



PRESS RELEASE

04 March 2011

Jazz Services Limited
First Floor, 132 Southwark Street
London SE1 0SW

tel 020 7928 9089
fax 020 7401 6870
email touring@jazzservices.org.uk
internet www.jazzservices.org.uk

Outhouse

National Touring

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

Tom Challenger - tenor saxophone
Robin Fincker - tenor saxophones/clarinet
Johnny Brierley - bass
Dave Smith - drums
plus:
Hilmar Jensson - guitar

Part of a new generation of improvisers and a key member of the firmly established LOOP Collective, Outhouse, with its unusual line-up of two tenor saxophones, double bass and drums, has developed a unique group sound where spontaneity and interplay prevail whilst forging a strong compositional voice as an ensemble. Outhouse's music is free from stylistic concerns and, although it has often been referred to as being in the lineage of New York's 1990's downtown scene, it draws on a large palette of interests, to form a sound that is simply contemporary. The group has already recorded two critically acclaimed albums, collaborated with Gambian Wolof percussionists as their incarnation Outhouse-Ruhabi, and toured extensively across continents.

Not content unless they are reconstructing their sound from a new perspective, their latest album, *Straw, Sticks and Bricks*, to be released on the Babel label, sees them collaborate with renowned Icelandic guitarist Hilmar Jensson. Known internationally through his work with Jim Black's *Alas No Axis* and his own group *Tyft*, Jensson has been recognised as a major voice, both on the contemporary New York Jazz scene and in northern Europe. His work has influenced a whole generation of improvisers keen to incorporate the energy from rock music into Jazz. With *Straw, Sticks and Bricks* the group deliver music that shows their adeptness at tonality and their ability to merge grunge and thrashy riffs with ethereal backdrops and mournful horns. They can swing from free-ish abstraction to a calypso phrase, an overwrought rock groove or a plaintive tune, creating a dynamic contemporary jazz sound that never loses sight of the melody.

Robin Fincker co-leads Outhouse and *Blink* and has played with Bill Frisell, Vincent Courtois, Evan Parker, Guillaume Orti, Hans Koller, Pierre-Alexandre Tremblay, Jeff Williams, Stephane Payen and poet Michael Rosen amongst others. Equally involved both in London and Paris, Robin is also a founder member of the Loop Collective.

Dave Smith is a founder member of the Loop Collective, and one of the most in demand young drummers in the U.K. He co-leads Outhouse and plays in *Ma*, *Gemini* and *Mirror*. He has performed with Eddie Henderson, Donny MacCaslin, Kenny Wheeler, Steve Arguelles, Ralph Alessi and many more.

Tom Challenger is a leading figure of the young progressive jazz/improvisation scene in Britain. He is both a saxophonist and composer and leads many of his own projects. He has worked with, amongst others, John Taylor, Mike Garrick, Don Rendell, Julian Joseph, Clark Tracy, Chris Bowden, Lol Coxhill.

Johnny Brierley is very active in the London music scene, playing in a range of projects including Sister Mary and the Choir Boys, Dog Soup, Downes/Challenger/Brierley and the Alex Bonney Quartet.

<http://www.myspace.com/outhouseloop>

Tour dates are:

DATE	TIME	VENUE	TOWN	BOX OFFICE	WEB
21/04/2011	7.30pm	Bonington Theatre	Nottingham	0115 967 0114	http://www.jazzsteps.co.uk
22/04/2011	8.00pm	Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Golf & Spa	Leavenheath	01787 211865 (Fleece Jazz)	
23/04/2011	8.30pm	Forge & Caponata Restaurant	London	020 7383 7808	
24/04/2011	7.30pm	Seven Artspace	Leeds	0113 2626777	
25/04/2011	5.00pm	Pie & Ale House	Stafford	01785 226108	
26/04/2011	8.00pm	Cluny	Newcastle Upon Tyne	0191 2304474	
27/04/2011	8.00pm	Jazz Bar	Edinburgh	0131 220 4298	
30/04/2011	12.00pm	Pillar Room	Cheltenham	01242 523690	

Reviews:

"One of the most impressive young bands on the current London jazz scene." - Jazzwise

"...serious but exuberant contemporary jazz, and drummer Smith is its inspirational heartbeat." – Guardian



Jazz Services is a company limited by guarantee (no. 946244) and a registered charity (no. 258044). VAT number 240 8568 68. Director Chris Hodgkins. We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Arts Council of England, the Musicians' Union and the Performing Right Society Ltd.



