



KIT DOWNES TRIO

Quiet Tiger

Basho Records - release date 7th march 2011

21 date UK tour commences on 24th February at **Buxton Four Four Time Festival**, taking in dates at **Band On The Wall Manchester**, **Norwich Arts Centre**, **King's Place London**, **Colston Hall Bristol**, **Cheltenham Jazz Festival** and more. Dates attached.

"Everyone's favourite young pianist... *unpretentiously brilliant and full of subtle touches*". **The Observer**

"*A brilliant soloist who builds ideas slowly into cascades of melodic ideas... highly imaginative tunes and expansive, melodic solos.*" **Time Out**

"A choosy, patient storyteller, if one of his distinctive original themes only requires a handful of notes and a lot of spaces, he leaves it like that." **The Guardian**

"Pianist Kit Downes's slender frame and shy demeanor hide a lightening musical intelligence and an engagingly slow-burn energy." **The Daily Telegraph**

Quiet Tiger is the second album from BBC Award-winning, 24 year old pianist/composer, **Kit Downes** and the follow-up to his **Mercury Prize** nominated debut album **Golden**. A nomination that announced to a wider audience, what the jazz world already knew, that Downes is one of the most brilliant musicians of his generation. A gifted composer and sparkling improviser, who whether playing with the bands *Neon*, *Troyka* and *Golden Age Of Steam* or leading his own lauded trio, brings an under-stated verve and earthy brilliance to the music. Inspired by artists as diverse as Bill Frisell, Bartok, Skip James, Paul Bley and Bjork as well as singer-songwriters Elliot Smith and Nick Drake, his compositions have a cinematic, story-telling quality that draw the listener in. Indeed **Quiet Tiger** is aptly titled capturing as it does the gentle charisma of Downes playing and while **Golden** was a superb document of the trio in it's early days it is **Quiet Tiger** that more completely captures Downes' thoughtful brilliance.

A darker, more textured album than it's its predecessor, **Quiet Tiger** again features the Kit Downes Trio with bassist **Calum Gourlay** and drummer James **Maddren** as well as special guests **Adrien Dennefeld** on cello and **James Allsopp** on tenor saxophone and bass-clarinet. And while the rapport between the trio is clear (they've been playing together for six years now) it is the extra 'voicings' that the addition of cello and horns (often with Allsopp over dubbed on both horns) allow that really bring Downes' music into focus, expanding his musical palate and allowing for a richer, deeper, more expressive sound that perfectly complements his evocative narratives and explosive improvisational journeys.

The album opens with the mysterious, almost chamberish **Boreal**, while the groove of **Tambourine** nods to Keith Jarrett's Jarrett's legendary American quartet of the '70s. The graceful **With A View** is about perception of scale - the higher you are, the clearer your view. The 'fizzy' **Frizzi Pazzi** is named for a sherbet like sweet from South Tirol, while **Attached** is about things that seem unconnected but which in fact are. **In Brixen** is inspired by a town in South Tirol (up in the Alps) and the sinister **Wooden Birds** has a Tim Berne meets David Lynch-like quality. Elsewhere **The Wizards** is named for the remarkable James Allsopp and **Skip James** for the obscure bluesman of the same name but also nods to Bill Frisell. **Fonias** is a beautiful evocation of a gentle waterfall and the evocative title track **Quiet Tiger** is inspired by the Taiga or Boreal Forest, a quiet but magical place, much like Downes own unique music.

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www.bashorecords.com | www.bashomusic.co.uk/ | www.kitdownes.com





Album distributed in the UK by

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Kit Downes UK Tour dates

Kit Downes piano, **Calum Gourlay** bass, **James Maddren** drums, **Adrien Dennefeld** cello, **James Allsopp** bass clarinet and **Josh Arceleo** tenor sax

- 24th Feb **Buxton four four Festival** – Pavilion Arts Center - 0845 127 2190
- 2nd March **Newcastle-Under-Lyme** – New Vic Theatre (Trio) 01782 717962
- 4th March **Constantine** The Tolman Centre (Trio) 01326 3413536th
- 6th March **Warwick Arts Centre** (Trio) 024 7652 4524
- 29th March **St Ives Jazz Club** – Western Hotel 01736 795277
- 30th March **Barnstaple** Queens Theatre - 01271 32 42 42
- 31st March **Nottingham** Jazz Steps, Bonnington Theatre 0115 956 0733
- 1st April **Lincoln** Terry O Toole Theatre, 01522 883311
- 5th April **Manchester** Band on the Wall 0161 237 5554
- 6th April **Norwich** Arts Centre (01603) 660352
- 7th April **Leeds** Seven Arts Centre (0113) 2626777
- 9th April **London** Kings Place, London 0207 520 1490
- 13th April **Cardiff** Dempseys, (Trio) (029) 20239253
- 14th April **Dorking** Watermill Jazz, Friends Provident Social Club (Trio) 07751 466034
- 16th April **Shrewsbury Jazz** – The Hive 01743 234970 / 01743 281281
- 23rd April **Bristol** Colston Hall 0117 922 3686
- 24th April **Oxford Jazz Festival** (venue tbc) 01865 256 400
- 1st May **Cheltenham Jazz Festival** 01242 775 891
- 2nd May **Cheltenham Jazz Festival** (plus animator Lesley Barnes) 01242 775 891
- 5th May **Edinburgh**, Jazz Bar (Trio) 0131 220 4298
- 18th May **Newbury Spring Festival** (Trio) 01635 522733

This tour is generously supported by Jazz Services

