

# Django Bates



Spring is Here... (shall we dance?)

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Lost Marble LM003

(distributed in the UK by New Note Distribution Ltd)

**a new Django Bates studio album is here!**

**Interview opportunities**

***“Bates’ elastic experiment in new, Zappa-flecked big-band writing is a variation on the theme of his old large ensemble, Loose Tubes. His new model is big yet light on its feet, anarchic and vaudevillian at times, and a new member of the progressive big-band scene which includes Vienna Art Orchestra.”***

Josef Woodard Jazz Times Nov 2007

**“Spring is Here...(shall we dance)?”** completes Django's Four Seasons. After a trio of classic albums: Summer Fruits, Autumn Fires, and Winter Truce, here comes the earthy grooves, blatant simplicity, hidden complexity, and sunny humour of 'Spring is Here'!

But Spring Is Here offers much more than a look back to the past, this lively ten-track album of all original compositions is the result of two years' experimentation and exploration at Denmark's Rhythmic Music Conservatory where Django is resident Professor. It features his new musical juggernaut **stoRMChaser**.

**stoRMChaser?** Django Bates explains:

“To get a commercial pilot's license you must log at least 250 hours of flight time. Maybe there should be an equivalent law for bands. A real band is one which plays together again and again, to the point where musicians' lives entwine and musical language becomes unified. Musicians who travel together, learn together, eat together and cross frontiers together, make a real band. *I'm lucky to have been in several!* Despite economic logic saying 'Don't even think about it', I've been able to gather 19 musicians together every Friday to rehearse. These musicians are primed to welcome musical difficulties and encouraged to take risks, so I call the band **stoRMChaser**.

The young musicians of stoRMChaser are at the tip of their international careers and accept that music of substance and detail may take months to slot together. Their reward is that they are the only people in the world who can play the 'spring is here' music with the required level of joy, commitment, and understanding". StoRMChaser have a residency at Copenhagen Jazz House and have performed internationally at Copenhagen Jazz Festival 07 and at Jazzfest Berlin in November 2007.

The new compositions are as eclectic as ever, with such diverse subject matters as patriotism in "**The Right to smile**", the incendiary nature of love in "**Fire Brigade**", and the individuality of Sheep in "*Sheep*". But perhaps it is the mysteriously entitled "**Subjective Hooks**" that will intrigue listeners the most. When Bates met up with **Matthew Herbert** to compare notes on running a big band, and to discuss a future musical assignment, he was impressed by Matthew's highly conceptual approach to recording. A few weeks later he found himself embroiled in a lengthy conversation at **London's Klinker**, (home of the bizarre and avant-garde), about the definition of a musical "hook"! The seeds of a new piece began to germinate... Although "*Spring is Here*" is essentially a big-band album, there are two notable exceptions featuring Som en Sten, RMC's international choir: "*Early Bloomer*" (originally on Winter Truce but now with lyrics), and its counterpart "*Evening Primrose*". Both pieces relish in the beauty of the human voice, and show Django's desire to explore other genres. **Tim Berne** makes a brief cameo appearance as raconteur on the extraordinarily punchy "**Something Less Soothing**", and effervescent Swedish singer, **Josefine Lindstrand** is featured on all ten tracks.

This studio album was produced by Django Bates, and quadruple platinum rock producer **Andrew Murdock (Mudrock)**. "Spring is Here... (Shall we dance)? will be released on 23rd June 2008 on Lost Marble. For more info on the surreal world of Django Bates please visit <http://www.djangobates.co.uk/> or contact management: Jeremy Farnell 020 8985 8754 or [management@djangobates.co.uk](mailto:management@djangobates.co.uk)

**Django Bates, Spring is Here (shall we dance?)  
is released on June 23<sup>rd</sup> on Lost Marble**

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