

WHAHAY



Paul Rogers: 7 strings double bass
Robin Fincker: tenor saxophone, clarinet
Fabien Duscombs: drums

Improvisations from compositions by Charles MINGUS

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Line-up:

Paul ROGERS : 7 strings double bass

Robin FINCKER : tenor saxophone, clarinet

Fabien DUSCOMBS : drums

Recorded, mixed and mastered: studios La Buissonne, february and may 2014, by Gérard DE HARO and Nicolas BAILLARD, assisted by Romain CASTERA.

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WHAHAY is a member of **Freddy Morezon PROD**. An artistic touring agent and production company based in Toulouse working in the fields of Jazz and world music crossing aesthetics in order to offer its public innovative musical forms.

www.freddymorezon.org



BABEL LABEL

The album Whahay beneficiates from a new partnership from Freddy Morezon PROD with the **Babel Label** which will licence the album in the United Kingdom and acts as press agent for international press. Babellabel.co.uk

Whahay

In 2012, Paul Rogers contacted Robin Fincker for the creation of a trio around themes by Charles Mingus played freely within improvisations. From this starting point, the trio conceived a « musical suite », performed as one long piece directly drawing from the music of the great American composer whilst being filled with the liberty-takings of European Jazz.

Whahay – an homage to the joyful exclamations dear to Mingus' titles – was born, a trio manipulated by three actors of today's improvised music scene, capable of combining the lyricism of the blues with noise Improv, and implacable grooves with the most exalted Free-Jazz.

During its multiple incursions in this musical « magic mirror », the trio forged its sound, its sense of narrative and found its way...

To record its first album and transcribe the energy and vast palette of timbres of the band, *Whahay* called upon Gerard de Haro and the Studios La Buissonne, a genuine reference in Jazz recordings in Europe and birthplace of countless landmark recordings.

Paul Rogers' hybrid double bass, a unique 7 strings instrument added by 14 sympathetic strings transforms itself successively through the music in a Baroque Viol, an African Thumb-Piano, a drone or a northern Folk Violin. Robin Fincker's Saxophone and Clarinet shape the in-drought to propel the music from an « Aylerian » *Pithecanthropus Erectus* to a version of *Reincarnation of a Lovebird* with Minimal Electro-Acoustic Music colours. Fabien Duscombs' drums announces *Canon* coming and summons everyone for *Bird Call* whilst multiplying his playgrounds, thus modulating the heartbeat of the trio.

In this music, no leader or accompanist, no conservatism or false avant-gardism, just one watchword:

Whahay!

UPCOMING SHOWS

11/11/2014 – Nevers Jazz Festival, Nevers

13/11/2014 – Vortex Jazz Club, London (UK)

19/11/2014 – La Dynamo de Banlieues Bleues, Paris

20/11/2014 – Espace Croix-Baragnon , Toulouse
Special Guests : Christine Wodraska & Jean Yves Evrard

21/11/2014 – Made In Jazz, Toulouse (31) – 6 pm, vinyl launch !

21/11/2014 – Espace Croix-Baragnon, Toulouse
Special Guests : Christine Wodraska & Jean Yves Evrard

22/11/2014 – Charlie Free, Vitrolles

12/12/2014 – Jazz en Scenes Festival, Le Petit Fauchoux, Tours

25/02/2015 – Le Periscope, Lyon

26/02/2015 – AJMI, Avignon

27/02/2015 – Jazzebre, Perpignan

03 or 4/06/2015 – Jazzdor Festival, Berlin (G)

24/06/2015 – Festival Jazz et musique improvisée en Franche-Comté, Besançon

SELECTED PAST SHOWS

Festivals:

Europjazz Festival (Le Mans), Les rendez-vous de l'Erdre (Nantes), Jazz à Luz (Luz-st-Sauveur), Jazz sur son 31 (Toulouse), Semaine Jazz à Cugnaux, Vagues de Jazz (Les Sables d'Olonne), Evan Parker's Might I Suggest festival (London)...

Clubs/Theatres:

Le Vortex Jazz Club (London), Un Pavé dans le Jazz (Toulouse), [Djazz] 51 (Reims), La Dynamo de Banlieues Bleues (Paris), Le Pannonica (Nantes) L'Atelier du Plateau (Paris), Birmingham Jazz (Birmingham)...

Paul Rogers

"The Music I play is for everyone"

Paul Rogers is one of the greats. A rebel musician, always on the edge, he has been pursuing for over three decades an exemplary path, without ever making any concessions and with integrity, a seriousness and a sincerity that forces respect. His sound world, fed by free jazz as much as Baroque music, Folk music or the dirtiest Punk is one of the



richest and most original there is. A sound world without boundaries and which could not have tolerated the limits of an instrument. Before even starting to go around in circles with the double bass, he decided a few years ago, to get rid of his « grand mother » and get this 7 string bass prototype built for him, which he hasn't let go of since.

If he always excels alongside the greatest improvisers in the world, his solo sets are definitely high art and reveal a magic, a sense of lyricism and drama that few are capable of. The ego always at its place, far from the virtuosic performance (although it so easily could be...), Paul Rogers takes us by the hand and brings us into a « musical somewhere else » from which we never quite emerge unscathed.

In 1974, Paul plays in the clubs in London and meets saxophonist Mike Osborne. He will soon start playing alongside Elton Dean, Keith Tippett, John Stevens, Howard Riley, Stan Tracey, Ken Hyder, Alan Skidmore, Evan Parker, Tony Marsh, Kenny Wheeler or John Etheridge.

Follows a regular collaboration with drummer Tony Levin in Alan Skidmore and Paul Dunmall's trios. In 1986, he joins Keith Tippett's quartet Mujician, with whom he will record several albums for *Cuneiform Records*.

In 1987, Paul lives in New York and plays with Gerry Hemingway, Don Byron, Myra Melford, Mark Dresser, Tom Cora and Tim Berne. Soon after his return in Europe, he joins the de Pip Pyle Equip'Out with Elton Dean and Sophia Domancich. He then settled in France where he has lived since and brought his known creative force to many projects as well as touring as a solo.

Robin Fincker

French saxophonist and clarinetist Robin Fincker lived in London for over 10 years and now divides his time between the British and the French music scenes. He is a member of several music collectives such as Surnatural Orchestra, COAX or Freddy Morezon in France and LOOP in the UK (of which he is a founding member). He has studied at the Guildhall School of Music (London) and the Conservatoire Supérieur de Musique de Paris (CNSMDParis).

A proactive project instigator and an in-demand sideman, Robin's work is reflective of his taste for new experiences as well as his desire to draw from a musical spectrum that is freed from stylistic concerns, where Jazz cohabits with Improvised music, Rock or Electronic music.



Since 2005 he co-leads Outhouse, which became one of the leading groups of the young London contemporary-Jazz scene. He was also noticed through his other projects such as Blink (his trio with Pianist Alcyona Mick) or Splice, an "electro-acoustic" quartet investigating the possibilities of real-time electronic processing in composition and improvisation.

Following his return in France in 2009, Robin founded the septet Tweedle Dee with guitarist Julien Desprez and key musicians from Paris and London. He also joined the large ensemble Surnatural Orchestra as well as Vincent Courtois' trio: The Mediums with whom he toured extensively. He has also shared the stage or recorded with the likes of Evan Parker, Bill Frisell, Hilmar Jensson, Vincent Courtois, Jeanne Added, Mikkel Ploug, Denis Badault, Mike Gibbs, John Tchicai, Stian Westerhus, Eve Risser....

In the past years Robin has been performing actively on the European contemporary Jazz scene and in many festivals including London Jazz Festival, Jazzdor Festival (FR), Banlieues Bleues (FR), Koktebel Jazz Festival (UA), Cheltenham Jazz Festival (UK), Bray Jazz Festival (IE), Jazz Sous les Pommiers (FR), Traumzeit (D), dBale Electronic music fest (CH).

His discography holds over 25 recordings including 10 as a leader/co-leader and his music was recorded several times for radio programs on BBC, Radio France or WDR.

Fabien Duscombs

A self-taught drummer, Fabien's vast panel of work since he became a professional musician in 1992 shows not only a knack for unexpected encounters but also an ability to bring his hugely personal sense of music into all sorts of contexts.

In 1996, Fabien was a founding member of the very active Toulouse-based Collective: CUF (translate: ultra frail conspiracy).

A leading figure of Toulouse's improvised music scene he has played with Noel Akchoté Denis Badault, François Merville, Médéric Collignon John Tchicai, Eugène Chadbourne Hasse Poulsen and saxophonist Akosh S. He has also worked on several occasions with story-teller Didier Kowarsky.

Very keen on the idea of « bands », he plays mostly with La Friture Moderne, Le Tigre des Platanes, Cannibales & Vahinés (with G.W. Sok from The Ex), Farm Job, trio Kazanchis, les Tobrogoï, le Grand Ecart du Singe, and in several improvised music projects. He also has a long running collaboration with Ethiopian musicians such as singer Eténèsh Wassé and the great Krar player Mésélé Asmamaw.

