

**T**HURSDAY again and for those of you who are staying in Durbs for the weekend (and not braving the cold at Splashy), there will be plenty to keep you happy.

Tonight lovers of THE tin-pan man, Andy Narell, can enjoy him live at the City Hall. This maestro of the steel drum held his audience spellbound last year as he beat out the cleanest, clearest notes. Narell has a reputation for being able to mix rhythmic flavours like a global chef blends herbs; he draws his inspiration from Cuba, Argentina, Zimbabwe, Peru, Martinique and Jamaica. His latest CD *Fire in the Engine Room* has just been released worldwide.

Fronting Narell and his band of mostly South African musos (Andile Yenana on piano, Dennis L'Alouette on bass, Rob Watson on drums, Basi Mahlasela on percussion and Louis Mahlangu on lead guitar) is an all-Durban band which goes under the name of the Mayibuye Project, a group of local musicians with a mission.

The aim is to combine the talents of university-trained jazz musicians with self-taught "township" musos and come up with a product that says "Africa".

Involved are Mandla Masuku, Prince Kupi, Bongani Nkwanyana, Wake Mahlobo, Barnet Bophela, Thulani Shezi and Teaspoon Ndelu.

Doors open at 6pm, music starts at 7pm, the gig costs R35 to R50 a ticket.

Another visitor to our East Coast dorp is Andy Brugger and the No No Diet Bang Band, a three-piece Euro band that made an impact on the few who heard it last



**Gisele Turner**  
JAZZEYE

year. Fresh from Grahamstown where they were enthusiastically received, they came to Durbs and played for a handful of people at two obscure little clubs.

This time, they kick off their tour at Splashy Fen on Saturday, then return to Durban to play the NU Jazz Centre (a double concert from 5.15pm to 7.15pm for R10) on Wednesday May 3 and popular jazz spot Rivets on Thursday May 4.

Brugger is a drummer who simply leaves one drop-jawed; versatile, technically on top and emotionally involved.

He is joined by two brilliant men: Yochen Baldes on tenor saxophone and Andre Buser on electric bass. Expect original material that enjoys an enviable freedom.

O Chefe, a Portuguese restaurant in Umhlanga Rocks, starts an exciting live jazz season this Sunday. Owner Sherryl Carrhlo says that they will offer their clients a three-course meal (with options on starters and mains) for R55; and I can vouch for the quality of the food, which has a wholesome home-made quality. Phone (031) 566-2814/5 to book.

This Sunday one of Durban's finest jazz ensembles, Jika, with newcomer Nina on vocals, are on the menu.

Remember that jazz at The Hilton is in The Polo Club tonight and features mainstream band Crossfire. Enjoy!

# Be sure to catch THE tin-pan man



**YES! YES:** Andy Brugger, leader of the No No Diet Bang Band from Switzerland which plays the Redd's Bamboo Stage at Splashy Fen this weekend.



**HOT STEEL:** Narell plays Durban's City Hall at 7pm tonight



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