

Sid Peacock & Surge



Surge is a 16 piece Big Band made up of musicians from folk, world, jazz and classical backgrounds. Our music is exciting, uplifting, kaleidoscopic, disorientating, warm, funny and highly emotional modern big band music!



“ youthful vitality not heard since Django Bates and Loose Tubes raised Ronnie Scott’s rafters a generation ago.....there’s a spirit of daring about the music and moments of real beauty too.....truly an orchestral achievement. ****”

London Evening Standard

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New album “**La Fête**” available now
from Peacockangell Records
www.peacockangell.com

Sid Peacock is the son of a shipyard worker, born in Bangor Northern Ireland. His music practice began in his teens playing in rockabilly and garage bands, as well as busking in the London Underground. Whilst working as a library assistant he learnt music theory from books and then went on to study at North Down College, Bretton Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire and Ulster University.

“Sid Peacock is already one of the most exciting composers in that difficult-to-define area between jazz, contemporary music and improv. His original take on big band jazz is the one that predominates and there is always in his music an energy and groove that makes it both accessible and attention holding. One can hear the influence of Django Bates’ writing for Loose Tubes, Delightful Precipice and StoRMChaser, but with other other influences from contemporary composers such as Brian Irvine and an ability to create wild and quirky big band improvisations, Sid Peacock’s is a truly original voice. Part of his skill and appeal is his ability to draw out the best of the top players based in Birmingham featured with the band, players such as vocalist/violinist Ruth Angell, saxophonists Huw and Chris Morgan, and also Lluís Mather, drummer John Randall and many others. For me, Sid Peacock takes his place alongside the innovators in fresh approaches to jazz composition, such as John Hollenbeck, Steve Lehman, Flat Earth Society and James D’Arcy Argue.”

Tony Dudley-Evans, Artistic Director, Birmingham Jazz and Cheltenham Jazz Festival



Surge CD launch at MAC with special guest Django Bates

Photo: Russ Escritt

“*Peacock’s knockout suite of carnivalesque compositions, some fabulous stuff here, especially the euphoric “Hallucinogenic Garden” and the yearning “Bit of Peace.”*

The Independent on Sunday

“*a performance of great joy, passion and intense musical variety, taking the audience on a journey through colourful and unique worlds of sound...*

Anna Lumsden
www.redbrickpaper.co.uk

” **Kiki Chen** - violin
Ruth Angell - violin & vocals
Max Gitting - flutes & whistles
Lluís Mather - soprano & alto saxophones
Huw Morgan - alto saxophone
Chris Morgan - tenor saxophone
Nick Rundle - baritone saxophone
Mike Adlington - trumpet
Aaron Diaz - trumpet & electronics
Rob Anstey - trombone
Simon King - guitar
Jason Huxtable - marimba
Alcyona Mick - piano
Ryan Trebilcock - bass
Steve Tchoumba - African percussion
John Randall - drums



Surge Saxophones
Photo: Russ Escritt



Photo: Russ Escritt

“ *Let’s face it, it was an evening with more peaks than the Himalayas. If you weren’t there, I urge you to catch Surge live at the earliest opportunity and, in the meantime, invest in the band’s excellent, just released CD or download, La Fête.* ”

Peter Bacon
thejazzbreakfast

“ *...the best new stuff I’ve heard in an age came from the Birmingham-based Irish composer Sid Peacock, whose young, 16-piece big band played inspiring, wildly creative music...* ”

The Independent



Photos: Russ Escritt

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Sid Peacock & Surge

La Fête

“ It’s a great new album with all the excitement, flair and quirkiness.....took everyones breath away with it’s variety and joyfulness. ”

Europe Jazz Network
www.ejn.it

“ ...an album that spills over with exuberance and colour, with a vivid variety of moods, dynamics and tempos. Tunes are full-blooded and often unabashedly romantic...Sometimes proceedings tip into anarchy...or the listener is transported from paradisiacal exotica to clamorous urbanity...Peacock succeeds in his chief aim to derange the senses and he does so with a lot of charm. Well worth seeking out. **** ”

Manchester Evening News

“ Peacock captures some of that Loose Tubes/early Django Bates magic and the result is a thrilling and consistently engaging album.. infused with the anarchic spirit of composers such as Carla Bley, Frank Zappa and Django Bates....The compositions and arrangements are bright, colourful, imaginative and consistently interesting. ”

thejazzman.com

Contact Sid Peacock
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Peacock Angell Records

Also available: **Sid Peacock & Surge: Live in Birmingham '04**
Number 1 in Jazzwise Office Vibe Chart Aug '05

“ Conceptually bracing and sonically satisfying. ”
The Independent on Sunday

A remarkably fine-tuned and confident performance
Birmingham Post

