

Artist: Andre Canniere Group
Album: Forward Space
Release Date: January 23 2012
Label: Whirlwind Recordings
Website: www.andrecanniere.com

"Canniere's intriguing works ignite the imagination" All Music Guide

The London Jazz Scene seems to be growing in stature, attracting an increasing amount of players from Europe and the U.S., and American ex-pat trumpet player Andre Canniere is the next in the line led by musicians such like Kenny Wheeler, Jasper Hoiby (Phronesis), Mark Holub (Led Bib) and many others ex-pat jazz musicians who have decided to call London home.

Forward Space, out January 23rd through Whirlwind Recordings is the first UK release by Andre Canniere. Since moving to the UK in 2008, Andre has been steadily making a name for himself on the British scene. This album features some of the UK's most celebrated young players, who between them pepper acclaimed bands such as Empricial and Kairos 4tet. The album features George Fogel on piano, Hannes Riepler on guitar, Ryan Trebilcock on bass, Jon Scott on drums and Chris Vatalaro also on drums.

Says Andre: *"This album is my first major statement as a composer and bandleader. In the same way that each member of the band has played an important role in developing these specific compositions in an organic and intuitive way, I also see this album as a culmination of the work I have done with previous band line-ups and recordings - in fact of everything I have done as an artist so far."*

This album comprises eight original compositions by Canniere and showcases his maturity as a composer in his ability to write very complex music while never losing sight of what makes a great melody. The album was written while Canniere was making the move between New York and London, and that transience leaves its mark as the record moves through constantly changing territory. Clearly the music is driven by Canniere's vision of a contemporary jazz which can utilise everything from pounding grooves and searing post bop to free-er improvisation.

The album starts with 'Crunch', a track written in reaction to the global credit crisis and it nails Canniere's colours firmly to the mast and typifies what is to be found on the record. An adeptness at writing danceable grooves, abstract but singable melodies and a trumpet playing style with the spaciousness of Miles Davis, the dexterity of Dave Douglas, yet retaining a singularity which is purely his own. Title track 'Forward Space' is a real vehicle for Canniere's composition style almost sounding like Steve Reich typing Morse Code at a party while dancing to Parliament Funkadelic. Some other album highlights include 'Cure', a thrashy fairground ride like a kind of 21st century Tony Williams Lifetime band, 'Spreading Hypocrisy' a lopsided Latin tune, written in response to Bush administration and final track 'Song for J' a beautiful folk like tune flowing with elegant trumpet harmonies and written for his son, Jonas. On this final track Andre also plays all of the instruments(!)

Leading up to this release Canniere has been busy undertaking other projects outside the usual jazz circuit. His arrangements have been featured on film, most recently with Union Exchange (Sony Music) for the 4.3.2.1 Original Motion Picture Soundtrack. He was also commissioned by the Astoria Music Society to arrange a work featuring the music of Cole Porter for symphony orchestra and solo soprano in 2007. A more recent commission for St. Peter's in New York City was to compose a jazz mass scored for a 15 piece ensemble.

But back to the current and the forthcoming release of 'Forward Space'. The Andre Canniere group successfully blends various trends of contemporary jazz and the heavy grooves, sophisticated melodic passages and plaintive meditations all show the variety available in the palette of this contemporary jazz musician. On evidence of this record, Canniere is a rising star as both a composer and trumpet player and is set to make a real impact on the international jazz scene.

Key Dates:

8th November Album pre-launch showcase at The Forge, London
23rd January - 'Forward Space' album release
31st January - Album launch at Vortex, London

Links: www.andrecanniere.com
www.whirlwindrecordings.com
<http://soundcloud.com/andrecanniere/crunch>

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