# TOMORROW IS THE QUESTION: WHO TO LOOK OUT FOR IN 2014

For those who fear the demise of anything of real musical value today – especially as the talent-show tainted mainstream solidifies into a primary coloured wodge of tasteless auto-tuned pap – we ask those in the know just who will be the musical saviours of tomorrow, to name the sonic explorers set to restore our faith that the good will out. And believe us comrades, in these tough times, it sure needs to...



#### Tony Hall, Jazzwise

Though now in his very early fifties, altoist **David Binney** deserves much greater recognition here. Though stylistically different, his emotional, passionate playing is in the Jackie McLean class. In the UK: praise for saxist Simon Allen and pianists Leon Greening and Barry Green.

## Helen Mayhew, Jazz FM

Singer and arranger Jacob Collier has got talent to burn. He's studying piano on the jazz course at the Royal Academy of Music in London, but is already on the radar of some of the biggest names in the business... click on his youtube videos to see why. Trombonist Tom Green's septet is on tour in December, and if his concert at the Forge in London in the summer was anything to go by, the music he writes and plays is absolutely gorgeous.

# Chris Hodgkins, Jazz Services

Guitarist **Ant Law** Quartet is one to watch. Expect a lot more from trumpeter and composer **Laura Jurd** and look out for drummer **Moses Boyd** too.

#### Jon Newey, Jazzwise

Roller Trio's blistering date at Ronnie Scott's in late August really nailed them as one of the most powerful and imaginative new forces in UK music, rocking a sonic armada of feral improv, fire-breathing jazz-rock, ear-worm melodies and Middle Eastern drones. Their confidence has grown immeasurably in recent months and anticipation is already hot for the spring release of the band's second album, the follow-up to their Mercury and Mobo award nominated debut.

# Mike Chadwick, Jazz FM, Band on the Wall

My one to watch in 2014 is **Tin Men** & the **Telephone**, a really unique trio from Holland with six feet in the future. Download their app for endless hours of amusement and a unique insight into a different way of doing things, oh, and the music is pretty incredible too.

# Robert Shore, Jazzwise, Metro

Paris-based English sax player Amy Gamlen's Direction album suggests a major talent in the making. Based on his latest New Orleans-meets-21stcentury London project, Brass Mask, I'd say the Loop Collective's composer/



saxophonist **Tom Challenger** is worth tuning into.

#### John Fordham, The Guardian

Elliott Galvin, one of the most creative members of London's young Chaos Collective. Recent Trinity Laban piano graduate Galvin seems to have it all – formidable straight-jazz chops, crossgenre fluency, a big appetite for improv and experimentation, original composing skills, and uncanny listening powers.

# Stuart Nicholson, Jazzwise

Born in Berlin but now Cologne resident, pianist Laia Genc's Australia & Beyond (2011) revealed an artist of poise and maturity who, in live performance, has got into the habit of provoking standing ovations. Now she's finally getting her due with features in the European jazz press such as Jazzthetik and Jazznytt for her stunning album Talisman. It looks like she's on her way and good luck to her; they don't come much better.

# **Amy Pearce, Serious**

Jaimeo Brown – taking jazz back into the clubs with some blues, rock and Indian samples thrown into the mix.

#### Paul Pace, Ronnie Scott's Club, Spice of Life

Trombonist **Tom Green** who garnered this year's Dankworth Prize for Jazz Composition, is an exciting vibrant player both in small groups and the big band he currently leads with trumpeter James Davison. Also, keep an eye out for harpist **Tori Handsley** whose uncluttered approach delivers a fresh angle to the scene.

# Jez Nelson, BBC Radio 3

The Irish, London-based singer Lauren Kinsella. Her abstract approach to vocal improvisation is both in a fine tradition for female vocalists from these islands and a breath of fresh air. She massively impressed in Laura Jurd's band in a recent Jazz On 3 session. Looking forward to more from her and the rest of the Chaos Collective soon

# Mike Flynn, Jazzwise

Jacob Collier has taken the music world by storm with the brilliance and originality of his vocal harmonies and singing – not to mention his abilities as virtuosic pianist and multi-



instrumentalist. The joy he exudes and love of all musical styles is also very refreshing.

#### Tony Dudley-Evans, Jazzlines, Cheltenham Jazz Festival

My choice is **Luis Mather**, one of our Jerwood Jazzlines Fellows. He runs a small group called Noose for which he has written very interesting material incorporating the vocals of Holly Thomas. He plays saxophone and also writes for and runs large ensembles. His Jerwood showcase will be in March 2014 in Birmingham.

#### Marcus O'Dair, Jazzwise

Koenigleopold. You might not want to listen to them every day, but for a live experience – and a way to show non-believers that jazz (or dada-ragga-art-prank) really isn't always dinnerparty-friendly – look no further than this jaw-dropping Austrian duo.

# Brian Glasser, Jazzwise

Aaron Parks: his solo piano album on ECM called *Arborescence* makes you think 'Jarrett' – but Parks has lots of other stuff in his locker too. A comer.

# Mike Hobart, Financial Times and Jazzwise

Drummer **Obed Calvaire**, born in Miami to Haitian parents, has just replaced Eric Harland in the SFJAZZ Collective and nailed it. Great sound, super technique and earthy with it. And in the UK, trumpeter Laura Jurd's getting stronger by the day and deserves the attention she is getting.

# Chris Philips, Jazz FM

I'm excited about young Brit drummer Ollie Howell who has just released an album on Whirlwind Recordings with a fierce young quintet, Sutures and Stitches. Ollie is just 24 and plays with an intrepid self belief that belies his youth, after good advice and mentoring by none other than Quincy Jones and drum teacher Jimmy Cobb. Top that! All after overcoming a serious brain illness, which confined him to hospital for quite a stretch. One to watch.

#### Rob Adams, Glasgow Herald

Glasgow-based saxophonist **Brian Molley** recently released his first album, *Clock*, at the relatively advanced age of
36. A grounded, well-rounded player,

he focuses on note choices rather than chops and leads a very persuasive, inventive quartet.

# Daniel Spicer, Jazzwise/The Wire

Let's hope British improvising trio of Corey Mwamba, Dave Kane and Joshua Blackmore reaches a bigger audience: a high-functioning group mind dedicated to generating spontaneous beauty. More please.

#### Peter Bacon, thejazzbreakfast.com

Dan Nicholls, keyboard player, saxophonist, composer and current Jerwood Foundation/Jazzlines Fellow, incorporates political and social comment into his mix of jazz and electronics. He is currently researching West African music while developing a new hybrid instrument. A true original.

# Andy Robson, Jazzwise

Looking ahead it's a toss up between those collective makers of Chaos, **Elliot Galvin**: pianist, composer, educator, Yamaha Scholar for 2013 and **Laura Jurd**, trumpeter.

# Oliver Weindling, Babel Records

It's unusual to have three siblings emerge at almost the same time, but such is the case with the Roth brothers: Nick (saxophones), Alex (guitar) and Simon (drums). They are all great composers in their own rights, determined to create music that communicates without compromising.

#### Alyn Shipton, The Times, Jazzwise and BBC Radio 3

The musician to watch this year is tenor saxophonist **Nadim Teimoori**. He's been a star soloist with NYJO for some time, but his work with Stan Tracey's Octet has been exemplary. He plays with a maturity way beyond his 23 years.

# Seb Scotney, londonjazznnews.com

In early 2014 expect to be **Elliot Galvin**-ised (ouch) as the versatile pianist launches his debut album; and plug into the coruscating live energy of drummer **Pedro Segundo**'s new quartet with pianist **Reuben James**.

#### John Lyons, Jazz UK

Trombonist **Tom Green** won the 2013 Dankworth Prize for Jazz Composition, and with his debut album due in early 2014 he should be an interesting prospect for the year ahead.

## Steve Rubie, 606 Club

Although she's been around a little while now, saxophonist **Tori Freestone** is starting to really find her sound and is well worth watching in 2014. And a fresh face to the UK scene, singer Zoe Francis promises to bring something unique to the American songbook.