

**Album Title: Isla**  
**Release Date: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2009**  
**Real World Records: CDRW174**

*"Isla feeds on Steve Reich mathematics, Radiohead dread, African desert grooves and ECM northern melancholy to travel into a new, chiming cavernous sound-world that is both exotic and hypnotic" \*\*\*\* stars **MOJO***

*"genuinely innovative...there isn't a band that sounds remotely like them..." \*\*\*\* stars" **Observer Music Monthly***

*"A joy to listen to, full of depth and detail" **Word Magazine***

**Portico Quartet** are **Jack Wyllie** (sax and loops), **Milo Fitzpatrick** (double bass), **Nick Mulvey** (Hang) and **Duncan Bellamy** (drums and Hang), four young musicians from East London who started a band together after the chance purchase of a 'hang' at a music festival in 2005.

In just a few years **Portico Quartet's** hypnotic music has taken them from busking on London's South Bank, to a Mercury Prize nomination, to performing at the Royal Opera House and recording at Abbey Road with producer **John Leckie**. Famed as a nurturer of young bands (Stone Roses, Radio Head etc), Leckie has brought a powerful clarity to the band's music and **Isla** is a darker, more mature, expansive statement than their debut, *Knee-Deep In The North Sea*. However, it is still very much a **Portico Quartet** album.

On **Isla**, **Portico Quartet**, have added loop pedals, real-time electronics and strings arranged by the band's bassist Milo Fitzpatrick. However, the majority of the album was recorded live at Abbey Road (with one piece recorded in their shed!) and each of the nine tracks has a distinct mood and atmosphere, while remaining firmly within their unique soundworld. From the churning maelstrom of *Clipper* to the pounding pedal points of *Dawn Patrol*; from the fragile ostinatos of *Line* to the anthemic ensemble of the title track, **Isla** is an album whose contents reveal fresh nuances and facets on each listen.

**Isla** will be launched with a national tour commencing on **Oct 24<sup>th</sup>** at the **Bristol Old Vic** and taking in dates in London (Koko), Manchester, Glasgow, Edinburgh etc with support from Mercury nominated Sweet Billy Pilgrim. Full details attached.

Portico Quartet will also feature in the **The Simpsons 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special**, being directed by **Morgan Spurlock** (30 Days, Super Size Me).

For more information please contact **Sian Williams** at **Riotsquad Publicity**:  
**020 7223 7456** or e-mail: [sian@riotsquadpublicity.com](mailto:sian@riotsquadpublicity.com)



## PORTICO QUARTET LIVE DATES

- ALBUM TOUR (\*with Sweet Billy Pilgrim)

**Saturday 24 October** BRISTOL Old Vic \*

0117 987 7877 [bristololdvic.org.uk](http://bristololdvic.org.uk)

**Thursday 29 October** BASINGSTOKE The Anvil \*

01256 844244 [anvilarts.org.uk](http://anvilarts.org.uk)

**Monday 2 November** LONDON Koko [KOKO.uk.com](http://KOKO.uk.com) \*

08700 600 100 [ticketweb.co.uk](http://ticketweb.co.uk) or [seetickets.com](http://seetickets.com) 0870 264 3333

**Tuesday 3 November** MANCHESTER RNCM \*

0161 907 5555 [rncm.ac.uk](http://rncm.ac.uk)

**Wednesday 4 November** EDINBURGH Electric Circus \*

0131 226 4224 [theelectriccircus.biz](http://theelectriccircus.biz)

**Thursday 5 November** GLASGOW The Arches \*

0 141 565 1000 [thearches.co.uk](http://thearches.co.uk)

**Friday 6 November** MIDDLESBROUGH Town Hall Crypt \*

01642 242561 [middlesbrough.gov.uk](http://middlesbrough.gov.uk)

**Saturday 7 November** BIRMINGHAM CBSO Centre \*

0121 767 4050 [thsh.co.uk](http://thsh.co.uk)

**Sunday 8 November** BRIGHTON & HOVE The Old Market \*

01273 736222 [theoldmarket.co.uk](http://theoldmarket.co.uk)

**Monday 16 November** NORWICH Arts Centre

01603 660352 [norwichartscentre.co.uk](http://norwichartscentre.co.uk)

**Saturday 21 November** COLCHESTER Lakeside Theatre

01206 873261 [visitcolchester.com](http://visitcolchester.com)

**Sunday 22 November** CAMBRIDGE The Junction

01223 511511 [junction.co.uk](http://junction.co.uk)

**Monday 23 November** LIVERPOOL The Kazimier

[Thekazimier.co.uk](http://Thekazimier.co.uk) or in person at MelloMello Café

**Tuesday 24 November** NOTTINGHAM The Rescue Rooms

[Dealmakerrecords.com](http://Dealmakerrecords.com)

For more information please contact Siân Williams at Riotsquad Publicity:  
020 7223 7456 or e-mail: [sian@riotsquadpublicity.com](mailto:sian@riotsquadpublicity.com)



## What the press have been saying about Isla...

*"Isla feeds on Steve Reich mathematics, Radiohead dread, African desert grooves and ECM northern melancholy to travel into a new, chiming cavernous sound-world that is both exotic and hypnotic" \*\*\*\* stars*  
**MOJO**

*"A melodic accessibility and cinematic scope as liable to woo fans of Radiohead as patrons of Ronnie Scott's" \*\*\*\* stars*  
**Q**

*"Genuinely innovative...there isn't a band that sounds remotely like them... \*\*\*\* stars"*  
**Observer Music Monthly**

*"Achingly cool...a haunting sound that echoes in your head long after they have stopped playing"*  
**The Sun**

*"A Joy to listen to, full of depth and detail"*  
**Word Magazine**

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

*"hauntingly mesmeric soundscapes" \*\*\*\*stars*  
**Record Collector**

*"Like Acoustic Ladyland performing in a chillout zone.. highly atmospheric" \*\*\*\* stars*  
**Jazzwise**

*"There's nothing quite like their groove based and atmospheric jazz... not so much world music as alien music"*  
**Jazz Journal**

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