

Heads South

Heads South plays sizzling Latin Jazz combining Cuban and other Latin rhythms with distinctive melodies in a dynamic repertoire of original and classic tunes. The Band features top UK trumpeter Steve Waterman trumpet, Cuban percussionist Chino Martell Morgan on congas, bongos, cajon, guiro, Buster Birch on drums, timbale, castanets, frame drum, Venezuelan bassist Adolfo Pulido, and leader/composer John Harriman on piano and organ.

Heads South has released two albums to critical acclaim, it was chosen to perform a national tour of Wales sponsored by the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama and Arts Council of Wales, and was selected from more than 75 bands nationwide as a winner of the UK Jazz Services/National Touring Forum award for 2014/5.

"The compositions and keyboard playing of leader John Harriman and the trumpet of Steve Waterman combine to create a spare, crisp, invigorating set of Latin jazz...Waterman's mastery of this idiom suits Harriman's deceptively simple compositions to perfection" Dave Gelly, *The Observer*. "Cool, cultured and exhilarating" Keith Ames, *The Musician*. "Very talented..dazzling solos....a Band that is well worth seeing" *The Jazzmann, Brecon Brycheiniog Theatre*. "Brimming with infectious high-energy grooves" *JazzUK* "Superb" *Latin Jazz Network (USA)* "Heads South is a refreshing cultural mix of players with outstanding jazz credentials..Cuban rhythms dominate, rocking syncopated percussion...well worth seeing" *The Gig Guide*

Steve Waterman is renowned as one of the top British jazz trumpet players both at home and on the international scene. He began his career while studying at the Trinity College of Music and since then has performed extensively in the British and European jazz scene. Steve has a remarkable recording career spanning 20 years including 7 critically acclaimed albums under his own name. Steve has regularly worked with a host of renowned jazz artists and he has performed at the Havana Jazz Festival in Cuba. Steve co-wrote the highly acclaimed *Jazz Method for Trumpet* tutor book and he is professor of Jazz Trumpet at Trinity College of Music in London and visiting Jazz Trumpet specialist at The Royal Northern College Of Music and The Purcell School.

John Harriman's life in music began at the age of 7 as a chorister in Westminster Cathedral Choir where he went on to become Head Chorister and then a soloist for the Royal Opera. Having trained as a classical pianist he became interested in jazz in his teens and taught himself to play. He lived in California for nearly 10 years where he was active in the music scene and briefly attended Dick Grove Workshops in LA, one of the first 'jazz schools'. He has worn more than one hat: he studied law at University of California Berkeley, where he was pianist for the jazz ensemble, and held a demanding 'day job' for a time. John performs regularly in a variety of jazz settings in mainstream and Latin jazz and is also an occasional Church organist. John's music mirrors his diverse personal background with Irish, French and English grandparents and his Spanish wife, to whose Castilian homeland they decamp when they can.

Adolfredo Pulido was born in Venezuela and by the age of 7 was playing drums, then also tuba, trumpet and trombone before taking up bass at the age of 14. He studied at ARN NOVA music school in Venezuela and toured Central America with a number of bands. In 1999 he moved to the United States to further his studies, attending the Players School of Music in Clearwater Florida where he studied with Bass master Jeff Berlin. He subsequently went to Berklee School of Music where he graduated in 2003. Adolfredo is now based in the UK and is much in demand in Europe on the Latin, Jazz and World Music circuits.

Chino Martell Morgan grew up in Cardenas in Matanzas province in Cuba. He started playing percussion in his teens, influenced by hearing the elderly locals play percussion in the district bars. He briefly attended Cuban music school and played with renowned Cuban drummer Miguel Zulueta and a number of Latin jazz bands. Chino now resides in the UK where he is in demand on the Latin scene and has frequently played at leading venues such as Ronnie Scotts and throughout Europe.

Buster Birch has a degree in music from the University of London and a post-graduate diploma in jazz performance from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. He also studied at the Drummers Collective in New York City and privately with Joe Morello. He has been a freelance professional musician for over 20 years in a wide variety of musical fields and has performed at virtually every major concert hall and jazz club in London as well as major international festivals and toured in over 30 countries. He has backed some of the UKs finest jazz musicians, recorded with critically acclaimed "world" music groups, freelanced with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, played for west end shows and commercial pop studio sessions. He is also a member of the jazz faculty at Trinity Conservatoire of Music and has lectured at several FE and HE institutions on many different areas of music

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