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Julian swings in with all that jazz

RENOWNED saxophonist Julian Arguelles (*right*) is set to perform with one of his childhood heroes on his upcoming tour which stops off at Redrooms in Perth Theatre for one of the Monday Night Thing acoustic roots sessions.

The jazz composer will finally get to play his own music with the legendary American guitarist, John Abercrombie, who has not performed in the UK for 20 years.

Julian said: "John is our tour guest and, although I've played with him before in other bands, I've never worked with him on my own stuff, so it's very exciting to have him involved.

"He's from a slightly different generation and I grew up listening to him. He's an amazing player and a bit of a hero to me."

The rest of the band consists of two other quality players from the States: Tom Rainey on drums and Michael Formanek on bass.

Julian is writing new music especially for this ensemble to play on the eight-date tour,

which is funded under the Scottish Arts Council's Tune Up scheme.

The musician added: "I would like to think the music's going to be interesting and exciting - definitely not bland.

"Often I'm put under the banner of modern jazz, but what I do is based on tradition. I grew up on John Coltrane and Sonny Rollins, so what I do comes from a place that everyone is quite familiar with.

"For this tour I'm going to write at least an hour's worth of new music, but we will be playing some old favourites too.

"My main aim for the tour is to make some great music that the audiences really enjoy. I don't want them to listen passively - I want them to feel something quite strong; perhaps an emotional experience."

The Perth Theatre Redrooms date is Monday, May 4, at 8pm. Tickets from the box offices at Perth Theatre and Perth Concert Hall, telephone 01738 621 031 and online www.horsecross.co.uk



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