

EJAZZNEWS

Brit Jazz German blitz imminent

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One of the greatest Anglo-German musical events of 2011 is set to take place this month.

Brit-Jazz, during the month of March, will see British jazz musicians perform in major cities across Austria and Germany. A record 75 shows will be staged over two weeks. Fourteen clubs in 13 different cities will be running a 'Brit-Jazz-Week' and hosting performances from a different one of the bands each night.

With diverse influences encompassing Indian music, Hip-Hop, Rap, Trip-Hop and Rock, the groups and personalities at the forefront of this exciting musical venture are saxophonist Jason Yarde, pianist Kit Downes, The Julian Siegel Quartet, rapper-saxophonist Soweto Kinch, Indo-Jazz Clarinettist Arun Ghosh, and ex-Portishead Jazz-Rockers Get The Blessing. This line-up has won several prestigious awards for jazz, such as the Mercury Music Prize, and the MOBO and MOJO Jazz Award.

According to Matt Fripp of the Air Artist Agency, who are organising the whole Brit Jazz Week:

"The British jazz scene is such an exciting and creative place at the moment and the Brit Jazz Week concept will give audiences in every major city in Germany and Austria a real taste of what UK jazz is about. With 75 shows over 2 weeks, this is surely one of the biggest events of its kind and will hopefully open the floodgates to an even greater presence of British Jazz in Europe."

The tour will be launched with 3 nights of performances in London's Pizza Express Jazz Club on the 11th, 12th and 13th of March 2011. The German launch is on March 14th in Berlin where the British Ambassador in Germany, Mr. Simon McDonald, will open the series.