

1. Misses Goffin King - drums - 1940s to 1980s
2. Rick Ferraro - guitar, bass, band leader, arranger, composer - 1940s to 1990s
3. Keith McEratt - piano, musical director - 1950s to now
4. Barry Sutton - drums/percussion - 1950s to now
5. Colin 'Buzz' Ennis - drums/percussion, jazz, Latin and Irish - 1950s to now
6. Clive Hanson - jazz piano, band leader - 1950s to now
7. Peter Hanson - owner Primitif and other venues - 1960s to now
8. Jim Hanson - vocalist - 1960s to now
9. Ann Jones - Co-ordinator, public radio station 4ZZZ, 1970s
10. John Willems - bass, guitar, band leader, composer - 1970s to now
11. Joe Curran and C Smith - co-owner of The Zoo
12. Brett Cheney - bass, sound engineer - 1980s to now and singer/writer 'Coopea' Times - drums, guitar, vocalist and
13. Nick Apps - Saxophone, band leader, composer - 1990s to now

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Foolish Things

THE PROJECT

Foolish Things began as a conversation between two working musicians about the history of popular music in Brisbane. They wanted to know more about the history of their own craft and they wanted their audiences to know more about what it takes to make live music. For Leah Cotterell and Helen Russell it has become a decade-long conversation.

Leah and Helen have now transformed that conversation into a 70 minute multimedia performance and exhibition, drawing on hours of interviews and time spent poring over scrapbooks and photo albums with people who worked at the heart of popular music performance in Brisbane since World War Two. They interviewed twelve musicians and four venue operators, uncovering a wealth of material.

In 2003, Brisbane playwright Philip Dean used stories from the interviews, together with Leah and Helen's duet arrangements of classic and contemporary songs, to create the script of *Foolish Things*.

The performance will debut at City Hall on 10th July, 2005 as part of the *Queensland Music Festival* and in partnership with Brisbane City Council.

The rich musical repertoire of *Foolish Things* is accompanied by a visual feast of historical photographs gathered by Leah and Helen, as well as contemporary photography by Jo Grant and Peter Milne, commissioned as part of the project. The recorded interviews and hundreds of scanned images will be donated to the Queensland Performing Arts Centre Museum collection.

The Exhibition
This Story Hall exhibition showcases three of Brisbane's best-loved musical venues that appear in *Foolish Things: Cloudland, The Primitif and The Zoo*. It captures the thrill of stepping out for a night on the town, as experienced by generations of musicians and music lovers. It also features the story of Colin 'Buzz' Ennis, a Brisbane musician who has performed at all three venues.



Foolish Things

THE DUET

Leah and Helen - the duet

Leah Cotterell and Helen Russell began playing jazz together at Brisbane clubs in 1990. Since then they have collaborated on numerous musical projects including cabaret, country music and tribute bands, as well as this project Foolish Things. In 1999 they began performing as a double bass and vocal duo and have recorded two albums.

Leah

"When I was a young woman, I didn't know any professional musicians. I never thought I could be a part of that profession, so I took the long way round to being heard, being a voice in the mix. I did a bit of everything to start with, and over the past twenty years I've been able to compare lots of scenes, lots of ways of thinking about music and making music.

I've come to value those people who have just kept at it - creating meaningful musical events for their community. Some performers are focused on rewards, fame and money, but it's much more

interesting to talk to the musicians most people never hear about, creative souls trying to chip out a living in music because music gives their lives meaning."

Helen

"The average person doesn't give it a thought, but there are such interesting stories out there, it's the untold story of Brisbane culture. You don't hear about these people - people in the background, people on the bandstand, faceless people. Now music is ubiquitous, unavoidable. It used to be that musicians were more appreciated, because most people had a go themselves, they understood the difficulty of playing an instrument well.

I've been involved in the music profession across generations, I've worked with people much older than myself and now I work with young musicians. I've seen how times change - with my own parents getting shoved out of gigs by juke boxes and changes go on affecting me, music is my living as well."

Cloudland
REG.
LUNA PARK BRISBANE.



Cloudland

Primitif

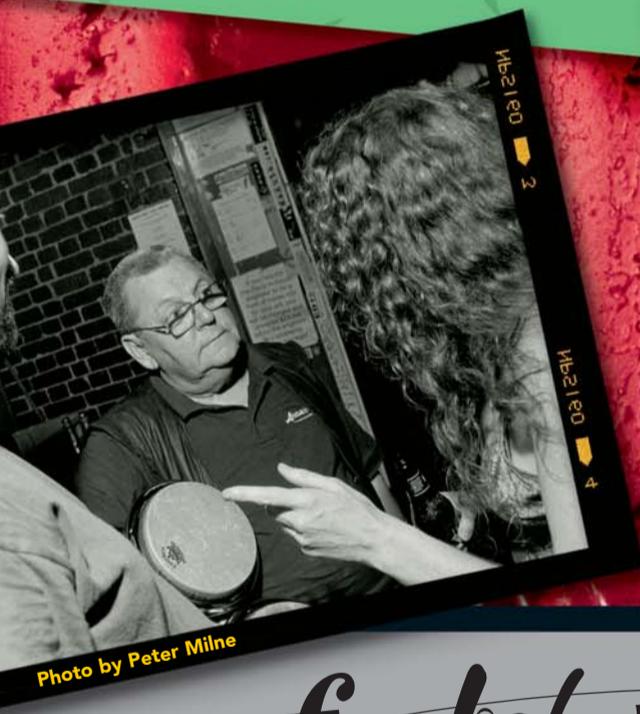


Photo by Peter Milne

THE ZOO

foolish things

BUZZ

Colin Buzz Ennis

Colin 'Buzz' Ennis is the one musician Leah and Helen tracked down who has performed at all three venues featured in this exhibition. Buzz played in Harry Lebler's drum spectaculars at Cloudland, joined Chet Clarke playing at The Primitif in the 60s, and much later in the 90s joined The Fabulous Nobodies playing pop cabaret at The Zoo.

Buzz Ennis was first encouraged to put aside his 'Bodgie' mates and take up playing music by Sid Bromley, a jazz broadcaster and entrepreneur in Brisbane for over fifty years. Buzz learned drums from Neil Wilkinson at a music school at the Theatre Royal in 1954. He first gigged with Perce Garner in 1955. He has played thousands of jazz gigs in his career, many with Bob Ware and Clare Hansson, and has specialised in Afro Cuban styles. He has also played for many years in the Queensland Irish Association Pipe Band, winning the Australian championships as a soloist in 1970 and 1976.

Cloudland

"Most of the times I played at Cloudland with a pipe band at the big Highland Balls they used to have there, that went right through from 1955 to the 60s. The bands put on displays. One night, four police came out with a bass drum and a little tiny girl doing the Highland Fling on the bass drum. It was huge - packed."

The Primitif

"The best Capuccino in town. Peter (Hackworth) really backed us, Saturday nights were terrific, you couldn't move, it was all modern jazz ... You see the rock era came in and that killed most of the jazz, it still kept on but it went more into cabaret."

The Zoo

"At the Keep Off the Grass gig at The Zoo, we were on first and I had my gear set up and then every band that came on asked me to play and I played the whole night with different bands. I thought The Zoo was terrific, to see kids that actually wanted to listen to music. And the feeling behind the Keep Off the Grass gigs was great. It was a great big family. The Zoo was the only one that would try it."

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