

David Gioia is one of Western Australia's finest and most exciting up and coming young saxophonists. The roots of his musical journey lie in the raw and genuine sounds of blues and jazz passed on by his father, Paul Gioia, a figure in the forefront of Perth's blues and roots community. By age 14 David was a featured member of the WA Youth Jazz Orchestra, performing alongside funk legend Fred Wesley to a sold out audience in the Perth Concert Hall.

As his education continued, David began to think of his instrument not as a tool to emulate the sounds of great saxophonists, but a voice through which any musical style or artistic vision could be sounded. In 2012 David graduated secondary education receiving the Music Exhibition Award for receiving the highest marks of any graduating music student. An interest in the classical tradition of saxophone playing led him to studying a Bachelor of Music under Dr. Matthew Styles, Perth's leading specialist in cross-genre saxophone playing.

In 2014 David brought the classical saxophone to light in a number of prestigious Perth based music competitions. He was awarded 1st place in the Fremantle Eisteddfod Concerto Competition and the WA Academy of Performing Arts *Warana* Concerto Competition for his performance of the exceptionally modern *Tallahatchie Concerto* by Jacob Ter Veldhuis. He was also the recipient of the prize for 'Most Outstanding Instrumentalist' in the North of Perth Music Festival for his collaboration with esteemed local composer, Alex Turley. Together they have received funding to produce a recording of Turley's new saxophone concerto in early 2016.

More recently, David has undertaken projects which further extend the perception of what the saxophone is capable of. A duo with accordionist, Sarah Saunders, plays traditional and modern interpretations of Scottish folk music and debuting in April of 2015 with a sold out performance in St Paul's Church. He also recently arranged the Saxophone Concerto by Jacques Ibert for saxophone quartet and soloist. It was premiered by Petrichor Sax at the Glebe Justice Centre in Sydney with David as the touring featured soloist.

David's versatility as a performer sees him playing with groups ranging from big bands to classical chamber groups, tours with blues and rock bands and regular gigs of free jazz and improvised music. He wishes to keep pushing his instrument to new limits through commissions and collaborations which are of endless potential for the 21st century performer.