

Heads South

Heads South's reputation has grown fast since its relatively recent formation. The five piece Latin Jazz Band is led by pianist composer John Harriman and features top UK jazz trumpeter Steve Waterman, Cuban percussionist Chino Martell Morgan, drummer Buster Birch and Uruguayan Andres Lafone on bass. The Band's music combines terrific rhythm and tuneful melody in a superb repertoire of original compositions and arrangements of classic tunes. This is premium quality Latin Jazz that appeals both to the keen concert hall listener and the dancefloor lover.

Heads South's debut album Record Flight has received wide acclaim: "Cool, cultured and exhilarating.. The start of something very special " The Musician. "Crisp, invigorating Latin Jazz..Waterman's mastery of this idiom suits Harriman's deceptively simple melodies to perfection" The Observer/Guardian "An effervescent collection of Latin favorites and original compositions in the Cuban tradition with plenty of jazz content from excellent players.." Jazz UK "seriously on-target musicianship. It takes top-drawer talent to pull off the percolating rhythms..as well as original Latin jazz songs that distinguish themselves..." All About Jazz "The quintet infuse everything they play with appropriate pep and vigour...bright, breezy and accessible, Record Flight is an enjoyable calling card for a refreshingly unpretentious but musicianly band". Chris Parker Reviews Vortex Jazz Club The album received extensive airplay worldwide including on the top US radio station Jazzradio.com, JazzFM, BBC radio and Swiss Jazz Radio.

Heads South 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 including having been a celebrated boy singer as Head Chorister of Westminster Cathedral and at the Royal Opera where he rubbed shoulders with the likes of Benjamin Britten and Msitislav Rostopovich, to the thrills and spills of playing piano in a variety of colourful California nightclubs. 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. John has played with a range of leading artists including Mark Lockheart, Steve Waterman, Nick Smart, Jo Fooks and Mike Hext and in the USA with one of the leading California big bands with guest artists such as Phil Woods and Woody Shaw.

Steve Waterman is one of the Europe'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 throughout Europe.

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. Buster is a professor of music at Trinity College London.

Originally from Uruguay, bass guitarist **Andres Lafone** has been at the forefront of the European Latin scene since the late eighties. The artists he has toured or recorded with include Snowboy, Airto Moreira, Da Lata, Mike Lindup, Arakatuba, Matt Bianco, Basia, Charlie Palmieri and John Cleary. He has played at all the major European Jazz festivals and has performed throughout the world, including China, Japan, South Africa and USA. Alternate bassist **Tim Robertson** is one of New Zealand's finest players. 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.

For more information go to www.headssouth.com Tel 44 (0) 7711 138780