PRESS RELEASE

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John Martin Quartet

National Touring

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

John Martin - tenor & soprano saxophone

Jonjo Grisdale - piano

Tim Fairhall - double bass

Andrew Ball - drums

The John Martin Quartet is made up of a group of young and upcoming London based musicians who have recently recorded their debut album Dawning, which is due for release in April 2011 on the prestigious F-ire label. The music is characterized by a warm and open sound, and emotional directness. Martin's uncluttered improvisations and the dynamic structures created by the band respond to a wide range of inspiration, from English jazz and folk and the ECM sound to Wayne Shorter and the downtown New York scene. Joyful African-inspired grooves, dark Mehldau-ish harmony and contemporary odd-time meters meet the folky European sound reminiscent of Keith Jarrett s early quartet with Jan Garbarek.

John Martin studied composition with Nikki Iles and Eddie Parker at Middlesex University, then went on to play as a sideman in many bands on both the jazz and world music scenes. During this time he regularly performed at top London venues such as the Jazz Café, Pizza Express (Dean St) and the Vortex, as well as at many festivals both in the UK and abroad. He has played with salsa king Roberto Pla, Fela Kuti's keyboard player Dele Sosimi, Italian guitar maestro Giorgio Serci and award-winning singer Liane Carroll. John also played on Guillemots' Mercury Prize nominated album Through The Window Pane and has recently recorded albums with the Root Source and Metamorphic.

Jonjo Grisdale started learning the piano at the age of 7. He studied jazz at Middlesex University, graduating with a first class degree in 2007. Since leaving university he has become in demand as a session musician, playing and touring with the likes of Roger Waters, David Gilmour, Lauren Pritchard, Tom Jones, Sophie Ellis-Bextor, Nick Cave, Lily Allen, Shane McGowan, and Suggs. He has just finished co-writing his first pop album, working with producer Hugh Harris and singer Luke Allen, and he writes for and plays in the band Modern Breakfast with guitarist Chester Kamen.

Tim Fairhall studied philosophy at Cambridge University, and went on to graduate with distinction from the Master's course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He has performed at many prestigious UK jazz venues including the Royal Festival Hall, the Vortex, the Royal Albert Hall and the 606 Club with players including Martin Speake, Cleveland Watkiss, Nikki Iles and Stan Sulzmann. He has recently been touring worldwide with Yasmin Levy.

Andy Ball was born into a musical family and began to play drums at the age of six. He studied jazz at Leeds College of Music, followed by a Master's degree at the Royal Academy of Music in London and has since performed with many of Britain's most prominent musicians including Gerard Presencer, Stan Sulzmann, Kenny Wheeler, John Taylor, Tim Garland, Alex Garnett, Brandon Allen, Neil Yates and Dennis Rollins

http://www.myspace.com/johnnoblemartin

Tour dates are:

DATE	TIME	VENUE	TOWN	BOX OFFICE	WEB
01/05/2011		Hotel Hatfield	Lowestoft	01502 568684 (Milestones Jazz Club)	http://www. milestonesjazzclub.co.uk
03/05/2011		Studio 2	Liverpool	0151 7073727	
04/05/2011		Cask Inn & Sigma	Scarborough	01723 500570	
05/05/2011		Matt & Phred's Jazz Club	Manchester	0161 831 7002	
12/05/2011		Yardbird	Birmingham	0121 2122524	
15/05/2011		Botton Village Hall	Botton		
17/05/2011		Dempseys	Cardiff	029 2049 6802 (Jazz at Dempsey's)	http://www.riverbankjazz. co.uk
20/05/2011		Symphony Hall Foyer	Birmingham	0121 7803333	http://www. birminghamjazz.co.uk
21/05/2011		Jazz Cafe POSK	London	020 8741 1940	

Reviews:

"This album (Dawning) should be heard and bought" - Kenny Wheeler

"This is an honest, cohesive and sophisticated release – a band to listen out for in 2011 and a credit to the F-ire collective" - Iain Ballamy

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