Jazz Services

PRESS RELEASE

Jazz Services Limited
First Floor
132 Southwark Street
London SE1 0SW
tel 020 7928 9089
fax 020 7401 6870
admin@jazzservices.org.uk
www.jazzservices.org.uk

Chris Biscoe Profiles Quartet/Mingus Profiles Sextet

The above band has received a Jazz Services National Touring Support Scheme grant for their new tour.

Line-up:

Chris Biscoe - alto sax, alto clarinet
Tony Kofi - alto and tenor sax
Larry Bartley - bass
Stu Butterfield - drums
Henry Lowther - trumpet and flugelhorn (sextet only)
Kate Williams - piano (sextet only)

BBC double-award winner Tony Kofi joins Chris Biscoe in an exploration of the musical legacies of the extraordinary bassist, composer and bandleader Charles Mingus and reeds virtuoso Eric Dolphy.

Featuring arrangements specially developed for the Profiles Quartet, the repertoire includes music written by Eric Dolphy, alongside tunes from Oliver Nelson, Fats Waller and Monk, which he recorded. The first album by the band, Gone in the Air, was released on Trio Records in June 2008, coinciding with the 80th anniversary of Eric Dolphy's birth.

The Mingus Profiles Sextet, with Williams and Lowther, concentrates on Mingus's musical portraits of friends, enemies, lovers, cats and fellow musicians, including some of the tunes Dolphy recorded with Mingus. These pieces also give an opportunity to hear Tony Kofi on tenor sax, which he played on a recent recording with Ornette Coleman. The album, Profiles of Mingus, released in June 2010, uses several different line-ups (solo, quartet, quintet, sextet and septet) to colour some of the many musical images Mingus created, again featuring Larry Bartley and Stu Butterfield with Chris Biscoe, and a roster of other musicians including Henry Lowther and Kate Williams.

Chris Biscoe has appeared as a soloist on more than 40 albums, including recordings with George Russell, Mike Westbrook, Andy Sheppard and the Brotherhood of Breath. His work includes major tours with the Hermeto Pascoal Big Band and the New York Composers Orchestra

Tony Kofi is a member of the World Saxophone Quartet and the Jamaaladeen Tacuma group, and recently recorded with Ornette Coleman. He has appeared with Andrew Hill, David Murray and Sam Rivers, is a member of Byron Wallen's group Indigo and has worked extensively with Chris Biscoe in Grand Union. In 2008 he was named BBC Jazz Awards Instrumentalist of the Year, and his album, All is Know, was a double award winner in 2005 in the BBC and Parliamentary Jazz Awards.

Larry Bartley is a leading light of the contemporary jazz scene, featured with the bands of Byron Wallen, Ingrid Laubrock and Jason Yarde, amongst many others.

Stu Butterfield works with the Henry Lowther/Jim Mullen Quartet, Mingus Moves and The Strayhorn Project.

Henry Lowther is a UK jazz legend who has appeared with everyone from Kenny Wheeler, Mike Gibbs and Stan Tracey to Gil Evans and Alexis Korner. He leads his own project, Still Waters.

Kate Williams leads her own trio, quartet, quintet and septet, as well as being much in demand by other bandleaders. Recently she has been performing in a duo with renowned saxophonist Bobby Wellins.

www.chrisbiscoe.co.uk

Reviews:

"…flows with all the force of the originals, the ensemble broiling somewhere between whitewater and wildfire…" – The Independent.

"Biscoe's sparkling arrangements and splendid playing vividly capture Mingus's sprawling, rumbustious energy, while giving the music a fresh twist" – The Scotsman

"The exchanges between Biscoe and Kofi crackle with intelligence and invention. This is jazz of real fire and drive" – Yorkshire Post

"Biscoe and Kofi complement each other wonderfully..." – Jazzwise

Date	Time	Venue	Town	Box office
18/1/2012	8.00pm	Orange Tree	Richmond	020 8940 0944
20/1/2012	7.45pm	Minerva Theatre	Chichester	01243 781312
26/1/2012	8.00pm	Bonington Theatre	Nottingham	0115 967 0114
27/1/2012	8.00pm	Millennium Hall	Sheffield	www.wegottickets.com
2/2/2012	8.30pm	606 Club	London	020 7352 5953
12/3/2012	8.30pm	Hastings & St Leonards Angling Association	Hastings	07740 941734 (Jazz Hastings)

END

Notes to the editor:

Jazz Services

Jazz Services provides a voice and support for UK Jazz; promoting its growth, accessibility and development in the UK and abroad. Services include advice, advocacy, communications, education, information, marketing, publishing, research and touring. Jazz Services is recognised as a committed campaigner providing a valued voice for jazz in the UK. Jazz Services publishes Jazz UK, a listings magazine with a print run of 30,000 that is distributed by subscription and free through venues, colleges, libraries and shops.

Jazz Services works closely with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra (NYJO), which is an autonomous body that receives its Arts Council England funding through Jazz Services. NYJO also receives funds from private

donors, Youth Music and the Musicians' Benevolent Fund. Every year NYJO organizes over 100 open workshops for jazz musicians up to the age of 25 and more than 40 concerts.

Jazz Services gratefully acknowledges the support of Arts Council England and also the Performing Right Society for Music Foundation for their support on the Jazz Promoters Award Scheme.

For further information, contact Chris Hodgkins
Jazz Services, 132 Southwark Street, London, SE1 0SW
TEL: 020 7928 9089 Email: admin@jazzservices.org.uk

Jazz Services Limited
First Floor, 132 Southwark Street
London SE1 0SW
t: 020 7928 9089
f: 020 7401 6870
e: education@jazzservices.org.uk
w: www.jazzservices.org.uk