklee graduate who is emerging as one of the great new talents of the Canadian music scene. Tom Foster is an Edmonton native who has lived on the west coast for many years now. Any time he visits the Yardbird Suite, it's a very welcome return.



Simon Fisk - bass
Chris Gestrin - piano
Tom Foster - drums



SATURDAY 4 MARCH 6

DOORS 8PM 4 SHOW 9PM 4 MEMBERS \$7/GUESTS \$11



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folk • jazz
electronica
classical
world beat




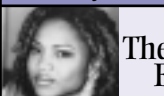

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Yardbird Suite at a Glance

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
January					Yardbird Suite BLUES Toni Lynn Washington	18
				Friday & Saturday • January 16 & 17		
19	20 JAM with Dean Pierno Trio	21	22		 Daniel Schnee Quartet	25
				Friday • January 23	Saturday • January 24	
26	27 JAM with Greg Dust Combo	28	29		 Dino Dominelli Quartet	
				Friday • January 30	Saturday • January 31	

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
February					Jim Brenan Trio	 Möbius Quartet	8
				Friday • February 6	Saturday • February 7		
9	10 JAM with Don Berner Quartet	11	12	13	14	15	
J a z z w o r k s							
16	17 JAM with Thom Golub Combo	18	19		Bob Tildesley's Indigenous Aliens	22	
				Friday & Saturday • February 20&21			
23	24 JAM with Doug Organ Quartet	25	26		The Doug Riley Quartet featuring P.J. Perry	29	
				Friday & Saturday • February 27&28			

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
March					David Braid Sextet	 Simon Fisk Trio	7
				Friday • March 5	Saturday • March 6		

EDMONTON JAZZ SOCIETY

THE YARDBIRD SUITE
IS A CONCERT VENUE

During the show, please turn off your cell phones and pagers

For upcoming shows visit
www.yardbirdsuite.com

For more information about this month's performers,
please visit the following websites:

The Merlin Factor: <http://home.interlog.com/~tamatina/>
David Braid Sextet: www.davidbraid.com
Simon Fisk Trio: www.plungerecords.com
Jazzworks: www.jazzworks.ca