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Jazz Weekend Set for Arkhangelskoye Estate

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American John Scofield will play with his band at the Usadba Jazz Festival. **John Scofield**

There is good news for jazz lovers this weekend as the ninth Usadba Jazz Festival takes place at the Arkhangelskoye Estate.

The open-air festival will host a series of famous names from the international jazz scene such as the John Scofield Group and the Puppini Sisters, while it also gives a chance to less-established groups and up-and-coming artists.

The estate's territory is divided into five different scenes, each with a separate performance program. "Parter," the center stage, has mainstream jazz; "aristocrat" focuses on traditional jazz and avant-garde; "caprice" has swing, blues and rockabilly; "waterfront" has acid jazz, cool jazz and DJs; and "LiveJournal" has rock, funk and ethno. There are also exhibits, playgrounds for the kids, fairs and much more.

The Arkhangelskoye Estate has a long tradition of hosting performances. Its 18th-century owners originally intended for the grounds to be used "for fun, not for profit." But it was only at the beginning of the 21st century that jazz moved into the territory.

The festival began in 2003 and initially only welcomed jazz artists from Russia and the former Soviet Union. Then in 2007 it opened its doors to international stars. Previous guests have included Marcus Miller, Zap Mama and Yusef Lateef & Belmondo Quintet.

The Usadba Jazz Festival will take place on Saturday and Sunday at the Arkhangelskoye Estate. Metro Tushinskaya, then Bus 549 to Arkhangelskoye or Bus 151 to Sanatory. Tel. +7 (499) 248-3605. A two-day pass costs 3,200 rubles purchased prior to or 3,500 rubles at the event. The concert starts at 4 p.m. on both days. www.usadba-jazz.ru

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