



"August could hardly represent a sharper reminder to the British jazz world of the breadth and depth of Alison Rayner's often unsung talents. It's taken a while for Alison Rayner the composer to step all the way out of the shadows. But on the strength of this fine album, she might have to get used to the spotlight." John Fordham May 2014

CD reviews:

"...deliciously upbeat, groovy and thoughtful jazz, a perfect showcase of Rayner's diverse talents..." Jazz UK Oct/Nov 2014

"...the group's tight and assured playing are superbly suited to play Rayner's compositions. The debut album couldn't be stronger..." LondonJazzNews October 2014

"...a great and groovy disc that showcases the bassist at her most creative, both as a player and arranger." Jazz UK Oct/Nov 2014

"Together they sound like a band with a long collective pedigree and a delight in playing together." Jazz Journal Nov 2014

"...a well-crafted and well programmed set that touches many bases – the warm atmosphere and excitement of the live event is transmitted through the CD grooves. There's a joie de vivre about "August" that makes for very enjoyable listening." thejazzman.com November 2014

"a stylish, satisfyingly varied debut – released not a moment too soon." Jazzwise December 2014

Full reviews:

<http://www.londonjazznews.com/2014/09/cd-review-alison-rayner-quintet-august.html>

<http://www.thejazzmann.com/reviews/review/alison-rayner-quintet-august/>

Live reviews:

"A master-class in empathetic playing with superb solos and a rhythm section of the highest calibre. Don't miss these virtuoso musicians when they come to town." Phil Webb, Restormel Arts, South Cornwall

"In a Jazz age with an abundance of technical excellence – and ARQ have it in great quantity – we look for something else as well. ARQ bring to the stage a musical bond that is expressed in such fun and joyful moments that it is a pleasure to be in the room with them. Jazz of the highest quality."
Phil Rose, Birmingham Jazz

"Genuine, creative music from an extremely warm and highly skilled collective of musicians. They gave our audience a dynamic, thoughtful and groove filled night." Roz Harding, 'A Message From...', Exeter

"Exuberant, effusive, smile-forming. The band members delighted in being in each others company and let us in by inviting us, the (genuinely) packed house, to reciprocate their warmth and spirit of generosity. ARQ made the audience feel they were in a club rather than a concert." Gary Bayley, Exeter Barnfield Theatre

"Everyone was blown away – and dancing at a jazz gig..."! John Riddell, Nottingham Jazztrane

Alison Rayner playing quotes:

"...the bass playing leader's gorgeous plangent sound..."

LondonJazzNews

"...with her big warm acoustic sound, faultless time, tuning and taste and creative solo ability she clearly belongs in the front rank of contemporary bassists." Digby Fairweather

"...a bass player of real distinction. She plays on many of the tracks with a versatility, precision and sensitivity that is quite awesome."

Adeola Agbebiyi