

**Jazz Services**

**PRESS RELEASE**



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**Ivo Neame Quintet**

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

**Line-up:**

Ivo Neame – piano  
Tori Freestone – saxophone/flute  
Jim Hart – vibraphone  
Jasper Høiby – double bass  
Dave Hamblett - drums

As one of the flagship bands of London's LOOP collective, the Ivo Neame Quintet has built a strong reputation, performing across the UK and Europe, receiving enthusiastic responses from audiences and press alike - Neame's most recent release, *Caught in the Light of Day*, being rated the 4th best jazz album of 2010 by MOJO magazine. 2012 will see the release of a new album on Edition Records preceded by a nationwide UK Jazz Services supported tour and featuring new band member Tori Freestone on sax, whose presence has expanded the musical possibilities of the group. Compositionally, Neame owes much to an array of musical heroes, from Paul Hindemith and Steve Reich to more recent innovators, such as Keith Jarrett, the Claudia Quintet and Tomasz Stanko. The sound worlds of these influential masters have been combined with extended forms and varied approaches to improvising, allowing each band member the space to shine both individually and as part of the ensemble. Neame's music is a living, breathing contradiction - complex yet accessible, considered yet spontaneous, traditional yet forward-thinking.

Ivo Neame is a distinctive jazz musician in that he is equally at home on saxophone and piano. This double life has seen him make notable contributions to some of the finest jazz groups on the UK jazz scene. Since leaving the Royal Academy of Music, aside from leading his own critically acclaimed quintet, he has performed and recorded with highly esteemed jazz artists at home and abroad such as David Binney, Seamus Blake, Mark Lockheart and Stan Sulzmann. He is also a member of Phronesis, (performing on 2010 album, *Alive*, which was voted Album of the Year by Jazzwise and MOJO magazines), the MOBO award-winning band Kairos 4tet and the Cinematic Orchestra, a band whose mix of electronica and improvisation has appealed to audiences worldwide.

Tori Freestone attended the Leeds College of Music undergraduate and Guildhall School of Music and Drama postgraduate jazz courses and was regional finalist in Young Jazz Musician of the Year 1996. She has played with NYJO, Andy Sheppard, Lee Hazlewood, the Creative Jazz Orchestra, Fringe Magnetic, Orquesta La Timbala, and Neil Yates as well as co-leading the quartet *Compassionate Dictatorship* and leading her own trio. She has performed at venues such as the Royal Festival Hall and Ronnie Scotts, and jazz festivals in the UK and abroad including Glastonbury, the Big Chill, Cork, Brecon, Jersey, Manchester, Haskovo (Bulgaria), Elb (Germany) and Cheltenham. She has recorded on the Loop and FMR labels as well as for Jazz on 3 and BBC Radio 2.

Jim Hart began playing drums and piano at the age of four and soon furthered this to include tuned and orchestral percussion. A graduate of Guildhall School of Music and Drama and founder member of London's

LOOP collective, he is one of the most in demand musicians on the British scene as a soloist and as a sideman, on both drums and vibes. He has toured extensively with many visiting American musicians including Ralph Alessi, Joel Frahm, Jaleel Shaw, Terell Stafford, Logan Richardson and Richie Barshay and he was recently a special guest with Wynton Marsalis. Hart was nominated for Musician of the Year in the 2011 Parliamentary Jazz Awards and was a British Jazz Award winner in 2006, 2007 and 2008. He also received the Worshipful Company of Musicians jazz medal in 2006 and was selected to be a participant of the Jerwood/PRS Foundation Take Five Initiative in 2009.

Copenhagen-born, London-based, bassist Jasper Høiby graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in 2005. He has since performed on 14 albums and toured throughout the UK and Europe with a number of original projects. He has released three albums under his own name with his group Phronesis. In 2010 Phronesis were nominated for Best Jazz Ensemble in the Parliamentary Jazz Awards, featured on the front cover of Jazzwise Magazine and nominated for Best Jazz Act at the 2010 MOBO Awards. Their third album, *Alive* (Edition Records), was released in July 2010 to great critical acclaim and chosen as Jazz Album of the Year by Jazzwise and MOJO Magazines. Høiby has performed and recorded with a number of high profile projects including Django Bates, Mark Lockheart, Julian Joseph, Marius Neset and Kairos 4tet, to name but a few.

Since moving to London in 2006 to study at the Royal Academy of Music, Dave Hamblett has been building a reputation as one of the most in demand contemporary jazz drummers in London. On graduating, he was awarded a Yamaha scholarship for outstanding jazz musicians, and was recently nominated as a finalist for the Worshipful Company of Musicians Award. As a sideman Hamblett has performed throughout the UK and Europe with Ivo Neame, the F-IRE collective large ensemble, Abram Wilson Quartet, Nick Smart's Jazz Matanzas and Elizabeth Shepherd amongst others. As a bandleader and composer Hamblett has been featured in Jazzwise magazine and received airplay on Jazz FM. He has recently recorded his debut album.

[www.ivoneame.com](http://www.ivoneame.com)

**Reviews:**

*“Angular lines, unexpected intervals and changes of tempo and mood, all negotiated with a deft fluidity echoed by the playing of this fine young quintet” - Irish Times.*

*“Sounds rather like a slippery, angular, latterday MJQ” - the Observer*

*“A showcase for Neame’s blossoming keyboard powers. It’s a set full of edgy and characterful themes, matched by resourceful, conversational improvising” - Guardian*

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Time</b> | <b>Venue</b>      | <b>Town</b> | <b>Box office</b>                     |
|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| 10/2/2012   |             | Purcell Room      | London      | 08703 800400                          |
| 3/3/2012    |             | Plume of Feathers | Sherborne   | 01935 410881<br>(Sherborne Jazz Club) |
| 8/3/2012    |             | Dempseys          | Cardiff     | 029 2049 6802<br>(Jazz at Dempsey's)  |
| 29/3/2012   |             | Santiago          | Leeds       | 0113 2444472                          |
| 30/3/2012   |             | Millennium Hall   | Sheffield   | www.wegotickets.com                   |

**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.

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