

## *Heads South*

Jazz Salsa group Heads South are delighting their growing audiences. Their music combines terrific rhythm and great new melody in a superb repertoire of original compositions and arrangements of well loved tunes. This is premium quality Latin Jazz that appeals both to the keen concert hall listener and the dancefloor lover.

Heads South is led by pianist composer John Harriman and features the outstanding UK jazz trumpeter Steve Waterman, Cuban percussionist Chino Martell Morgan, drummer Buster Birch and New Zealander Tim Robertson on bass. "Heads South play Latin jazz like they've been doing it all their lives. Their musicianship is impeccable. But more importantly, they play with a real feel and spirit for the music...." says Nigel Williamson long time music correspondent of The Times & Mercury Awards judge. "Top flight trumpeter..firing rhythm section" Timeout. This is a line-up of talented jazz musicians drawn to the sounds of diverse cultures and 'Las Tierras Latinas'. They all have trophies to their names elsewhere.

**John Harriman** has worn a number of hats in something of an odyssey that ranges from having been a celebrated boy singer as Head Chorister of Westminster Cathedral and a soloist at the Royal Opera, where he rubbed shoulders with the likes of Benjamin Britten and Msislav Rostopovich, to the thrills and spills of playing piano in California bars including witnessing blood on his 88s' from a brawl between a Mexican gentleman and a French Canadian in downtown Hollywood! John's music reflects his diverse background, with Irish, French & English grandparents, he lived in the USA for many years and nowadays often decamps to his Spanish wife's Castilian homeland. He has also had a demanding 'day job' but in recent years has returned to performing and composing with a vengeance.

**Steve Waterman** is one of the UK's leading jazz trumpeters. He began his career while studying at the Trinity College of Music and since then has performed extensively in the British and European jazz scene. Steve has a remarkable recording career spanning 20 years and has worked with a great variety of jazz and cabaret artists worldwide. He is professor of Jazz Trumpet at The Royal Academy of Music in London.

**Chino Martell Morgan** grew up in Cardenas in Matanzas province in Cuba. He started playing percussion in his late teens, influenced by hearing the elderly locals play percussion in the district bars. He briefly attended Cuban music school and played with renowned Cuban drummer Miguel Zulueta and a number of Latin jazz bands. Chino now resides in the UK where he is in demand in salsa and jazz groups and has played at leading venues including Ronnie Scotts and the Jazz Café.

Playing professionally since his teens, **Buster Birch** is a highly regarded and versatile drummer. Having studied in London and New York, he has played with many of the UK's finest jazz musicians and he has extensive recording credits. He plays a variety of styles of music and is a percussionist in two respected world music groups

**Tim Robertson** is one of New Zealand's leading bassists. He located to the UK after studying under a scholarship at the Royal Conservatorium in Den Haag in the Netherlands. Tim is an in demand player on both electric and acoustic basses, having performed internationally at arts festivals, musical theatre tours and on high profile recordings.

Heads South's music is fresh, encompassing memorable new tunes such as El Cardenal, Juntito and Sweet Swan as well as new arrangements of classics such as Mack the Knife and Besame Mucho. Think Buena Vista Social Club, add the excitement of Jazz, tuneful new melody, the warmth of a Latin evening, grooving away into the night...

For more information go to [www.headssouth.com](http://www.headssouth.com) Tel 44 (0) 7711 138780