

## THE WOODWINDS

### *Soprano Sax/Alto Sax: Lucas Dodd*



Due to his incredible technique and sound Lucas is undoubtedly one of the finest young lead alto saxophonists and soprano sax specialists in the country today. A former lead alto saxophonist with NYJO, after graduating from Trinity College of Music in 2011, Lucas has gone on to work with a whole host of different large jazz ensembles, including the Glenn Miller Orchestra, the Laurence Cottle Big Band, the Gareth Lockrane Big Band, and the Ronnie Scott's Jazz Orchestra. He was recently selected for the 2013 European Youth Jazz Orchestra by a panel of jazz greats – the only UK citizen to be chosen this year. As a bandleader, he co-leads the Sack-O-Woe quintet with trumpeter Mark Crown – his tribute to idol Cannonball Adderley.

### *Alto Sax/Soprano Sax: Jim Gold*

Jim is an alto saxophonist and a current member of the National Youth Jazz Orchestra, as well as a previous finalist of the IAPS Young Musician of the Year. Having studied with Steve Main and Mark Hanslip, he has performed at all the major London jazz clubs with groups such as Organism, an organ project co-led by Callum Au and Rob Luft, and Tomorrow's Face. He has been a featured soloist at the Sage Gateshead and the Royal Festival Hall, and recently appeared with NYJO at the BBC Proms.

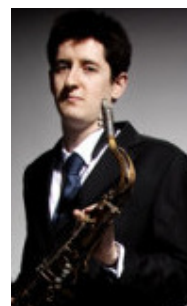


### *Tenor Sax/Flute/Clarinet: Simon Marsh*

Simon graduated from Trinity College of Music in June 2011, having studied there under Simon Purcell, Mark Lockheart, and Martin Speake. He is an exceptionally gifted multi-instrumentalist woodwind doubler, being equally at home on alto, tenor, or baritone saxophone, flutes, or clarinets; and has held every single saxophone chair with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra at one point or another. Simon has worked with many of the country's finest jazz musicians, including John Dankworth, Jason Rebello, Iain Ballamy, Peter King, Henry Lowther, Pete Saberton, Clark Tracey, and Julian Siegel. He plays regularly with the London Jazz Orchestra, and is a writer for the Callum Au Big Band.

### *Tenor Sax: Tommy Laurence*

Tommy is primarily an arranger/orchestrator, with recent film credits as an assistant orchestrator including 'Avengers: Assemble' and 'The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2'. Other arranging work includes several projects for the BBC Big Band, as well as arrangements for the SWR Big Band, the BBC Concert Orchestra, and several arrangements for 'The Voice UK', the Final 8 Album. He has also contributed several charts to the library of the Callum Au Big Band. As a saxophonist, he has worked with the Ronnie Scott's Jazz Orchestra; Pete Long's Gillespiana; Peter Grant; Carleen Anderson; as well as leading and playing in the Solution Horns.



### *Baritone Sax/Clarinet/Bass Clarinet: Richard Shepherd*



Richard is a formidable talent on the UK Jazz scene, and a versatile improviser and multi-reedist. Both a NYJO veteran and graduate of the Royal Academy of Music, he has performed with such artists as Phil Woods, Jon Faddis, Stan Tracey and Alan Barnes, and worked in big band settings including the John Dankworth Orchestra, Tim Garland's Northern Underground Orchestra, the Ronnie Scott's Jazz Orchestra, the BBC Big Band, and Frank Griffith's Big Band. In addition, he regularly fronts his own small group, the Richard Shepherd Bopset, and his own larger group, featuring many of the London scene's finest players. Elsewhere, he can be heard on the soundtrack to Gerry Anderson's 'Dick Spanner, P.I.', and recently toured with the band of legendary recording artist Engelbert Humperdinck, including his return appearance at the Royal Albert Hall.

## THE TRUMPETS

### *Trumpet/Flugelhorn: Tom Walsh*



Tom is currently in his final year at the Royal Academy of Music, where he studied under renowned British lead trumpet player Mike Lovatt, and was the recipient of the inaugural Humphrey Lyttleton Jazz Award. He held the lead trumpet chair with NYJO for two years, during which time he worked with Tim Garland, Nikki Iles, and Julian Joseph. At the tender age of 21 years old, his credits already include some of the top names in jazz and commercial music in the UK, including John Wilson, the BBC Big Band, the RTE Concert Orchestra, and the orchestra of the English National Ballet. He is also the leader of the Tom Walsh Septet, a group that features his own jazz writing along with top jazz musicians Sammy Mayne, Nigel Hitchcock, Gareth Lockrane, Calum Gourlay, Dave Hamblett, and Rob Barron.

### *Trumpet/Flugelhorn: George Hogg*

George is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Music, where he studied under British jazz luminary Gerard Presencer. He has recently worked with the Stan Sulzmann Big Band, Back to Basie, and the Ronnie Scott's Jazz Orchestra, and shared the stage with renowned jazz artists Kenny Wheeler, Peter Erskine, and John Taylor. His own dynamic quartet features some of the most in-demand young jazz musicians in the UK.



### *Trumpet/Flugelhorn: Freddie Gavita*



At the age of 26, Freddie has already made a huge mark on the UK Jazz scene. Having performed with the likes of Tim Garland, Gareth Lockrane, and Stan Sulzmann, he is a featured soloist and holds a permanent chair with the Ronnie Scott's Jazz Orchestra. He has also worked with the Syd Lawrence Orchestra and the Laurence Cottle Big Band. Recent pop credits include a world tour with British R&B band US3. He runs a fusion quartet with drummer Mark Fletcher, bassist Steve Pearce, and pianist Jim Watson, which can regularly be seen appearing at Ronnie Scott's club.

### *Trumpet/Flugelhorn: Henry Armburg Jennings*

Since recording his debut album, *Out of the Starting Blocks*, at the tender age of 17, Henry Armburg Jennings has gone on to establish himself as one of the most sought after trumpeters of his generation. His ferocious technique coupled with a true passion for jazz has led to Henry really making a name for himself on the UK jazz scene, resulting in frequent appearances at top-class London venues. As a sideman, Henry has appeared with the Syd Lawrence Orchestra, Pete Long's Gillespiana, the Clark Tracey Quintet, and the Dave O'Higgins Septet. He is a regular bandleader at the Ronnie Scott's Late Late Show.



## THE TROMBONES

### *Trombone/Euphonium: Callum Au*

Callum is a professional trombonist, composer, orchestrator, and arranger. He was taught by ex-Syd Lawrence trumpet player Terry Reaney, and has since studied with jazz trombonists Mark Nightingale and Gordon Campbell. He is a former lead trombonist of NYJO, having held the chair for a total of four years.

As a trombonist, Callum has worked with ensembles including the Ronnie Scott's Jazz Orchestra, the Syd Lawrence Orchestra, the Gareth Lockrane Big Band, and Back to Basie, and musicians as diverse as Nigel Hitchcock, Joss Stone, Stan Sulzmann, and Guy Barker. As a composer and arranger, as well as writing a lot of the music for the Callum Au Big Band, Callum has written or arranged music for groups including the BBC Big Band, the Gordon Campbell Big Band, the RTE Concert Orchestra, the Skelton Skinner All Stars.



### *Trombone: Robbie Harvey*



Robbie is a graduate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where he studied jazz trombone under Malcolm Earle Smith. Between 2006 and 2009, he was awarded the BTS Jiggs Whigham and Don Lusher Prizes; and the ITA Carl Fontana and JJ Johnson Prizes for Jazz Trombone, and was nominated for the WCOM Young Jazz Musician of the Year award. A former lead trombonist of NYJO, his phenomenal technique has since led to him working with many of the top jazz ensembles in the country, including Andy Panayi's Quartet, the BBC Big Band, the Guy Barker Jazz Orchestra, John Dankworth, and the Syd Lawrence Orchestra. Robbie leads a quintet featuring saxophonist Alex Garnett and bassist Adam King, due to be released very soon.

### *Trombone/Bass Trombone: Ross Anderson*

Ross, originally from Newbury, is a graduate of the Royal College of Music, where he studied under Richard Edwards and Lindsay Shilling. He was a long standing member of both the Berkshire Youth Wind Orchestra and the Berkshire Youth Orchestra, and is a former lead trombonist of NYJO. Ross has worked with many of the top jazz groups in the country, including the Julian Joseph Big Band and the Glenn Miller Orchestra. Ross co-leads classical trombone quartet Bones Collective, with whom he works regularly.



### *Bass Trombone/Tuba: Barry Clements*



Barry is a graduate of the Royal College of Music, where he studied under bass trombonist Dave Stewart, winning two college bass trombone prizes. He has played in numerous big bands including the Syd Lawrence Orchestra, the Jay Craig Orchestra, NYJO, and the Kenny Wheeler Big Band. He is currently on trial with the Philharmonia Orchestra for the job of Principal Bass Trombone. He is a regular West End deputy for Singin' in the Rain, and is on the extras list for the BBC Concert Orchestra.

## THE RHYTHM SECTION

### *Guitar: Jon Russell*

Jon studied jazz at Middlesex University, receiving tuition from guitarists Mike Outram and Carl Orr. He held the guitar chair in NYJO from 2007-2010 and during his time there, played with artists such as Buddy Greco, John Dankworth, Norma Winstone and Stan Sulzmann. He has also performed with numerous other Big Bands including the Jay Craig Orchestra, and Henry Armburg Jennings Big Band. Other artists he has played with include Pop Idol finalist Darius Campbell and Newton Faulkner. He has performed in various musical theatre productions, including West End show Zorro the Musical, which ran at the Garrick Theatre from 2008-2009.



### *Piano: Chris Eldred*



Chris Eldred began learning piano aged 6, studying classical and jazz simultaneously until attaining a scholarship to Trinity College to study the latter in 2007. Graduating in 2011 with first class honours, Chris has held the piano chair in NYJO for 4 years. He recently received the Yamaha Jazz Award for outstanding young jazz soloists. In a jazz context, he has recently performed with Mark Lockheart, Bobby Wellins, the Edward Randell Quartet, and Jean Toussaint. A master of stylistic piano playing, he is very much in demand for large ensemble work, and has recently played with the Stuart Fowler Jazz Orchestra and the Henry Armburg Jennings Big Band. He is a featured soloist on Hammond Organ in Callum Au's organ band Organism.

### *Bass: Laurence Ungless*

Laurence is a versatile double and electric bassist equally comfortable in classical and jazz idioms. His education began in earnest at the Yehudi Menuhin School, followed by the the Royal College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music, all on scholarship. Since moving to London, Laurence was a member of NYJO for two years and enjoys a varied career performing with Northern Sinfonia, Philharmonia Orchestra, English National Opera, Pete Long's Gillespiana, Callum Au Big Band, Russell Watson, Andrea Bocelli and West End shows.



### *Drums: Ed Richardson*



Ed is currently a student at the Royal Academy of Music, where he is about to begin his final year, studying under Matt Skelton and Ian Thomas. Inspired to take up the drums from a very early age due to the music of Frank Sinatra, he became the youngest ever drummer to perform with the Ronnie Scott's Jazz Orchestra at the age of 17. Since then, he has worked with many of the top jazz and session musicians in the country, including Alex Garnett, Nigel Hitchcock, and Mark Nightingale. In the pop world, he is currently the drummer for soul sensation Kwabs, with whom he has just completed a tour supporting rapper Plan B.

## SPECIAL GUESTS

### *Vocals: Emma Smith*

Having already shared the stage with the likes of Dame Cleo Laine, and with a 2010 nomination for 'jazz vocalist of the year' along with Norma Winstone and Christine Tobin, at only 21 years old, Emma Smith already a highly accomplished jazz singer.

Emma began singing with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra at 14 years old, and by the age of 15, she was made the band's female vocalist and vocal coach. In 2007, Emma won a scholarship to study at the prestigious Purcell School of Music, the first ever jazz vocalist to do so. She now continues her studies at the Royal Academy of Music, under the auspices of Gerard Presencer, Pete Churchill, Stan Sulzmann, Nia Lynn and Tim Garland.



Emma's reputation as an up-and-coming talent has allowed her to perform extensively in many of London's top jazz venues, including Ronnie Scott's, The 606, The Vortex, Pizza Express Dean Street, The Spice of Life and Pizza on the Park. She has also played numerous jazz festivals outside of London, including the Oxford Jazz Festival, Cheltenham Jazz Festival and The Marlborough Jazz Festival. In 2009, she was invited to be part of the Vocal Summit at the London Jazz Festival, which featured Emma, Natalie Williams and Anita Wardell.

April 2009 saw Emma featured alongside Ian Shaw and Madeline Bell with the Guy Barker Big Band and the BBC Concert Orchestra. The show, entitled 'The Billy Strayhorn Story,' was aired on BBC Radio 2's 'Friday Night is Music Night.' Emma prepared extensively for the broadcast in order to portray the personalities of Eartha Kitt, Rosemary Clooney and Ruth Ellington. In June 2009, she received coaching from Sir John Dankworth and performed the notoriously difficult 'Shakespeare Suite' with John and his band.

Emma has recently released her debut album, 'The Huntress', on Frantic Records, with her band: Tim Thornton, Stan Sulzmann, Matt Robinson, and Andy Ball.

### *Vocals: Anthony Strong*



Anthony funded his 4 year jazz degree at the Guildhall School of Music by gigging around town and quickly became a regular name on the London scene. Since graduating from Music College in 2008, he has played on pop sessions for the likes Charlotte Church and Michael Bolton, and has appeared on various BBC, ITV and Channel 4 television shows including Top of The Pops, T4, GMTV and Friday Night With Jonathan Ross.

His debut album 'Guaranteed!' was released in the summer of 2009 and the band featured some of the finest jazz musicians in London. Jazz FM and BBC London radio quickly picked up on the tunes and Anthony has since performed at venues including Dubai Jazz Festival, Pizza on the Park Jazz Club and a sell-out night at the 2010 London Jazz Festival. He even managed to fit in a support with American trumpet star Chris Botti.

Anthony's latest EP "Delovely" was released in September 2011, reaching #1 on the Amazon Jazz Download Charts, and the accompanying video has been seen around the world. The band have performed sell out shows at the London Jazz Festival, Dubai Jazz Festival and Cheltenham Jazz Festival amongst others and been featured live on national BBC Radio as a guest on the star-studded BBC New Year's Eve Concert with Paloma Faith and the Guy Barker Orchestra.

During 2012 Anthony will be making debut performances in Italy, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France and Scandinavia.

### *Flute/Piccolo/Bass Flute: Gareth Lockrane*

Flautist, pianist, composer/arranger and teacher Gareth Lockrane started playing at the age of 10. In 1994 he enrolled on the jazz course at the Royal Academy of Music in London where teachers included Stan Sulzmann, Hugh Fraser and Eddie Parker. In 1997, his band "The Jazz System" formed with Osian Roberts was a finalist in the Vienna Jazz Festival Grande Concours de Jazz. In 1998, he studied on the Lake Placid Jazz Course in New York with Joe Lovano, Dick Oatts and Jim McNeely and in 2000 was a finalist in the Young Jazz Musician of the Year competition.



In 2002, he formed the band Grooveyard with saxophonist Alex Garnett which released a critically acclaimed CD "Put The Cat Out" which went on to win the Best European Jazz Group award in the 2003 Granada Jazz Festival. Grooveyard completed a successful Jazz Services tour of the UK in 2005. From 2006, he enrolled on the prestigious MA course in film composition at the National Film & Television School, graduating with a commendation in 2008.

As a sideman, Gareth has been involved in many diverse projects, most recently as a key member of the late Bheki Mseleku's group from 2005 to 2008. Gareth has also performed and recorded with Incognito, Georgia Mancio, Nia Lynn, Kate Williams, The James Taylor Quartet, Marti Pellow, Hans Koller New Memories Big Band, Dan Stern, Brazilian jazz-funk group Sirius B, Anita Wardell, Natalie Williams, David Migden, Paul Booth, Phil Donkin Quartet (with Julian Siegel), The Urban Jazz Quintet (with Peter King), Tom Richards Jazz Orchestra, David Beebee's Gaya and The National Youth Jazz Orchestra.

### *Saxophones: Nigel Hitchcock*

Born in Rustington, England on 4th January 1971, Nigel Hitchcock first began to play the alto sax at age 8. Following in the footsteps of his brother Clive he took lessons from a local saxophone tutor, Victor Yates, and played in all of the area's big bands, being schooled in everything from Glenn Miller to Rob McConnell.

At the age of 11, Nigel joined the National Youth Jazz Orchestra. After only a year he took the lead alto chair where he remained for 5 years, during which time the band toured with stars such as Vic Damone, Buddy Greco and Al Martino. Through his newfound NYJO buddies, Nigel began to play with various other big bands, function bands and jazz combos, as well as studying for his exams at his local comprehensive school! After leaving school at sixteen, and already a seasoned professional, Nigel walked straight into the London session scene, recording TV jingles, movie soundtracks, pop solos and various other library albums, as he still does today.



In 1989 Nigel joined the contemporary saxophone quartet 'Itchy Fingers'. This outfit, with their incredibly taxing compositions, gave him the perfect opportunity to use his photographic memory and display an awesome technical facility, which can be heard on the album 'Itchy Fingers Live'. He toured Europe and South-East Asia with the foursome over an 18 month period, leaving to continue his pop/session career just after receiving 3 jazz awards, the Schlitz award for rising star, the Cleo Laine Personal Award for best young musician, and the Pat Smythe Trust award.

As a sideman, Nigel has worked with everyone from the London Symphony Orchestra and the Colin Towns Mask Orchestra to Robbie Williams, The Brand New Heavies, and Ray Charles. He currently co-leads a quintet with trombonist Mark Nightingale, with which he has recently recorded an album on Woodville Records, Out Of The Box.