

Brad Shepik was born in Walla Walla, Washington 1966 and raised in Seattle. He played guitar and saxophone in school bands and attended Cornish College of the Arts where he studied with Jerry Granelli, Julian Priester, Dave Peck, James Knapp, Dave Petersen and Ralph Towner.

In 1990 Brad moved to New York and dived head first into the music scene. He quickly became involved in the formation of a loose collective of improvising musicians who were into experimenting and playing each other's music, as well as different folk musics including Balkan and Eastern European musics. Out of this environment was born many groups that Shepik continues to perform with today including the Tiny Bell Trio 1992, Paradox Trio 1992, Pachora 1993, and BABKAS 1992-8. In 1991 Bill Frisell recommended Shepik to Paul Motion for his Electric Be Bop Band which Shepik toured and recorded with for five years.

"Shepik's got the mind of a pioneer. The rhythmic complexity of his compositions has few parallels in jazz – or any other genre, for that matter. With all his exotic influences, and all his different axes, he makes us rethink what it means to be a guitarist and a musician. There's no telling where he'll go next." allaboutjazz.com

Iconoclastic and prolific jazz-rock guitarist David 'Fuze' Fiuczynski, a jazz player who "doesn't want to play just jazz", has been hailed by the world press as an incredibly inventive guitar hero, who continues to deliver with music that is unclassifiable, challenging and invigorating.

In 1994 David, in collaboration with John Medeski, woke up the sleeping jazz fusion world with a landmark album, "Lunar Crush", chosen by Guitar Player as a "Disc of Destiny" – in their estimation, one of the most influential albums of the last thirty years. Fuze's signature palette of otherworldly guitar sounds and enormous chops received astonished accolades from critics and fans alike and landed him on the cover of Guitar Player as a trailblazer who could "change the way you play!".

Just a year after Lunar Crush, Fuze released another influential album as bandleader and primary writer with his long-time group Screaming Headless Torsos for Warner/Discovery Records. The Torsos, chosen by Musician magazine as one of the top ten bands of 1996, were described as "brilliantly blending jazz know-how with a love for heavy riffs". They inspired fans, other musicians, and even numbers of cover bands all over the world, and toured Europe, Japan, North America and Canada.

"(Fiuczynski) reveals a sense of humour that few true virtuosos dare to show. For sheer chops, imagination and raw abandon, no one can touch this Fuze." Pulse!

Unfortunately cancelled last season but back to play only two UK dates: Leeds and the London Festival.

The Bad Plus is three post-modern jazz iconoclasts who combine keen wit, dynamic musical contrasts, and an original sensibility in what's been called "the loudest piano trio ever."

Drawing inspiration from the worlds of dance, pop, and rock, The Bad Plus gracefully avoid the stigma of 'fusion', instead deconstructing their influences in a steadfastly pure jazz idiom all their own.

With 'These Are The Vistas', the group's major label debut on Columbia, The Bad Plus unveil original compositions from each band member and newly-recorded versions of three of their trademark "deconstructions" of classic pop: an elegiac wraithlike "Smells Like Teen Spirit," a mayhem-riddled "Heart of Glass," and a startling rendition of Aphex Twin's "Flim" showcasing both a surgical precision and a rhythmic abandon. When it comes time to select and arrange cover tunes, "We consult an oracle, then duke it out together. We think you should only be limited by imagination, not by style."

"So, if this piano trio wants to play as loud as a rock band...well, let 'em rip....these bad boys have the musicianship to back up their attitude." The New Yorker

Bad Plus' last appearance for Leeds Jazz turned many heads. COME EARLY!

Wednesday November 10 **The Wardrobe** £10/8

Brad Shepik Trio

Brad Shepik – guitar, saxophone
Tom Rainey – drums
Matt Penman – bass



Thursday November 18 **The Wardrobe** £12/10

Screaming Headless Torsos

Dave Fiuczynski – guitar
Dean Bowman – vocals
Fima Ephron – bass
Danny Sadownick – percussion
Gene Lake – drums



Wednesday December 1 **The Wardrobe** £12/10

The Bad Plus

Reid Anderson – bass
Ethan Iverson – piano, Fima Ephron – bass
David King – drums



concerts start at 8.30pm

Advance tickets for all concerts available from: Jumbo Records 5/6 St John's Centre, Leeds LS2 8LQ tel 0113 245 5570 or Small Note, 80 Merrion Street LS2 8LW tel 0113 242 4010. Tickets also at the door, subject to availability.

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october/november/december 04

at the wardrobe



jazz at the wardrobe oct/nov/dec 04

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After spending years touring and recording with diverse artists and groups such as Pachora, Ellery Eskelin, Chris Speed's Yeah No, Tim Berne's Bloodcount, Dave Douglas' Tiny Bell Trio, Uri Caine's Mahler project, and Laurie Anderson, Jim Black released his debut cd as a leader on Winter & Winter Recordings in 2000, followed up two years later with, 'Splay' on the same label.

Performing all of Jim's compositions written specifically for this group, Alas No Axis focuses on lyrical songs and electronic textures – short pieces, melodic guitar-oriented tunes, simple and fractured grooves colored with elements of minimalism and improvisation ... with a band dynamic ranging from soft-drone-pretty ballads cutting to a full-out alternative Seattle-meets-Iceland sound.

Last year's debut in Leeds by Alas No Axis was sensational. If you caught them then you'll definitely need no persuading to see them again; if you missed them, don't make the same mistake this time.

"Fresh from the musical mining colony of Brooklyn, Jim debuts his latest Iceland/Seattle blending, which some could describe as 'small-prov-song chop' or 'semi-stoic, lo-res polyphonic, micro-electronic hard crawl.'" Tonic, NY

Assif Tsahar was born in Israel, 1969 and grew up in Tel-Aviv. In pursuit of music he came to New York in 1990. His new album 'America' with Cooper-Moore was described by Nils Jacobson in Jazz Online as "a near masterpiece ... most certainly not for the faint of heart, despite a generally friendly feel ... unequivocally one of the finest records to emerge this year".

Based in New York City, Cooper-Moore is composer-improviser, instrumentalist, and designer and builder of musical instruments. Cooper-Moore has performed with Joseph Jarman, Diedre Murray, William Parker, Perry Robinson, Susie Ibarra, Warren Smith and Butch Morris; and recorded with Susie Ibarra, William Parker, David S. Ware and Steve Swell.

"Few young jazz players generate the kind of buzz among New York cognoscenti that tenor saxophonist Assif Tsahar, have over the past couple of years ... through shifts in register and tonal quality, Tsahar has a knack for creating the illusion that he is playing more than one instrument – This is some of the least dense and frenetic free jazz to come out of New York, and some of the most emotionally affecting." Jazziz

Note – This is a joint promotion with the Termite Club, at the Adelphi Hotel, 1–5 Hunslet Road, Leeds, LS10 1JQ, UK. Doors 8pm.

Guitarist/composer/vocalist Joel Harrison occupies a musical space among many worlds. His medium is primarily Jazz, but the music emanates from a rich variety of sources: American Roots, African and Indian, Contemporary Classical all have a place in his unique voice. His music manages to be both highly creative and wonderfully entertaining. Best known for his composing/arranging skills, Harrison has twice won the Jazz Composer's Alliance Jazz Composition Competition. He composed the soundtrack for HBO's Southern Comfort which has won numerous awards including the Grand Jury Prize at 2001's Sundance Film Festival.

Harrison on Harrison is a new project that gives a uniquely creative Jazz spin to George Harrison's compositions. This is no Beatle's tribute – it is a completely fresh look at his work, both well known and lesser-known tunes. As usual, Joel Harrison finds a way to open up the music in intriguing ways; Indian music, rock n' roll, African rhythms, gorgeous harmony, and extended improvisation all play a part. As in 'Free Country', Joel Harrison's vision as an arranger of George's music is singular.

A date clash at the Wardrobe last year meant Joel Harrison appeared at the Atrium to a very small audience but one long established Leeds Jazz associate was heard to eulogize, 'Best gig I've ever seen'. DON'T MISS!

Marc Ribot was born in Newark, New Jersey in 1954. Moving to New York City in 1978, he worked as a sideman with musicians such as jazz organist Jack McDuff and soul singer Wilson Pickett. He also joined the Stax/Volt oriented Realtones/Uptown Horns Band, who from 1979 through 1983 served as a NY pick-up band for performers Chuck Berry, Carla Thomas, Rufus Thomas, Solomon Burke, and others.

From 1984 through 1989, Ribot toured and recorded with John Lurie's Lounge Lizards. Dialectically engaging elements of blues tradition with the no-wave aesthetic attention of Tom Waits, Elvis Costello, and other "participants in/escapees from" the rock scene with whom he worked on various projects. Concurrent with these events, Ribot maintained an interest in NYC new music, and has performed and/or recorded with Peter Zummo, Peter Kotik, Elliot Sharp, Anthony Coleman, John Zorn, The Jazz Passengers and Evan Lurie. As a composer of music for his own recordings, it is these "downtown" influences that are perhaps the most pronounced, yet Mr. Ribot still prefers to think of himself as a soul musician.

The Distortion Trio are loud. Having been dubbed as 'The darker sister of the Electric Dr M' it concentrates on producing music at the fringes of definition. Since making their debut appearance at the Mansion Hotel, Distortion Trio continue to produce shifting textures; dirty, grinding bass grooves and noise – carving slabs of extremely intense sound and ear splitting high frequencies within close range of each other. Despite the underground activities of this group they have used Bourne's accolades (Perrier Jazz Awards 2001, BBC Radio Jazz Award for Innovation, 2002) to get gigs in Europe, culminating in their critically acclaimed performance in Krakow, December 2003. Bring Earplugs.

Sam Rivers is a living legend. A virtuoso soloist on saxophones and a devastatingly original flautist, he is also one of the great composers, whose work digs into the entire history of the music, delving into tradition as well as challenging the boundaries.

Sam Rivers' musical roots go deep into the bedrock of jazz – he played with Jimmy Witherspoon in the 40s, Billie Holiday, Miles Davis and many more besides during the 50s and 60s, and became one of the key movers and shakers of the revolutionary movement that changed the course of jazz history during the 60s, playing with Cecil Taylor, Andrew Hill and McCoy Tyner, and recording for Blue Note. In the 70s he occupied a pivotal position in the jazz avant garde – his loft, the Rivbea Studio, became a hive of activity for a new generation of younger players, while his trio with Dave Holland was one of the key small bands of its time.

For this CMN tour, his working US trio is complemented by a specially recruited British big band – featuring some of the most exciting names on the scene. Leeds Jazz is extremely proud to present this date.

Wednesday October 20 **The Wardrobe** £10/8

Alas No Axis

Jim Black – drums
Hilmar Jensson – guitar
Skuli Sverrisson – electric bass
Chris Speed – tenor sax/clarinet

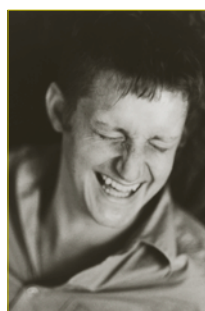


photo Caroline Mardok

Thursday October 21 **The Adelphi** £8/5

Assif Tsahar and Cooper-Moore

Assif Tsahar – tenor sax, bass clarinet
Cooper-Moore – diddley-bo, banjo, mouth bow, drum-skins & cymba



photo Claudio Casanova

Tuesday October 26 **The Wardrobe** £10/8

Joel Harrison's 'Harrison on Harrison'

Joel Harrison – guitars, vocals
Gary Versace – organ/piano
Dan Weiss – drums
Julian Arguelles – saxophone



Wednesday November 3 **The Wardrobe** £10/8

Marc Ribot + Distortion Trio

Marc Ribot – Guitar
Distortion Trio
Chris Sharkey – Guitar
Dave Black – Drumset & Electronics
Matthew Bourne – Fender Rhodes and Synthesizer



Marc Ribot

Tuesday November 9 **The Wardrobe** £12/10

Sam Rivers Trio + Rivbea Orchestra UK

Sam Rivers Trio
Sam Rivers – saxophones/flute
Doug Matthews – bass, bass clarinet
Anthony Cole – drums, tenor saxophone
Rivbea Orchestra UK
Byron Wallen, Kevin Robinson, Chris Batchelor, Noel Langley (tbc) – Trumpets
Fayez Virjii, Roland Bates, Pat Hartley (tbc) – Trombones
Andy Grappy – Tuba
Jason Yarde, Phil Todd, Tony Kofi, Iain Ballamy (tbc), Denys Baptiste (tbc) – Saxophones



Sam Rivers

more



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