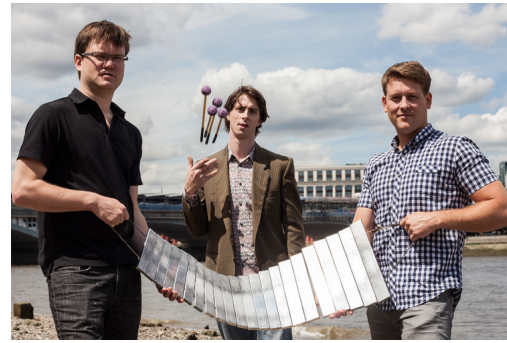


Cloudmakers Trio Biography

Amongst the hotbed of talent on the London post-jazz improv scene there is one band that stands out from the crowd for their no-gimmick & uncompromising approach to music making that effortlessly marries the complex with accessibility. Cloudmakers Trio play original music that lies somewhere between New York's 'downtown' sound and the modern European tradition, and



with the help of their rare instrumentation, featuring the vibraphone in a trio leadership role, their soundworld defies category yet draws influence from a diverse range of music traditions, while maintaining a devotion to raw energy, in the moment risk taking, a dedication to deep groove and rhythm, and strong melody.

Under the leadership of the award-winning multi-instrumentalist Jim Hart, the Cloudmakers Trio represents the culmination of over a decade of musical growth between three of the finest London-based musicians currently working on the international jazz, improvised, and alternative music scenes. And they have no boundaries; their collective resumes include performances with Evan Parker, Fofoulah, Sir John Dankworth, Joe Lovano, Kurt Rosenwinkel, JuJu, Dianne Reeves, Quincy Jones, Outhouse Ruhabi, Heritage Orchestra, Ingrid Jensen, Lee Konitz, Walter Smith III and Robert Plant.

Having performed as a trio for many touring projects over the years, Hart had the good sense to make this group the focus of his new compositions and arrangements. With US born, London-based virtuoso Michael Janisch on double bass, and long time musical associate David Smith on drums and percussion, Cloudmakers Trio officially formed in July, 2010. Since their formation CMT has become a hit in their native UK and quickly become one of Mainland Europe's most talked about young bands, with performances across the continent. Excitedly, the trio have also turned heads in Japan & the USA from fans, critics and prominent musicians alike as a result of their high-energy live shows and the release of their debut album.

[Live at the Pizza Express](#) (Whirlwind Recordings) which featured the iconic trumpeter, composer, and musical conceptualist Ralph Alessi was released in Sept, 2012 to international acclaim. The album kickstarted an intense few years of worldwide touring, honing their band sound and developing all new repertoire, resulting in their forthcoming album [Abstract Forces](#) (release date Sept 2014). This new collection of tunes masterfully penned by Hart sees CMT effortlessly blending free improvisation with full on rock grooves, hard swing mixed subtly complex rhythms, and unabashed group interplay paired with epic, soaring refrains. No doubt their new album will boost their reputation further as one of the most exciting and eclectic of improv bands currently based in Europe.

Press Highlights

Hart is being aligned with an emerging set of exciting, forward-looking contemporary vibraphonists such as New York's Chris Dingman, Matt Moran, and Chicagoan Jason Adasiewicz. Hart's new rhythm trio is certainly going to be one for the future. The American London-resident double bassist Michael Janisch and drummer Dave Smith combine with Hart in an assuredly airtight yet elasticized trio." - Jazzwise Magazine

"The Cloudmakers Trio brings together three of the most inventive players on the UK scene." - All About Jazz

"Every note counts in vibraphonist Jim Hart's Cloudmakers Trio." - The Irish Times

"The vibraphone remains one of the great unsung heroes of jazz's arsenal but young British virtuoso Jim Hart has the wit and invention to make its mercurial charms immediately and abundantly apparent." - The Metro

"They share an interest in maze-like melodies and tricky time signatures – but they don't let their music's intelligence furrow either their brows or the audience's. What a bright idea this meeting of sympathetic minds had been." - 4 Stars, The Guardian

"The cream of London's first call rhythm section players." - Jazzwise Magazine