High notes

MUSIC The James Ryan Quartet's version of jazz is widely recognised as a blend of maturity, freedom and exhilaration

DATE: November 19, 7.15 p.m.
VENUE: The Music Academy

The Australian saxophonist-composer James Ryan from Darwin who arrived in Sydney via lengthy stints in Canberra, Brisbane and London, is not one to sit still, geographically or musically. A Masters of Music in Jazz, he taught performance, improvisation and composition at a host of high-brow music schools in Australia including the Canberra School of Music, The Queensland Conservatorium of Music and the Queensland University of Technology.

Ryan's fascination with original jazz compositions and his search for new sonorous boundaries led to the James Ryan Quartet's debut album in 1997.

The Quartet comprising James Ryan on the saxophone and flute, Scott Tinkler on the trumpet, Steve Hunter on the electric bass and Ken Edie on the drums come together for the first time in Chennai with a promise to produce superlative technique, supported by an integrated rhythm section.

Their contribution to Australian jazz is widely recognised as a distinct blend of maturity, freedom and exhilaration.

The Quartet which has performed extensively in Europe and Australia has won accolades for its excellent playing, its distinct phrasing and a music possessive of a warm, full tone.

While Ryan's penchant for improvisation promises to provide the melodic foil a leader requires, the trumpet, bass and the drums promise to create the rhythm he loves to ride on.

Purely musical, bursting with energy, emotion, and luminous with melody, the Quartet promises to fly the flag for creative jazz.

This concert is supported by the Australia-India Council.