

Culture Jazz Jazz Open

Jazz Open: Chico Freeman, old-school jazz entertainer, in the Bix

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When Chico Freeman blows his saxophone, it feels as if he's pressing the start button of a time machine: The 68-year-old, born in Chicago, the son of jazz saxophonist Von Freeman, has seen the heyday of modern jazz - and he With his three-member band, he knows how to bring the sound and lifestyle of the era back to life at the club concert. Because of the World Cup finals Freeman plays the only Jazz Open concert on Sunday night, and lo and behold: The Bix is once again well filled.

Freeman can tell great stories. He introduces his pieces as an old-school entertainer with small anecdotes, and then performs them on the saxophone full of soul and life breath. Some numbers are from Freeman's current album "Spoken Into Existence", which quotes tradition but continues in a very contemporary way. The big jazz drummer Elvin Jones, with whom he played himself, is in a number with polyrhythmic groove. From a scene in a dark alley of a film noir, Freeman tells in Henry Mancini style, of his daughter Luani, one of five, in a stunning ballad.



Anecdotes on the microphone and then the stories on the saxophone: Chico Freeman on Sunday evening in Bix
Photo: Opus / Peter Steinheißer