

Multi award-winning jazz outfit

Empirical

release their second album

Out 'n' In

(Naim Jazz; naimcd139)

on

Monday 28 September 2009

Nathaniel Facey (alto sax); **Lewis Wright** (vibes); **Tom Farmer** (double bass); **Shaney Forbes** (drums/percussion)
plus special guest **Julian Siegel** (bass clarinet/tenor sax)

Empirical are deservedly the hottest ticket around at the moment. We are absolutely delighted to be releasing such an outstanding album from a quartet that represent everything that is great about the future of British jazz

Simon Drake, General Manager, Naim Jazz

a bold, structurally adventurous set of originals

John Fordham, The Guardian (Bath International Music Festival review)

Empirical's tribute to Eric Dolphy went remarkably well. Nathaniel Facey had written clever originals in Dolphy's style and took formidable alto-sax solos, while Wright helped recreate the ambience of Out to Lunch, an album Dolphy recorded with vibist Bobby Hutcherson

Jack Massarik, Evening Standard (London Jazz Festival review)

Produced by Jason Yarde, and featuring special guest Julian Siegel, *Out 'n' In* is Empirical's much anticipated follow up to their self-titled debut album, released on Courtney Pine's Destin-E label in 2007. *Out 'n' In* pays tribute to Eric Dolphy's musical legacy through nine Dolphy-inspired original compositions and two new arrangements of his work: *Hat and Beard* and *Gazzelloni*.

Eric Allan Dolphy (1928-1964) was an American jazz alto saxophonist, flautist, and bass clarinetist. Empirical's Nathaniel Facey explains that *'as well as being a personal hero of ours, Eric Dolphy was a pivotal musician in the musical avant-garde of the late 1950s/60s who influenced his peers and subsequent generations - we are evidence of that. His influence on jazz music as a composer, as well as instrumentalist, is not often celebrated so, having played the music from his classic album Out to Lunch, we decided to broaden our look at his legacy'*.

Empirical's smart post-bop style has drawn admiring notices on both sides of the Atlantic. Their debut recording went on to be voted Jazzwise magazine's album of the year, and Mojo magazine's jazz album of the year. Expertly incorporating elements of classical, African and Cuban musical forms into its original, sophisticated, fresh-sounding jazz, Empirical make a point of not being centred around a specific front line or leader; it is very much a complete band, each member contributing equally, adding their own facets to the overall sound.

In May 2008, Empirical collected the Ensemble of the Year prize at the annual Parliamentary Jazz Awards, held at the House of Commons, and organised by the All Party Parliamentary Jazz Appreciation Group. This award was just the latest in a succession of accolades the band has picked up in its short lifetime: Empirical's award-winning assault on the jazz scene began at the North Sea Jazz Festival in July 2007 when they won the inaugural EBU/European Jazz Competition; this was followed later that year by the Peter Whittingham Jazz Award.

Empirical returned triumphant from their appearance at the iconic Newport Jazz Festival (Rhode Island, USA) last summer. During his introduction, Jason Olaine, vice president of programming for The Festival Network, acknowledged that it was no mean feat to receive a standing ovation at New York Jazz Festival, as Empirical did when they opened for The Bad Plus in June 2008; needless to say, their performance at Newport garnered another standing ovation. As well as their victorious return to the North Sea Jazz Festival, and their US sojourn, Empirical also performed at several other international jazz gatherings last year, including Canada's Vancouver, Victoria, Toronto and Montreal jazz festivals, receiving stand ovations at each.

Empirical are available for interview/sessions
CDs and pics are available on request

myspace.com/empiricalmusic
empiricalmusic.com
naimjazz.com

Out 'n' In is available in Hi Def 24bit download from Naim's Hi Definition Download Store

press enquiries to: Helen Maleed
tel/fax: 020 7732 4624 mobile: 07986 235 855

email: helen@greendesk.demon.co.uk