



**MELISSA JAMES LIVE AT
CANVAS, WIMBLEDON VILLAGE – WEDNESDAY 14TH AUGUST
GIG IN A GALLERY - raising money for SMALL STEPS PROJECT**

This summer, singer-songwriter **Melissa James** will perform specially planned **Gig in a Gallery** concerts to raise money for **Small Steps Project**. (www.smallstepsproject.org), the charity set up by former celebrity journalist, **Amy Hanson**, in support of the many impoverished, barefoot children who live on and feed from municipal rubbish dumps in developing countries.

Melissa first heard about the **Small Steps Project** late last year, when she happened to tune into a radio programme and heard Amy Hanson talking about the work of SSP. Keen to help in some way, Melissa immediately began to think about what she could do and, in time, the concept of **Gig in a Gallery** was born. These combine what Melissa normally does as a singer/performer with putting on pop-up concerts in art/photographic galleries in order to raise funds and awareness for SSP. **100% of proceeds from ticket sales will go to the charity.** Further donations can also be made online at <http://justgiving.com/gig-in-a-gallery>.

The first **Gig in a Gallery** concert took place on **Wednesday 24th July** at **The Gallery Café** in **Bethnal Green**. Another followed at **Canvas** in **Wimbledon Village** on the **14th August** with the next GIAG date scheduled for **September 12th** at **House** in **Camberwell**.

There will be a special multi-artist event at the **Queen of Hoxton, Shoreditch** on **30th October**, to be headlined by the legendary singer-songwriter and BBC 6Music DJ, **Tom Robinson**, who recently presented a session by Melissa and her band on his BBC 6Music show. Tom will also perform with Melissa on a song that the two have written together.

The past year has been a very busy time for Melissa James, who released her critically-acclaimed debut album, **Day Dawns** on SlickerSounds in June 2012. She is increasingly in demand as a live performer and was recently thrilled to be invited to perform at this year's London Jazz Festival.

Fusing her love of blues, folk, jazz and soul, Melissa's songs take the listener on mini detours, which often open up to reveal the sometimes raw elements of her innermost thoughts. Combined with the velvety power of her delivery, it makes for a spine tingling experience.

"They don't write 'em like that anymore.... except they do....Superb singer in classic mould" (Tom Robinson, BBC 6Music on *I Need You Here* from *Day Dawns*)

"...magnificent debut album..." 4-stars (Jazzwise, August 2012)

"...great late night listening, this lady is certainly worth checking out."
(Blues Matters!, August/September 2012)

MELISSA JAMES - GIG IN GALLERY
CANVAS, 38a HIGH STREET, WIMBLEDON, SW19 5BY
DATE: WEDNESDAY 14TH AUGUST
TIME: 7PM
TICKETS: £6 (Adv) from <http://musicglue.com/giginagallery/>
NEAREST TRANSPORT: DISTRICT LINE TO WIMBLEDON

www.melissa-james.com

www.smallstepsproject.org

For further information/interviews/pics etc. please contact press@melissa-james.com tel: 07779 631 317



**Melissa
James**

