



Centenarian surrealist shows in Seillans

The surrealist artist and poet Dorothea Tanning celebrated her 100th birthday on August 25 this year. To commemorate her centenary, the Maison Waldberg in Seillans (Var) is showing a large selection of original works by Tanning, including lithographs, etchings, gouaches and an oil painting. Tanning was the fourth wife of the surrealist Max Ernst and lived with him in Seillans from 1964 until his death in 1976. She now lives and works in New York.

The show, organised by the Association des Amis de Max Ernst and the tourist office of Seillans, assembles work from the town's own permanent holdings, together with loans from private collections.

Other commemorative shows have been held at the Drawing Centre, New York; Max Ernst Museum, Bruehl, Germany; and at the Espace d'Art, Rennes les Bains, Aude. **MW**



Plate from 'Le Surréalisme en 1947', etching

'Happy Birthday Dorothea Tanning': July 5 to October 30, 2010, Maison Waldberg, 83440 Seillans, Var. Tuesday to Saturday 2.30pm to 5.30pm.

Bernard Ellert's **WORLD OF MUSIC** Cuban pianists at large

Last year marked the 50th anniversary of the Cuban revolution. With the arrival of Obama after the tensions of the Bush era, there is now real hope of defreezing economic and socio-cultural relations so exchanges between American and Cuban musicians may well be stepped up. Cuban music has been widespread in France since the Buena Vista Social Club became so well-known. Salsa, rumba and mambo are now familiar sounds.

One of the best-loved characters in Afro-Cuban jazz today is the pianist Chucho Valdés. Son of the famous Bebo Valdés, from an early age he associated with the island's most prestigious *soneros* who deeply influenced his first steps. During the 70s, Chucho Valdés modernised his country's rhythms, incorporating jazz and other elements imported from Europe by white French colonials. "A part of our music owes a great deal to those old melodies that came from France," he likes to proclaim.

With the saxophonist Paquito d'Rivera Chucho formed the famous group Irakere, astutely combining electronic instruments and traditional drums. They have performed at many festivals this year, with a very jazzy programme, their colourful polyrhythms mixing various African sources.

The talented young pianist Roberto Fonseca is already ensuring the survival of this tradition. Leaning heavily on the

legacies of Bill Evans and Herbie Hancock, he replaces Ruben Gonzalez in Buena Vista with an exciting touch and instinctive sense of nuance. Keener on colour and melody rather than explosive virtuosity, he perpetuates the romantic vein in Cuban music, in the spirit of the *santerias*, those votive celebrations where

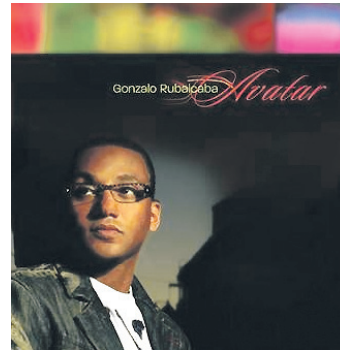
initiates chant with fervour to the beat of the percussion. Accompanist to the Cape Verdian singer Mayra Andrade, Fonseca is now sure of a predominant position at the crossroads of the Cuban tradition of popular music and contemporary jazz.

The third great Cuban pianist of note is Gonzalo Rubalcaba. At the peak of maturity, he masters the double play of passion and restraint, familiarity and harmonic and rhythmic surprise. Ten years after leaving Cuba, he has already recorded a score of CDs, earning his place with the greats, the likes of Chick Corea, Charlie Haden or Dizzy Gillespie. A virtuoso prodigy from the outset, he has numerous international tours under his belt, performing songs, boleros, Cuban ballads or percussive jazz. He is a

master of the art of listening and there is an intense complicity with his accompanists. With the balance between his hands, his deep knowledge of polytonality and his chromatic palette, he could be described as a Herbie Hancock touched by Cuban grace.



Chucho Valdés



Gonzalo Rubalcaba, 'Avatar'

Discography

Roberto Fonseca: 'Zamazú' 2007 'Akokan' 2009, Enja Records

Chucho Valdés: 'Chucho Steps' 2010

Gonzalo Rubalcaba: 'Avatar' 2008, 'Paseo' 2004, 'Solo' 2000, www.g-rubalcaba.com

Dates

Roberto Fonseca: 05/11, Château Arnoux, Saint-Auban (04) 06/11 Jazz au Fil de l'Oise, Mériel (95)

09 & 10/11 Le Parvis, Ibois (65)

13/11 Théâtre Ollioules, Châteauevallon (83)

15/11 Salle du Vigeant, Eysines, Cenon (33)

Chucho Valdés: 19/11 à Schiltigheim. 67 Jazz D'Or.

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Festivals & Entertainment

8-10/10 Nantes (44) Zen / organic festival: 40+Workshops, conferences on protecting the planet, ethical consumption, mental and physical well-being, alternative therapies, personal development – all the keys for adopting a natural lifestyle. Organic and gastronomic food, natural cosmetics, eco-products on sale. Bring your own bags.

Parc Expo La Beaujoire, Halls 5 and 6, 10am-7pm, €5, free for invalids, children under 12, students, jobseekers. 02 40 69 22 22 / 01 45 56 09 09 www.salon-zenetbio.com

09-16/10 Lille (59) International Festival and Short Film Competition. A unique occasion for the public to see films from more than 20 countries. Out of 1,200 that were entered the best 100 films of the year will be judged in four categories: fiction, animation, experimental and video clips. A dozen of the best will be chosen by an international jury: French actress Laetitia Masson, British director Peter Peake and London visual artist Quayola. Lille Museum of Fine Arts, L'Hybride cinema and Sébastopol Theatre. Palais des Beaux-Arts de Lille, Auditorium, rue de Valmy. €20 general pass, €4 a session. Reductions for students, job-seekers, senior citizens. 03 20 53 24 84 www.festivalducourt-lille.com

11-17/10 'Semaine nationale du champignon'. National mushroom week organised by the Société mycologique de France, to inform the public on local mushrooms. Events organised locally. <http://mycofrance.com>, [www.fmbds.org/semainechampignon.html](http://fmbds.org/semainechampignon.html)

14-17/10 Lille 'Ecollywood'. Eco-film festival, from agricultural films to the origin of potatoes to garbage to worm life. Workshops and free cocktails. <http://lesfunambulants.free.fr>

15-17/10 Dijon (21) 'Salon Nature Essentielle'. 9th well-being fair. From personal development to natural products for the house or body, 150 stands, 60 workshops and debates, organic market, spa... www.forcexpo.fr

15/10 Bordeaux (33) 'Tuxedo Big Band'. Created by clarinetist and saxophonist Paul Chéron, the group plays the music of the great swing groups: Jimmy Lunceford, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Chick Webb and Benny Goodman. www.jazzandblues-leognan.fr

Until 16/10 Montpellier (34) 'Les Internationales de la guitare'. More than 300 groups with guitar styles covering rock, flamenco, classical guitar, swing... The Herbaliser (hiphop/jazz), Les Frères Assad, Le Trio Rosenberg (gypsy jazz), High Tone (electro-dub)... <http://internationalesdelaguitare.com>

Until 20/10 Paris (75) 'Chiottissime!' 46 large format photos, by world famous photographers including Willy Ronnis, Robert Doisneau, are on show in the boulevard de la Bastille. The theme is toilets from around the world. For its 40th birthday, the SIAAP (Service public de l'assainissement francilien) explains its work, and strives to raise awareness on waste water and water treatment. www.siaap.fr

Until 24/10 West Brittany 7th 'Atlantique Jazz Festival'. Loads of concerts – check dates and places on their site but here are a few names: Dhafer Youssef Quartet, David Murray & the Gwo Ka Masters, Didier Petit & JT Bates, Ursus Minor invite Boots Riley & Desdamona, John Hebert solo, musical meeting with Alexandre Pierrepont, Nadja, Dino Saluzzi & Anja Lechner, Trio d'en Bas, Coco N'Co, Orchestre National de Jazz, Atlantique Jazz Band. 02 29 00 40 01, 02 98 07 57 40, infos@blenoir.com www.atlantiquejazzfestival.com

Until 13/11 Clermont-Ferrand (63) 'Nils-Udo'. Exhibition of photographs and paintings by Nils-Udo, the internationally known German artist. www.galerie-gastaud.com

