

# DUBBO JAZZ FESTIVAL

in conjunction with Janet Seidel Trio presents Chuck Morgan's School for Ukulele.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR DJF 2013



The course will run for with 2 sessions of 90 minutes duration. Enrolment for the workshop is open to players of all ages and skill levels and offers the rare opportunity for all participants to learn and play in a group environment.

Chuck will cover many aspects of ukulele technique, history, styles of playing and theory as required. We believe the ukulele is very versatile and past students have found inspiration in Chuck's direction of the small ukulele orchestra approach.

By the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the day the group should find themselves playing together and along with the Janet

Seidel trio in a way they may have scarcely imagined.

A unique hands on approach to ukulele playing and learning. Technique and musical concepts covered in a practical, non threatening, group environment.

Participants will get to play as a group as Chuck creates arrangements to suit a wide range of abilities. The whole trio will be on hand to assist and the ukulele groups will have the chance to play along with Janet (vocals), David (bass) and Chuck (tenor, concert, soprano ukes).

Along with Janet, (renowned vocalist / pianist) and her brother David, (double bass), the Trio features Chuck Morgan, not only one of the most sought after guitarists in Australia, but also an extraordinary ukulele player. Jazz Journal (UK) wrote, "Hang on to your hats, ..... his skill is startling!"

The DJF Finale Concert will illustrate the results, as the first bracket will include the new ukulele orchestra in concert with Janet's group. Following that, the audience will be able to enjoy an hour of world class music from Janet, Chuck and David. Participants are admitted free to the concert.

### Recent feedback from participants in ukulele workshops:

"I was really inspired by Chuck's ukulele session. Chuck brought us all together and had us playing as a good sounding group in no time at all. Chuck's uke playing is amazing and I hope I can play as well as that myself one day. I look forward to the next time Chuck comes to town - Thanks for a great musical time!"- Kristoffer Berg, Cootamundra

Hi Janet, we went to Chuck's workshop at the Ukulele Festival (Melbourne) and we were wowed by him and the trio. Then that night!, how amazing you all are. Love your voice and especially your jazz delivery

and the music you make together. Imagine the joy when we found that you will be up our way in Armidale NSW in a few weeks time! How amazing!

**Cathy Welsford after attending the Melbourne Ukulele Festival**

If you have the slightest interest in ukeleles this workshop is a must - you will be amazed at how quickly you can be part of a great sound! The musicians are awesome!

**Ruth Miller, Port Elliot SA**

The workshops were fun and challenging, great to play with Janet, Chuck and David and all the uke students. Never too old to try something new.

**Jane Bennett, Goolwa SA**

The ukulele workshop was a great learning experience for me. Chuck was really interesting and taught me several new techniques, which I hadn't known before. He incorporated theory with practical and allowed me to appreciate how wonderful the ukulele is. In the workshop we learnt various songs and had the privilege of listening to Chuck's awesome ukulele soloing. Chuck was able to include all of us and was a great mentor. **Tim Hayes, Cootamundra**

Just wanted to say a huge thank you for today's workshop! Really loved Chuck's clear, supportive and enthusiastic teaching style, Janet's graciousness and encouragement and the generosity of all of you in sharing your wonderful talent and allowing us to play along!! Me and my uke are totally inspired. **Libby Druce, Sydney**

Chuck had a delightful, encouraging manner with the whole group, which was made up of school-age children and teenagers (plus one old bloke)

He used a thoughtful balance of theory and practice, and was quick to highlight player's efforts. He quickly assessed the different ability levels among the group, and gave each player appropriate tasks. With one tune, Chuck organised the various participants to play different parts, with a very satisfying, multi-layered result. Having never touched a ukulele before, I now feel confident that I could manage a tune without too much trouble.

**Bob Guy, Cootamundra**

I've only been playing a very short time, but I have learnt new chords and skills that I can put into practice from Chuck's helpful advice. It was great to see everyone having such a great time playing as a group with Chuck's guidance. I've had a memorable time.

**Natalie Berg, Cootamundra**

Here's a radio interview from a recent workshop in Mildura:

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/audio/2013/01/17/3671583.htm?site=milduraswanhill>

Clip from recent Melbourne uke fest workshop.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=biSLHODDI1g>