

The logo for Portico Quartet features the words "PORTICO" and "QUARTET" stacked vertically in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letters are arranged in a grid-like pattern, with "PORTICO" on the left and "QUARTET" on the right, creating a sense of depth and rhythm.

Album Title: Isla
Release Date: 19th October 2009
Real World Records: CDRW174

Portico Quartet signed to **Real World Records** in February of this year and release their label debut, **Isla**, on October 19th. Produced by **John Leckie** (Doves, Radiohead, The Stone Roses) at **Abbey Road**, **Isla** is the eagerly anticipated follow up to their critically acclaimed debut *Knee Deep In The North Sea*.

"an excitingly expansive collection that retains the trademark hypnotic tone of their flying saucer-shaped 'hang'" Metro

Portico Quartet are four young musicians from London who sound like **nothing you've ever heard before**. Their strange, beautiful sound was honed busking at the South Bank in London and playing in unusual spaces; churches, galleries and chill-out zones. The band, who all live together in East London, describe their ethos as like an Indy band that plays post-jazz and their unique, hooky sound has won them fans from *Gilles Peterson* to *Radio 4* as well as catching the ear of **Real World Records** head honcho **Peter Gabriel**. Their debut album *Knee-Deep In The North Sea* (Babel/Vortex records) was named *Time Out's Jazz, Folk and World music album of the year for 2007* and was one of the **Nationwide Mercury Prize** albums of the year for 2008.

Portico Quartet are **Jack Wyllie** (sax and loops), **Milo Fitzpatrick** (double bass), **Nick Mulvey** (Hang) and **Duncan Bellamy** (drums and Hang), and it's the mix of ethereal saxophone, otherworldly Hang, clattering drums and earthy double-bass that gives their music it's inimitable, beautiful sound. It was the chance purchase of the Hang by Duncan Bellamy, at **WOMAD**, that inspired the young friends to start a band, and while their largely intuitive music references jazz and African music it's the Hang inspired trance-like repetitive patterns of Duncan and Nick Mulvey that propel the band into stranger pastures.

Portico Quartet play Koko on November 2nd with support from current Mercury nominees Sweet Billy Pilgrim

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Press praise for Portico Quartet and 'Knee-Deep In The North Sea'

"Try to imagine the coolest film never made. We mean really cool. Steve McQueen and Samuel L, on 'Easy Rider' choppers, in a French film-noir spy film, infiltrating a Yakuza Samurai cult. Portico Quartet would provide the soundtrack" **Channel 4.com**

"**Will it win?** Unprecedentedly for the jazz one – it might well do" **The Times**

"A phenomenon in the making" **The Independent**

"Uber-cool jazz buskers" **the Guardian**

"What Portico do is not simply jazz, it's well structured instrumental pop - sometimes upbeat and danceable like on Cittagazze; at other times dreamy, languid and atmospheric". **Q (The Music) Website**

"They always returned to that grass-roots, organic sound that has taken them from the South Bank, via intimate venues like this, to – who knows: Mercury Music triumph?" **The Independent**

"As traditionally hook based as anything from rock, to hip hop" **The Guardian**

"This unforgettable disc shimmers with brilliance." **BBC Music Magazine**

"Haunting, beautifully austere sound" **Metro**

"Danceable chamber jazz soundscapes combine hectic soprano sax riffing over a dynamic rhythm section and should make them a Glasto fixture' ""best of the rest" **Q Glastonbury Review 2008**

"Strange but beautiful stuff" **Notion**

"Hummable melodies" **the Sun**

"A strikingly original sound." **The Times**

"The group generates pieces with a recognisably human pulse – ECM with a little extra passion, if you will...chamber jazz with a Late Junction twist" **Sunday Times**

"Fresh, fun and different...an ear for a highly quotable melody" **Jazzwise**

"Great stuff... a cross between jazz and modern classical. It's mellifluous, exuberant and jaunty, full of catchy tunes and strong hooks" **Allaboutjazz**