

JAZZ ON THE DANUBE 2004: RECORD ATTENDANCES, WORLD-CLASS ACTS, STATE OF THE ART EQUIPMENT



Filling up nicely and still only the afternoon: Rebekka Bakken at the JADD 2004

One of the world's largest jazz festivals, "Jazz on the Danube", ran this year from July 16th to 18th. Blues legend BB King, Till Brönner and others provided great music; EVI Audio – the European wing of Telex Communications - provided sound to match.

Straubing, Germany (July 2004): In its eighteen years of existence, the *Jazz an der Donau* (JADD) festival has succeeded in establishing itself as one of the ten largest jazz festivals in the world. The idyllic setting of the *Festplatz am Hagen* in Straubing, Bavaria makes this one of the most aesthetically pleasing, intimate and laid-back events in the jazz calendar. This year some 8,000 jazz lovers flocked to Straubing to enjoy the music and soak up the atmosphere.

Once again the organizers had succeeded in putting together a varied and high-class program, the undoubted highlight of which was the appearance of blues icon BB King together with his trademark Gibson semi-acoustic, Lucille, and an excellent backing band. BB King performed songs drawn from all periods of his five decade career, and as he wound up, a feeling of melancholy seized the 3,000-strong audience at the realization that this was likely to be the last time they would hear him perform in Germany; the man who gave the world standards like *The Thrill is Gone* and *Nightlife* was making his farewell tour.

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A counterpoint to the laid-back style of the old master was provided by young and innovative acts like Roy Hargrove, Till Brönner and Die Söhne Mannheims (with Xavier Naidoo). But whether traditional or modern, be-bop or hip-hop, for these and all top-flight musicians, nuances count. To ensure that nothing was lost in the translation as the sound was passed from artist to audience, the organizers - led by Heinz and Ralph Huber - put their faith in sound reinforcement equipment from EVI Audio, a decision confirmed by the tremendous response of both the artists and the audience to sound systems from the same source at the festival last year, headlined by George Benson. Once again, they were well satisfied with the results. "The sound equipment was a sensation," raved Heinz Huber, founder of the highly rated festival, "and the musicians thought so too. BB King's European manager even expressed the view that this festival was one of the best-organized and most perfect from the standpoint of sound that he had ever played." Mr Huber also explained why the JADD switched venues from Vilshofen to Straubing two years back: "We opted for Straubing so as to be able to work more closely with EVI Audio, and the quality of the sound at the last two festivals has completely vindicated our decision."



The Danube blues: rain stops play at the JADD 2004

The great sound at the Jazz on the Danube festival was due largely to the following equipment:

PA: Electro-Voice XLC system
Monitors: Dynacord Madras, EV Plasma
Side fills: EV Xi-2123A

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Front fills: EV FRi-2082
FOH: Midas Heritage
Monitors: Midas XL250
Plus: Klark Teknik Helix EQs, Klark Teknik splitters

For more information:

http://www.jazzanderdonau.de/redaktion.html?Credaktion_id=13;Cmenuue_id=30

For full details on all products, please visit

www.electrovoice.com

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