Jazz Services

PRESS RELEASE

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Abram Wilson Quartet

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

Line-up:

Abram Wilson – trumpet/vocals
Alex Davis – double bass
Dave Hamblett – drums
Reuben James - piano

At the beginning of 2011 Abram Wilson formed his new band, the Abram Wilson Quartet, consisting of Alex Davis on double bass, Dave Hamblett on drums and Reuben James on piano. They have since played at a number of established London venues including the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Southbank Centre supporting the Canadian jazz vocalist Nikki Yanofsky; Kings Place, London; and Harrow Arts Centre as part of the London Jazz Festival. In July 2011 they played at Twickenham Film Studios where their performance was streamed live to seven UK cinemas. At the end of 2011 renowned jazz drummer and younger brother to Wynton, Jason Marsalis joined the Abram Wilson Quartet to play at Kings Place and Turner Sims, Southampton resulting in rave reviews including four stars from the FT and the Times.

The Quartet are embarking on a national tour between April - July 2012 followed by an album release of new music composed by Wilson entitled Philippa, with further touring from autumn 2012 onwards. They will also be performing as part of a new septet with the legendary Peter King, Jean Toussaint (Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers) and Winston Rollins (The Jools Holland Big Band).

Abram Wilson - Trumpet and Vocals

Multi-award winning New Orleans trumpeter and vocalist Abram Wilson is one of the leading jazz trumpeters in the UK today. He has performed with members of the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, the Roy Hargrove Big Band and rhythm and blues legend, Ruth Brown as well as renowned British jazz artists such as Soweto Kinch, Julian Joseph and Andy Sheppard. To date he has recorded and toured three albums to critical acclaim: Jazz Warrior (2005); Ride! Ferris Wheel to the Modern Day Delta (2007), a Jerwood Rising Star commission for the Cheltenham Jazz Festival; and Life Paintings (2009). His albums have led to a clutch of awards and nominations including winner of the BBC Jazz Award for Best Band (2004), the International Songwriting Competition (2006) and the British Jazz Award for Best New CD (2007).

With trumpet playing reminiscent of Freddie Hubbard, Miles Davis and Wynton Marsalis and the vocals of Sammy Davis Jr. and Chet Baker, Wilson has created a unique and captivating style of melodic compositions that swing and groove. Charismatic on stage and off Abram Wilson's musicality exudes warmth, passion, virtuosity and soul.

"Vibrant, confident, and just damn exciting" - The Independent

"Truly astonishing...A fiery, colourful trumpeter and a gracefully cajoling soul singer, Wilson is a definite hot ticket" - The Guardian

www.abramwilson.com

Alex Davis - Double Bass

Over the last ten years Alex Davis has had the privilege to play and be mentored by the likes of Gilad Atzmon, Edward Simon, Omar Puente, Lucky Ranku, Giuliano Modarelli, Bhupinder Singh Chaggar, Jesse Banister, Stephen Keogh, Steve Berry and Leroy Johnson. Davis has been studying double bass for the last two years and has already created a strong following with his knowledge, depth and skill. He currently divides his time between York and London but plans to move to London permanently next year to prepare for the Quartet's 2012 tour.

Dave Hamblett - Drums

Dave Hamblett has a wealth of performance experience with some exceptional musicians and projects including the F-ire Collective Large Ensemble, Ivo Neame Quartet, Sam Crowe Group, Richard Fairhurst's Triptych, Jonathan Bratoeff Quartet, Jasper Hoiby, Stan Sulzmann, Julian Arguelles, Elizabeth Shepherd and Elisa Caleb. He also has his own band, the Dave Hamblett Group, a sextet which featured in Jazzwise December 2010 describing Hamblett as 'one to look out for in 2011'.

Reuben James - Piano

Reuben James recently began his first year at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance specialising in jazz. At just 18 years of age he has already demonstrated he is an exceptional pianist bringing a new flavour of jazz to the London scene with influences from Herbie Hancock, Robert Glasper, D'Angelo, Ahmed Jamal and Brian McKnight. He has recently enjoyed being on tour with one of the UK's finest soul singers, Ruby Turner and is looking forward to joining the Abram Wilson Quartet this summer for their 20 date tour.

Reviews:

"Vibrant, confident, and just damn exciting"
The Independent

"Wilson… is one of the hottest jazz trumpeters around" - Jazzwise

"He's a bad mother!%&^$ who can play his ass off"* - Dr John

Date	**Time**	**Venue**	**Town**	**Box office**
04-04-2012	8.30pm	Pizza Express Jazz Club, 10 Dean Street, W1D 3RW	London	08456 027017
06-04-2012	8.00pm	Randolf Hotel, Beaumont Street, OX21 2LN	Oxford	0844 8799132
12-05-2012	8.00pm	Masonic Hall, Duke Street, PR8 1LS	Southport	01704 534347
13-05-2012	8.00pm	Campus West, The Campus, AL8 6BX	Welwyn Garden City	01707 357117
19-05-2012	7.30pm	Bishop Auckland Town Hall, Market Place, DL14 7NP	Bishop Auckland	01388 602610
21-05-2012	8.30pm	The Beaver Inn, Irsha Street, EX39 1RY	Appledore	01237 474822
22-05-2012	7.00pm	Western Hotel, Royal Square, TR26 2ND	St Ives	01736 798061 (St Ives Jazz Club)
24-05-2012	8.00pm	Carlton Theatre, The Den, Seafront, TQ14 8BD	Teignmouth	01626 215666 (Teignmouth Jazz Festival)

02-06-2012	8.00pm	Kings Place, 90 York Way, N1 9AG	London	020 7520 1490
10-06-2012	8.00pm	St Lawrence Chapel, Lawrence Lane, TQ13 7DD	Ashburton	07980 680052 (jazz info)
12-06-2012	9.00pm	Dempsey's, Castle Street, CF10 1BS	Cardiff	029 2049 6802 (Jazz at Dempsey's)
15-06-2012	8.00pm	The Anvil, Churchill Way, RG21 7QR	Basingstoke	01256 844244

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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