

john martin quartet

dawning

Release date: 25 April 2011

F-ire CD 40

"This is a lovely album with all the players sounding very comfortable with the music. This album should be heard and bought" **Kenny Wheeler**

"This is an honest, cohesive and sophisticated release - a band to listen out for in 2011 and a credit to the F-ire collective" **Iain Ballamy**

'**Dawning**' is the debut album from the **John Martin Quartet** and reveals a young saxophonist/composer with a warm and engaging voice. The eight original tracks (all by Martin) that make up the album have a strong sense of melody with thoughtful interplay between the composed elements and the supple improvisations of the Quartet.

Recorded at Artesuono studio in Italy, '**Dawning**' is characterized by a warm and open sound with an emotional directness that seduces the listener. Martin's uncluttered improvisations and the dynamic structures created by the band respond to a wide range of inspiration, from English jazz and folk and the ECM sound to Wayne Shorter and the downtown New York scene. The album combines joyful African-inspired grooves, dark Mehldau-ish harmony, contemporary odd-time meters, and the folky European sound reminiscent of Keith Jarrett's early quartet with Jan Garbarek.

After studying composition with Nikki Iles and Eddie Parker at Middlesex University, John Martin went on to play as a sideman in many bands on both the jazz and world music scenes. During this time he worked hard on developing his own sound, studying the masters of the music and immersing himself in the rich cultural diversity that the many different London music scenes have to offer.

In 2009 Martin seized the opportunity to gather together some of his favorite musicians and formed the **John Martin Quartet**. The line-up consists of **John Martin** on tenor and soprano sax, **Tim Fairhall** on double bass, **Andy Ball** on drums and **Jonjo Grisdale** on piano.

TOUR DATES with support from Jazz Services:

18 Feb	The Crypt, London
23 Feb	Album launch at The Forge, Camden
26 Feb	Passing Clouds, London
8 Apr	National Theatre Foyer FREE
1 May	Milestones Jazz, Lowestoft
4 May	Scarborough Jazz Club
5 May	Matt and Phreds, Manchester
6 May	Bolton Village Hall, North Yorkshire
12 May	The Yardbird, Birmingham
13 May	Rush Hour Blues, Symphony Hall, Birmingham
17 May	Dempsey's, Cardiff
19 May	The Wardrobe, Leeds
21 May	Jazz Café POSK, London
3 Aug	Lescar Jazz Club, Sheffield

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