

**The-Quartet**  
**Shattering**  
**Release Date: June 2008**  
**Helium Records HeCD004**

Following its widely acclaimed debut album, *Illuminated*, **The-Quartet** returns with another exhilarating exploration of its musical passions on the second album **Shattering**. Written by the heart of the band, composer **Jack Hues** and pianist **Sam Bailey**, the album is an ingenious celebration of the creative tension between their like-mindedness and musical disparities. With **Mojo** calling *Illuminated* “*an intriguing, moody sonic journey with many highlights*” and **The Independent** “*Infectious and bursting with ideas*” it is clear that **The-Quartet** have a hard act to follow.

With the second album comes a new line up and one that some will have been lucky enough to see live last year when **The-Quartet** established a fine reputation for dynamic, high octane performances of which The Guardian said “*the spontaneous collective energy was just as powerful as the writing.*” The new line up features **Jack Hues**, guitar, **Sam Bailey**, piano joined by **Tom Mason**, double bass, **Dave Smith** drums, **Paul Booth**, tenor saxophone and **Duncan MacKay**, trumpet.

At the core of **Shattering** is **The-Quartet’s** own take on the ‘Canterbury Tales,’ a lyrical homage to the jazz rock synthesis of the Canterbury sound of the 60s and 70s (their home town) and the psychedelia of homegrown bands like the Soft Machine, Caravan and Egg.

More pared down and muscular than its predecessor, the album echoes some of the same themes with the Mingus-influenced ‘Dark Moon’ and the exquisite Miles Davis references of ‘Lights Out’, while the four new Canterbury Tales provide perfect spaces for virtuoso solos from the band.

Immaculately produced by Chris Hughes, this album captures the brilliance of Jack Hues’ and Sam Bailey’s writing and the sheer spontaneity, energy and power of the band live.

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**Jack Hues , Writer, Guitar**

Jack is an established composer, songwriter and producer with a string of hit records and film scores to his name. Classically trained in guitar and composition at Goldsmith's College and the Royal College of Music he was a formative member of Wang Chung and fronted the band at the height of its success on the massive album 'Points On A Curve'. A highly respected composer and writer he has scored acclaimed film soundtracks 'To Live and Die in LA' and 'The Guardian' for the director William Friedkin as well as producing, composing and arranging for many other bands including Definition of Sound and Gene. Forming The-Quartet with Sam Bailey in 2002 has provided an inspiring new arena for Jack's remarkable gifts as a writer and guitarist.

**Sam Bailey, Writer, Piano**

Sam graduated with first class honours as a classically trained pianist, studying for five years with the renowned Ronald Smith. Based in Canterbury he played as a soloist in Constant Lambert's Rio Grande at Canterbury Cathedral and has worked as a jazz pianist with Tony Coe, Don Rendall, Bobby Wellins, Paul Booth, Norma Winstone, Anita Wardell and Yanush Carmillo. His musical passions extend far beyond jazz into improvisation with his electro acoustic band 'Noises from the Dark Room' and alternative punk cabaret outfit 'The Lovely Brothers'. Forming The-Quartet with Jack Hues has created an improbable but exciting musical partnership whose dynamism was widely recognised on their debut album 'Illuminated'.

**Tom Mason, Double Bass**

Studying Jazz at the Royal Academy of Music, Tom was tutored in bass by Jeff Clyne and Paul Westwood and played in workshops with Art Farmer, Peter Erskine and Kenny Werner. As part of an exchange programme with the New England Conservatory in Boston he studied bass with Cecil McBee, John Lockwood and Oscar Stagnaro. He has since become one of the UK's busiest and most versatile jazz players, performing, recording and touring with artists including Athena, Robin Eubanks, Robert Mitchell, Michael Cain, Gwilym Simcock, Fenster, Gerard Presencer, Famadou Don Moye, BBC Big Band, Kings Cross Hotclub, Nicolas Meier Group, Tim Garland, Donovan, DJ Stix and Nullbug. Earlier this year he played alongside the incredible Matana Roberts on her live UK debut.

**Dave Smith, Drums and Percussion**

Drawing on a wide range of influences from West African percussion to classic jazz drumming, Dave's explosive style and musical sensitivity have made him one of the finest and most versatile jazz drummers in the UK. Since graduating from the Guildhall he has worked with leading jazz musicians such as Peter King, Eddie Henderson, Liam Noble, Julien Siegel and Stan Sulzmann. He plays in Outhouse and is a core member of London's LOOP Collective.

**Paul Booth, Tenor Saxophone**

With two albums under his belt, Paul is one of the most sought after British jazz musicians and the winner of several awards including the Clifford Brown/Stan Getz fellowship. He is a regular at Ronnie Scotts with his own band and others including Arnie Somogyi's Ambulance, Sax Appeal, The New Couriers, Mike Garrick Big Band and Tim Garland's Northern Underground Orchestra. Graduating with honours from the Royal Academy of Music he has toured extensively with the Steve Winwood band, Riverdance, Eric Clapton, Matt Bianco, Basia, Tony Hadley, Eddie Henderson, Alex Wilson, Roberto Pla, Glenn Miller Orchestra, Snowboy, Ray Gelato and Jane Monheit.

**Duncan MacKay, Trumpet** Duncan's post modernist nu-psychedelic trumpet playing has drawn him to become a member of Primal Scream and the British Meat Scheme. He is a brilliant, maverick jazz player who has also worked with David Holmes, Death In Vegas and Richard Ashcroft.

<http://www.heliumrecords.co.uk>

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