



Press release

## **Christina Jaccard & Dave Ruosch Band win the Swiss Jazz Award 2012**

Ascona - 25.6.2012 – **The lay jury has decided: in an impassioned head-to-head contest, Zurich-based blues singer Christina Jaccard and pianist Dave Ruosch won the sixth edition of the Swiss Jazz Award on Sunday evening, 24 June.**

Broadcast live by RSI Rete Due, the final evening featured the Ascona Jazz festival and included live performances by the three bands competing for the award at the end of a lengthy preliminary phase which commenced in December 2011.

The three qualifying competitors in the final phase were the promising young Swiss soul jazz talent, Martin Lechner, the explosive Boogaloo Quartet, fronted by much-vaunted Lugano-based guitarist Sandro Schneebeli, and the winning band, Christina Jaccard and Dave Ruosch.

Christina Jaccard, born in 1952, has a charismatic personality and a voice often described as "the blackest white voice in Switzerland". She has been performing jazz, swing, pop and blues for 30 years and now favours the latter genre. She has found the perfect partner in Dave Ruosch. Indeed, Dave Ruosch has an exceptional style and is considered an expert at the European level with his strident way of playing and his boogie woogie, and is also a specialist in blues and swing.

Produced by Radio Swiss Jazz and the Ascona Jazz Festival, the Swiss Jazz Award is decided directly by the audience of passionate jazz connoisseurs in a referendum conducted by online and text message voting.

The 2012 award reached a record participation level, with over 10,000 votes.

Nominees for the award included the five Swiss bands which, throughout the year, have achieved the highest ratings among Radio Swiss Jazz listeners.

To date, the SwissJazz Award has been won by Alexia Gardner (2011), Dani Felber Big Band (2010), Robi Weber Quartet (2009), Dai Kimoto & Swing Kids (2008) and Loverfield Jazzband (2007). A lifetime achievement award was presented to Pepe Lienhard (in 2007) and Hazy Osterwald (2009).

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