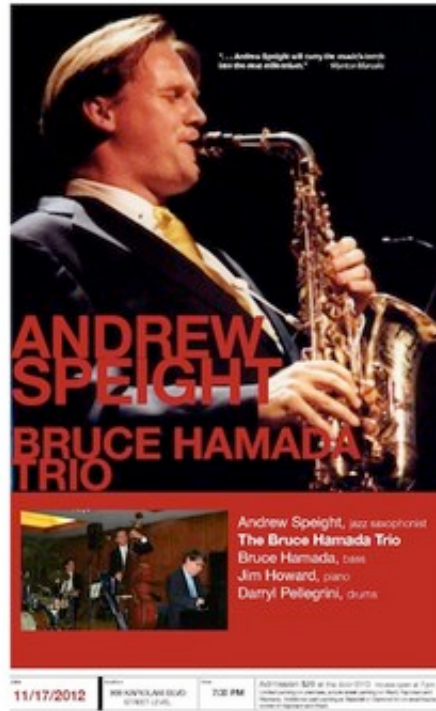


# Global jazz takes the spotlight in this week's gigs

GIGS | NOVEMBER 14, 2012 | BY: CAROL BANKS WEBER |

5 photos

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A Sydney, Australian be-bop guest artist, opening night for a global-jazz ensemble, and a Wine Tea Chocolate break in the center of the universe... What a week for live music!

Ever since the Hawaii Musicians Union converted part of its Kapiolani offices into a live music venue—[Studio 909](http://www.musicianshawaii.com/studio-909/) (<http://www.musicianshawaii.com/studio-909/>), the joint's

been jumping with serious local and global jazz. This Saturday, 7:30 p.m., is no exception as special guest artist, hard-driving be-bop saxophonist Andrew Speight flies in from San Francisco to jam with the Bruce Hamada Trio (Hamada on bass, with pianist Jim Howard, and drummer Darryl Pellegrini). Originally from Sydney, Australia, Speight found a kinship with the late Sonny Stitt's playing, and more unbelievably, a mentorship on the fly at age 14. Stints with visiting artists Nat Adderley, Benny Carter, and Percy Heath followed suit before Speight formed his own band, Now's the Time, to dive into more Art Blakey type jazz. A triumphant turn in the 1991 Thelonious Monk International Saxophone Competition led to notice and plays with Branford and Delfeayo Marsalis, the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, Akira Tana, and Jimmy Cobb, to name but a few. Today, Speight teaches jazz studies at San Francisco State University, where he started the Bachelor of

Music in Jazz Program, as well as fronted the Generations Band of all-stars (heroes to him). His Generations Project enabled rising jazz artists access to important, life-changing fellowships. Doors open 7 p.m. Studio 909 is located on 909 Kapiolani Blvd., Honolulu, (808) 596-2123.

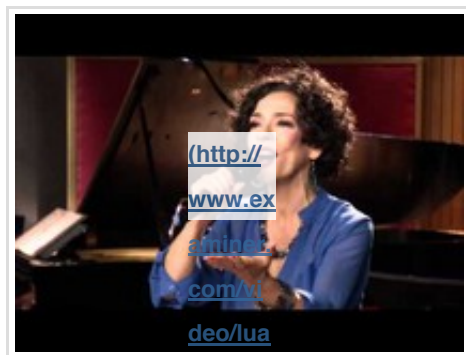
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Andrew Speight lights up Honolulu's Studio 909 this Saturday night with his be-bop specialty. He's backed by three of the best sidemen in the islands: bassist Bruce Hamada, pianist Jim Howard, and drummer Darryl Pellegrini.

Photo credit: Studio 909



Video: [Lua Hadar with Twist: Like A Bridge – official DVD preview \(http://www.examiner.com/video/lua-hadar-with-twist-like-a-bridge-official-dvd-preview-1\)](http://www.examiner.com/video/lua-hadar-with-twist-like-a-bridge-official-dvd-preview) [bridge-official-](http://www.examiner.com/video/lua-hadar-with-twist-like-a-bridge-official-dvd-preview-1)



When vocalist and executive producer [Lua Hadar \(http://www.luahadar.com\)](http://www.luahadar.com) sets her mind on something, she goes global. The vocalist went global recently on her TWIST band's new CD/DVD, ["Like A Bridge." \(http://www.likeabridge.net\)](http://www.likeabridge.net) In fact, she and her band are going Hollywood this Thursday night, 7:30 p.m., at the famed San Francisco [Balboa Theater \(http://www.balboamovies.com\)](http://www.balboamovies.com) to promote the DVD's debut, along with a behind-the-scenes documentary of the making of the DVD. A world-traveled jazz vocalist, Hadar constantly seeks to bring people together through music that incorporates the multi-cultural. In her and her global jazz band's "Like A Bridge," she tries to capture all the colors musically in a live studio concert album, already released, and DVD. Hadar worked closely with Emmy-winning director Lawrence Jordan to put together a 70-minute concert DVD, filmed in Berkeley's Fantasy Studios, featuring her 13-piece ensemble, and her seven-language (English, Japanese, Spanish, Malagasy, Italian, French, Portuguese) cosmopolitan music, as well as a 25-minute documentary, "Building Bridges," about her Bridges Project. "Our new DVD encourages people to be like a bridge to each other in promoting understanding of differing languages, cultures, and ideas," described Hadar. Her band is as diverse as her ambitious dream to unite the world through music; they come from all over: music director/pianist [Jason Martineau \(http://www.jasonmartineau.com/\)](http://www.jasonmartineau.com/), bassist [Dan Feiszli \(http://www.studiorhythm.com/Welcome.html\)](http://www.studiorhythm.com/Welcome.html), global percussionist [Ian Dogole \(http://www.iandogole.com/\)](http://www.iandogole.com/), drummer [Celso Alberti \(http://www.celsoalberti.com/flash/frm\\_news\\_flash.htm\)](http://www.celsoalberti.com/flash/frm_news_flash.htm), cellist Emil Miland, reedist [Larry De La Cruz \(http://www.larrydelacruz.com/\)](http://www.larrydelacruz.com/), koto player Fumiko Ozawa, jazz accordionist David Miotke, and South African artist Gideon Bendile and members of his Kalahari Experience Zulu Choir. Lua Hadar with TWIST's premiere screening kicks off with a mock Hollywood photo shoot in front of the theater. After the screening, the cast and crew will linger to sign DVDs and chat in a wine reception. Cost to attend is \$10, limited release collector's edition DVDs \$19.99. The Balboa Theater is located on 3630 Balboa St. (at 37th Ave.), San Francisco, (415) 221-8184.

[Wine Tea Chocolate \(http://wineteachocolate.com/\)](http://wineteachocolate.com/) is a new



**Location:** Wine Tea Chocolate

community gathering space with a difference. Settled in a cozy building across from the Rocket in the *Center of the Universe* (Fremont, Seattle), this neighborhood hang already wins points for partnerships with other local businesses (Caffé Vita, Theo Chocolate, Macrina Bakery, Flying Apron, Molly's Salads, etc.) and local artists to provide a green, sustainable, globally responsible, and entertaining good time. “In addition to providing out-of-the-ordinary food and beverage offerings, one of our major goals is to help you explore different cultures and different times through food and drink,” asserted Christopher Gronbeck

and the crew. “To that end, we offer an ever-expanding schedule of events, from wine classes to tea tastings to coffee cuppings to presentations on the history and seductiveness of chocolate.” Since opening back in September, the wine bar/tea house/coffee shop/chocolate café has added live Thursday night jazz to its repertoire, with the fabulous and versatile [Stephanie Porter \(http://stephanieporter.com/\)](http://stephanieporter.com/) Quartet (vocalist Porter with guitarist Al Lindbom, bassist Dan O’Brien, and drummer Steve Yusen) kicking things off this Thursday. This band can go hard or soft, mainstream or classic. They’ll hold down the fort, 8 p.m.-10 p.m., \$5 cover, open mic. Wine Tea Chocolate is located on 3417 Evanston Ave. N #102, Seattle, (206) 402-5492.



**Carol Banks Weber**, Jazz Music Examiner

Carol is a weekly SoapZone.com news and gossip columnist, and has been married to a working jazz musician since 1990. Her personal exposure to the unique Pacific Northwest jazz culture affords her a special perspective. And her 20-plus years as a reporter and trade editor for various...