

CHRIS BISCOE PROFILES QUARTET

Chris Biscoe - alto sax, alto clarinet

Tony Kofi - alto and tenor sax

Larry Bartley - bass

Stu Butterfield - drums

"they turned in one blistering solo after another within ensemble passages of impeccable cohesion, the hallmark of the highest quality chamber-jazz.

The CD to come promises to be a gem."

Ivor Widdison, Jazz UK, Scene and Heard

Last night the Y Theatre hosted a stunning display of musical wizardry in a wide range of styles, leaving the audience both emotionally and intellectually satisfied.

Chris Beggs, Leicester Mercury Feb 5th 2010

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 of reeds virtuoso Eric Dolphy. Featuring arrangements specially developed for this quartet, the repertoire includes music written by Eric Dolphy and pieces by Oliver Nelson, Fats Waller and Monk which he also recorded. The first record 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.

Profiles of Mingus, released in June 2010, again features Larry Bartley and Stu Butterfield with Chris Biscoe, and a roster of other musicians including Henry Lowther and Kate Williams. Concentrating on Mingus's musical portraits of friends, enemies, lovers, cats and fellow musicians, it provides the other half of the repertoire of the Profiles Quartet, 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 his recent recording with Ornette Coleman.

Chris Biscoe has appeared as a soloist on more than 40 albums, including records with George Russell, Mike Westbrook, Andy Sheppard and The Brotherhood of Breath. Major tours include 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 BBC Jazz Awards Instrumentalist of the Year, and his album *All is Know* was a double award winner in 2005 (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.

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

www.chrisbiscoe.co.uk

www.tonykofi.com

www.facebook.com/ChrisBiscoe.Jazz

www.myspace.com/tonykofi

www.myspace.com/chrisbiscoe

Reviews for *Gone in the Air – The Music of Eric Dolphy* – Trio TR578

Spirits of adventure infuse this release: Biscoe and Kofi complement each other wonderfully

Brian Glasser, Jazzwise

....an exhilarating, heady rush of music....

Chris Parker, Vortex Website

....music which is utterly compelling.....

Pete Martin, Jazz UK

Reviews for *Profiles of Mingus* – Trio TR585

...flows with all the force of the originals, the ensemble broiling somewhere between whitewater and wildfire...

Tim Cumming, The Independent,
Album of the week

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

Kenny Mathieson, The Scotsman

Hi- Res Photographs

Chris Biscoe Quartet

http://www.chrisbiscoe.co.uk/chris_biscoe_quartet.jpg

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http://www.chrisbiscoe.co.uk/chris_biscoe.jpg

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Chris Biscoe Quartet – Live At Campus West CD Cover

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