

The **Brit Jazz Week** is launching its innovative European tour with an exclusive three nights of preview performances from 11-13 March at London's Pizza Express Jazz Club.

As one of the first major projects from the new Air Artist Agency, organised by London-based German promoter Burkhard Hopper – best known as EST's manager, the Brit Jazz Week in Germany and Austria features an exciting line up of six of the UK's hottest jazz talents and is a huge opportunity for these home-grown UK acts to be shown off to and gain standing in these two countries.



Comprising of 76 gigs across 13 different cities and performances from a different band each night with styles and influences as wide-ranging as Indian music, hip hop, rap, trip-hop and rock, the bands involved are: ex-Portishead jazz-rockers **Get The Blessing**, saxophonist **Jason Yarde** (*pictured*), Indo-Jazz clarinetist **Arun Ghosh**, pianist **Kit Downes**, **The Julian Siegel Quartet** and rapper-saxophonist **Soweto Kinch**. The preview at the Pizza Express Jazz Club includes Get the Blessing and Arun Ghosh (11 Mar); Julian Siegel Quartet (12 Mar) and the Kit Downes Trio and Jason Yarde/Andrew McCormack (13

Mar).

The European Tour dates for the first week from 14-19 March are Unterfahrt (Munich); A-Trane (Berlin); Birdland (Hamburg); Stadtgarten (Cologne); Domicile (Dortmund); Tollhaus and Kulturzentrum Tempel (Karlsruhe). The second week 21-26 March is at Burg Vischering (Lüdinghausen), Brotfabrik (Frankfurt); Feuerwache (Mannheim); Neues Theater (Passau); Treibhaus (Innsbruck); Oxymoron (Linz); and Reigen (Vienna).

– Himali Dave

For full details go to www.britjazzweek.com