

Press Kit – Chris Hodgkins International Quartet - Jinjoo Yoo/Chris Hodgkins/Wayne Wilkinson /Alison Rayner Tour May 2019

Chris Hodgkins International Quartet

JINJOO YOO piano (USA)

WAYNE WILKINSON guitar (USA)

CHRIS HODGKINS trumpet

ALISON RAYNER bass

An outstanding Anglo/American quartet led by award winning trumpet player Chris Hodgkins a man of many talents - musician, bandleader, administrator, author, broadcaster and much more. For this tour he has recruited South Korean pianist from New York, Jinjoo Yoo, *“one of the most exciting pianists on the scene in New York”*, plus Wayne Wilkinson a headline guitarist, *“one of the best, most underrated jazz guitarists in the USA”*.

Alison Rayner is featured on bass - winner of the Parliamentary Jazz Award 2018 for Best Ensemble.

The music comprises a mixture of standards and four originals specially written for this tour. These compositions celebrate famous musicians that the band members have played with in the past. Don't miss the chance to see this special show.

“This live chamber jazz album exhibits a wonderful chemistry between the trio of trumpeter Chris Hodgkins and guitarist Wayne Wilkinson. Captivating.” The Musician

'Supported using public funding by Arts Council England'

Please note also that the gig on Saturday 18th May is supported by “Night Out”

Chris Hodgkins

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www.chrishodgkins.co.uk

www.jazzlondonradio.com

[Jazz Then And Now playlist](#)

[Jazz Is...Pure Jazz Radio New York](#)

www.complaintsinwonderland.co.uk

<https://twitter.com/HodgkinsChris>

Biographies are below and further details from: <http://www.chrishodgkins.co.uk/bandsgigs/>

Chris Hodgkins Quartet - Jinjoo Yoo/Chris Hodgkins/Wayne Wilkinson /Alison Rayner Tour 14th 26th May 2019

Tuesday 14th May PizzaExpress Jazz Club , Soho , London, 8:30pm

www.pizzaexpresslive.com Box Office: 020 7439 4962

Wednesday 15th May Scarborough Jazz Club 8:45

www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk Box Office: 01723 821888

Thursday 16th May Chesterfield Jazz Club 8pm

<https://chesterfieldjazz.wordpress.com> Box Office: 01246 345777

Friday 17th May The Plough, Vicarage Lane, Rottingdean 7.30pm
www.splashpointjazz.club Box Office: www.wegotickets.com

Saturday 18th May Jazz At St Mary's St Mary's Church of the Virgin
Hay on Wye + Janice Day and Martin Litton Box Office: 07748 652 194

Sunday 19th May PizzaExpress Live, Maidstone 7:30pm
www.pizzaexpresslive.com Box Office: 020 7439 4962

Tuesday 21st May Jazz In Wilmslow 8pm
www.grahambrookjazz.co.uk Box Office: 01625 528336

Wednesday 22nd May Fougou Jazz, Churston Golf Club, Dartmouth Road, Brixham. 8pm
<https://fougoumusic.com/> Box Office: <https://fougoumusic.com>

Thursday 23rd May Cafe Jazz Cardiff 8:30pm
www.cafejazzcardiff.com Box Office: 029 2038 7026.

Friday 24th May PizzaExpress Live, Birmingham 8:30pm
www.pizzaexpresslive.com Box Office: 020 7439 4962

Saturday 25th May Zeffirellis Ambleside 8pm
www.zeffirellis.com Box office: 015394-33845

Sunday 26th May Wigan Jazz Club, Whelley Ex-Servicemen's Club, Wigan Lunch time 12:30pm
www.wiganjazzclub.co.uk Box Office: <https://justaddtickets.co.uk>



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Biographies

Chris Hodgkins MBA FCIM was raised in Cardiff. In 1974 he co-founded the Welsh Jazz Festival and was instrumental, four years later, in establishing the Welsh Jazz Society. Chris joined the Icon Jazzmen on trumpet when he was 18 then became a professional trumpeter touring the UK and Europe with Johnny Bastable's Chosen Six, Monty Sunshine and Route 66. He appeared at the Sacramento Jazz Festival in the States with the Pete Allen Band, and made tours of Germany with the Chris Haskins Band.

He formed a band under his own name that made a name for itself supporting the likes of Buddy Tate, Humphrey Lyttelton, Kathy Stobart, Bud Freeman, Dick Carey, Harry South, Ronnie Ross, Billy Butterfield, Joe Temperley, Howard McGhee, Peanuts Hucko, Benny Waters and Wild Bill Davison who commented, "It's hell of a good band". The band also made a number of television and radio appearances.



Chris relocated to London to play professionally but gave up being a full-time musician when, in 1985, he was appointed Director of Jazz Services - the national organisation funded by Arts Council England to provide services in information, touring, education, communications and publishing to the UK jazz community.

In 2005, Jazz Services won the Best Website category in the first Parliamentary Jazz Awards and received the 2008 Parliamentary Jazz Awards for Jazz UK as best jazz magazine. In January 2011 as Chair of the National Jazz Archive, Chris led the team that secured investment of £346,300 in the National Jazz Archive by the Heritage Lottery Fund. In May 2012 Jazz Services again received one of the Parliamentary Jazz Awards, when it named 'Jazz UK' as the best jazz magazine.

Chris also helped to set up the annual Parliamentary Jazz Awards to recognise jazz talent before retiring from Jazz Services in May 2014. His contribution to the wider scene has been recognised by the receipt of a BBC Jazz Award (2002), the British Jazz Award (2013) - both for Services to Jazz. And the Services to Jazz Award at the Parliamentary Jazz Awards in March 2015. Chris has now taken to the road, the radio and the recording studio to focus on playing the music he loves.

Chris fronts three outfits: The Chris Hodgkins Quartet, featuring Alison Rayner on double bass and Max Brittain on guitar with the addition of Diane McLoughlin on soprano/alto sax, and the Chris Hodgkins Band. He also works with pianist Dave Price in a trio setting featuring Erika Lyons on bass. In 2005, the Chris Hodgkins Trio, with Max Brittain and Alison Rayner released "*Present Continuous*" and the second Trio album "*Future Continuous*" followed a year later.

Chris' most ambitious project was the album "*Boswell's London Journal*", a suite of 15 tunes co-composed by Chris Hodgkins and Eddie Harvey, which received the Evening Standard CD of the week in 2009.

In September 2014 with Dave Price, Erika Lyons and Ashley John Long, Chris completed the album "*Back In Your Own Back Yard*". Chris returned to Wales to rehearse and record the album.

In September 2014 [Jazz London Radio](#) announced that Chris Hodgkins would be joining the station with a new weekly show called "Jazz Then and Now".

The concept of the show is, as Chris puts it, "what it says on the tin". Chris will be delving into the history of the music and present what is happening on the scene today with a watchful eye on British contemporary jazz. The show runs every Monday and Wednesday at 3pm and 8pm and is repeated on Thursday at 8pm.

On the 15th February 2016 Chris started presenting a programme on [Pure Jazz Radio](#) in New York. The programme is called, 'Jazz is...' and the concept of the programme is that jazz is a broad church that has developed an incredibly diverse range of music with a global reach. The programme illustrates the rich history of jazz and the vibrant, exciting and innovative jazz of today

In July 2017 Chris was appointed by the All Party Parliamentary Jazz Appreciation Group to act as their Secretariat and details can be found at: [All Party Parliamentary Jazz Appreciation Group](#) The Group recently held the Parliamentary Jazz Awards at PizzaEpress Live in Holborn, London in 2018.

Details of the recipients of the 2017 Awards can be found at: [Parliamentary Jazz Awards 2017](#)

In October 2017 Chris released the album; Lenore *Raphael*, Wayne *Wilkinson* and Chris *Hodgkins at Pizza Express Live, Dean Street*. In October Chris also released; *Chris Hodgkins and His Band - Retrospection* featuring the radio and TV broadcasts 1976 -

1978 and *Remembering John Evans 1934 – 2015*. The Chris Hodgkins Quartet is due to release *Dictionary Johnson* in 2019.

In May 2019 with funding from the Arts Council England Chris will be touring with his international quartet of Jinjoo Yoo, Wayne Wilkinson and Alison Rayner playing 12 dates in England and two in Wales.

Chris has just published three new manuals and revised three manuals on the Online Music Business Resource. The three new publications are; '*Where do you want to be*' – a business planning manual for jazz music students and musicians, '*A Guide To Music Organisations*' –

Including *Copyright, Royalties and IRCs*; and 'A Quick Guide to Contracts for Jazz Musicians'. The three manuals that have been revised are; 'Guide To Marketing Your Band', 'Funding Tips' and the 'Guide To Getting Your Music On The Radio'. All six manuals are available as free down loads from: www.chrishodgkins.co.uk

"For many years better known as the man in charge of Jazz Services, Chris Hodgkins' credentials as a melodic mainstream trumpeter have been increasingly evident since his retirement from that post." **The Jazz Rag**, Spring 2018

"Trumpeter Hodgkins working with the Americans Lenore and Wilkinson. Falling into the chamber jazz category and perpetuating the trumpeter's preference for intimate groupings..... with Hodgkins punching home the melodies in his Eldridge-to-Shavers mainstream style as Lenore and Wilkinson accompany and then take their turns to solo..... Hodgkins has both commendable facility and a vivid imagination." Peter Vacher, **Jazzwise** December/January 2018.



Jinjoo Yoo, jazz pianist/composer/arranger is a dynamic performer with a unique voice. Hailing from Seoul, South Korea, Jinjoo currently resides in New York and collaborates with different projects and leads her own group as well. As a leader and a solo performer, she has toured internationally, including performances in the United States, Italy, Greece, Azerbaijan, and South Korea. In 2017, she was selected as one of the finalists for the Baku Jazz Competition.

Enjoying singing and playing instruments from her youth, Jazz captured her attention soon after starting University in South Korea. It didn't take long for her to fall in love with Mary Lou Williams, Wynton Kelly, Teddy Wilson, Bud Powell, Sonny Clark, Art Tatum, Jimmy Rowles, Billie Holiday and Carmen McRae. Since then, she has immersed herself in the music by listening to jazz legends' albums, studying music harmony and theory by herself. Although she was studying Sociology and Economics in her undergraduate years, she found herself more interested in jazz rather than her major. After her graduation, she decided to focus on jazz more deeply in New York. In 2017, Jinjoo earned Master's degree in Jazz Performance from Queens College.

Jinjoo stylistically encompasses the range from Jazz Classic and the American songbook to original compositions that swing. Jinjoo thinks that her music should be able to describe this world, either beautiful or ugly, and the way she feels while observing it. Her original tunes bring stories and emotions of curiosity, joyfulness, tragedy, gratitude, melancholy, and pain.

Jinjoo recently released her debut album; *I'm Curious* (Gut String Records, 2018) as a leader, where she presented her point of view on music. This album features two of incredible jazz artists: Neal Miner, one of the most sought-after bassists in New York Jazz Scene, and the legendary drummer Jimmy Wormworth who has a long history and playing credentials with a host of historic jazz figures. With this Trio album, Jinjoo recently finished her CD release tour in Greece and Italy successfully. In New York, she held a CD Release Show at Rockwood Music Hall with the original members featured on her album, Jimmy Wormworth and Neal Miner.

"...Her music is unhackneyed, melodic, welcoming. She spins out long graceful lines that aren't four-bar modules copied from other pianists. She has her own voice, or I should say, Voices. The performances often begin with a simple melodic motif set over a clear, swinging rhythmic foundation.

It's clear that she has steeped herself in the jazz tradition — reaching far and wide to include bebop, Jimmy Rowles, Ellington, Monk, and American popular song at its best — but she is herself."

Michael Steinman, **Jazz Lives**

"Irrepressible, Purist Fun From an Important, Individualistic New Voice in Jazz Piano..." **New York Music Daily**

"In my opinion, Jinjoo Yoo is one of the most exciting new young pianists on the scene in New York. I love her thoughtful, graceful style" Stephanie Fitt

Further information:

<https://jinjooyoo.com/https://musicians.allaboutjazz.com/jinjooyoo>

Wayne Wilkinson is a headliner guitarist that performs and tours across the country and internationally. Throughout his over four decade career, Wayne has shared the stage with iconic jazz musicians, world class performers and a President of the United States.



Wayne, an artist with Benedetto guitars and GHS Strings, is known for playing high-octane straight ahead jazz, innovative bebop jazz and original compositions.

As a faculty member at the nationally accredited Colorado Springs Conservatory, Wayne helped establish the Jazz program. He is also an adjunct professor for Jazz Guitar at Colorado State University - Pueblo and conducts master classes and clinics.

Wayne has played at the White House, Carnegie Hall and at major jazz and music festivals with the premier Air Force Jazz Ensembles "The Airmen of Note" in Washington, D.C. and the "Falconaires" in Colorado Springs, Colorado and has played with jazz greats like Joe Williams, Ernie Watts, Michael Brecker, James Moody and Stanley Turrentine, as well as with President Bill Clinton, Bob Hope, and The Four Freshman.

"In my life I don't think I've ever heard a more magnificent guitar player than Wayne. His CD "It's a Lark" is the greatest guitar playing I have ever heard." **Bill Watrous.**



Bass player and composer **Alison Rayner** has been playing jazz and other contemporary music since the mid-70s. She spent five years in the 80s with critically acclaimed jazz/Latin group The Guest Stars, touring all major international jazz venues and festivals and recording three albums. She currently leads ARQ, her contemporary jazz quintet, described as 'a beautifully integrated band' **** by Dave Gelly in the Observer; ARQ have built a substantial and wide-ranging audience over the past three years of touring. Their recent second album 'A Magic Life' has had national and international radio play, with outstanding reviews in the jazz and national press:

Alison Rayner. Photo: Brian Payne

"With her big warm acoustic sound, faultless time, tuning and taste and creative solo ability, she clearly belongs in the front rank of contemporary bassists." Digby Fairweather

"Beneath it all Rayner is dark and sonorous, like a Haden or Weber, able to make a rounded single note underwrite the band's soarings..." **Andy Robson**, Jazzwise

"Playing bass with a big, beautiful bass sound that comes from the heart..."
Val Wilmer, author, **As Serious as Your Life: The Story of the New Jazz**

"Purposeful, full-toned and melodic..."
Dave Gelly, the Observer

Photos

Jinjoo Yoo: Photo credit Jackson Notier



Chris Hodgkins: Photo credit Chris Taylor



Wayne Wilkinson: Photo Credit Brian Kwan



Alison Rayner: Photo credit Brian Payne



On the gig on Saturday 18th May there are two guests and the event is supported by Noson Allan/Night Out

Martin Litton

<https://www.martinlitton.com/>

Martin Litton is an internationally renowned pianist, arranger, and bandleader specialising in all the classic styles of jazz, from the age of Ragtime through to the Swing era and beyond.

He has broadcast frequently on BBC Radio 3, talking about and demonstrating the music of Jelly Roll Morton, Fats Waller, Earl Hines and Teddy Wilson.

Martin has worked and recorded with many legendary British and American musicians, including Humphrey Lyttelton, Kenny Ball, Harry Gold, Clare Teal, Kenny Davern, Scott Hamilton, Bob Wilber, Marty Grosz, and Wild Bill Davison. He has recorded in excess of sixty albums.

He has a Wikipedia page and an entry in several jazz reference books including the Who's Who of British Jazz.

Litton excels as blues man, strider and swinger (The Jazz Journal)



Janice Day

<https://www.janiceday.co.uk/>

Janice Day studied music at Birmingham University and after a successful career as a Repertory Singer (singing the repertoire of the Dance Bands of the 1920s and 30s) developed a 1930s musical character comedy act and a one-woman show.

She is a commissioned screenwriter, author and award-winning stand-up comedian.

Original lead singer of both the Piccadilly Dance Orchestra and Keith Nichols' Cotton Club Orchestra she has performed at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Royal Festival Hall, the Purcell Room, the Wigmore Hall for Radio Three, Proms in the Park, Cadogan Hall; and at jazz clubs and festivals in Europe and South East Asia.

