

MICHELSON MORLEY

Jake McMurchie saxophones / electronics

Mark Whitlam drums / electronics

Will Harris double bass

Dan Messore guitar / electronics

With their debut release ***Aether Drift*** in April 2014, Bristol-based quartet **Michelson Morley** announced themselves as one of the most original and exciting new bands to hit the UK scene.

But the band's restless collective imagination is already pushing them into darker, ambient waters and the input of rising star **Dan Messore** on guitar is opening new worlds of sound and improvisation.

Album number 2 "***Strange Courage***" will be released in June 2016 on **Babel Label**.

Michelson Morley came together as a trio in 2012, and features some of the leading players of the Bristol scene.

Drummer **Mark Whitlam** plays with many of the UK's top jazz musicians including Jim Mullen, Alan Barnes, Tina May, Dave Newton as well as US saxophonist Benn Clatworthy.

Will Harris's work with Emily Wright's Moonlight Saving Time has taken him to Brecon, Cheltenham and Manchester jazz festivals as well as Pizza Express Jazz Club, Manchester's Band On The Wall and live sessions for BBC Radio 3 and BBC 6 Music. But he is also a regular member of Karen Street's Streetworks (alongside Mike Outram) and the Colman Brothers. Will has also shared the stage with the likes of Bobby Wellins, Alan Barnes, David Newton, Simon Spillett, Tina May, Anita Wardell, Damon Brown, Ed Jones and Benn Clatworthy.

Jake McMurchie tours internationally with Get the Blessing and also plays with other Bristol bands Greg Cordez Quintet, the Nick Malcolm Quintet, What Four, Mr Dowland's Midnight as well as Portishead and the great Portuguese singer Fernando Tordo.

Dan Messore's right hand man in quartet Indigo Kid is Iain Ballamy, who describes him as "a mature and confident musician with an individual approach to writing and playing." Dan has inherited and absorbed a diverse range of music, from the post-contemporary fusion of Pat Metheny and Kurt Rosenwinkel, to the rich folk-rock traditions of John Fahey and Bert Jansch. Messore's sweet folksy harmonies and dreamily chiming open chords recall the misty mountain landscapes of



Led Zeppelin, but jazz is central, with hints of Bill Frisell's Americana always to the fore. Dan's second Indigo Kid album ***Fist Full of Notes*** featuring Ian Ballamy was featured in Mojo Magazine's top 10 jazz records of 2015.

PRAISE FOR MICHELSON MORLEY

"...really imaginative contemporary music, with a hot free-jazz core"

John Fordham, The Guardian, June 2016 ****

Michelson Morley's spacious, menacing avant jazztronica ... With Michelson Morley, jazz in the age of the electroacoustic loop is in safe hands."

Selwyn Harris, Jazzwise magazine, July 2016 ****

"They've lost none of the inventiveness they displayed on their first album ... really unique"

Nick Luscombe, Late Junction, 27/4/2016

Featured in Jazzwise magazine's "Taking Off", August 2014

"liberating flexibilities of time and space certainly characterise McMurchie's fine first album as a composer/leader ... The compositions are imaginative and the collective creativity gives the set an unapologetically jazz-rooted feel"

John Fordham, The Guardian

"... the sparse textures and nu-groove-with-loops aspects link to post-rock aesthetic as much as they do contemporary UK jazz. But it's more than good enough to get the blessing from Jazzwise."

Selwyn Harris, Jazzwise magazine

"... it's minimalism on steroids with huge dollops of collective improvisation, electronic atmospheric and some irresistibly catchy melodic phrases ... There's an organic feel to the collective sound, recorded live including all the electronic effects. Their joint, extended explorations make for compelling listening. This is a supremely confident debut"

Mike Collins, London Jazz News

"The album successfully bridges a bluesy freebop acoustic jazz sensibility and futurejazz electronica... A fine debut."

Marlbank magazine ****

"Strong melodies, inventive rhythms and grooves, plus imaginative use of electronics adds up to a winning formula that is thoroughly convincing"

The Jazzmann