



MICHAEL JANISCH BAND BIOGRAPHY: UK Jazz is one of the most buzzing music scenes in the world right now, with a plethora of home-grown and immigrant artists pushing the boundaries of contemporary improvised music by mixing elements from jazz's history with contemporary sounds from groove, hip-hop, Afrobeat and EDM in ways that is inspiring new legions of fans across the globe. London has become the epicentre, and amongst the scene there is a deep pool of artists who have all contributed to this shift in musical-direction, alongside some of the more recently-established names.

One such artist is **Michael Janisch**, a US-native who has lived in London for 15 years and in that time has established himself as a first-call electric & double bassist to the stars, a MOBO-Award nominated solo artist, an in-demand producer, and owner of **Whirlwind Recordings**, one of the premiere indie labels in jazz and related musics. His new solo album **Worlds Collide** is an electro-acoustic joyride of original material recorded at Abbey Road Studios, combining contemporary jazz alongside free improvisations and soaring melodies over multi-metered grooves paying homage to artists as diverse as Ornette Coleman, Fela Kuti & Afro-Beat to the electronic music pioneer Aphex Twin.

Joining Janisch (on basses) for his live shows (**MICHAEL JANISCH BAND**) is his new London-based band which showcases some of the finest performers in the UK today: **Nathaniel Facey** on alto saxophone (Empirical, Gary Crosby OBE), **George Crowley** on tenor saxophone (Melt Yourself Down, Yazz Ahmed), **Rick Simpson** on piano/keys (Christian Scott, Leo Richardson), and **Shane Forbes** on drums (Soweto Kinch, Empirical).

L to R below: Rick Simpson, George Crowley, MJ, Shane Forbes, Nathaniel Facey - at the Kings Place Hall 2 album launch for Worlds Collide, Sept 2019



RECENT PRESS HIGHLIGHTS FOR 'WORLDS COLLIDE'

Worlds Collide is the new album from **Michael Janisch**, his 6th solo album as a leader. Already since its early September release the album is being heralded as one of the biggest jazz releases of 2019 with glowing 5 Star reviews, as well as as the cover star feature for UK's Jazzwise Magazine, features with Gilles Peterson's Worldwide FM, BBC J to Z, Downbeat and Clash Music Magazines, as well as being added to Spotify's 'State of Jazz' and 'UK Jazz' playlist. Many more features, including cover star for Jazz in Europe & Concerto Magazine, and features in Jazz Thing, Germany.



"Worlds Collide is a worthy addition to the Janisch solo canon, a recording that demonstrates his increasing skill and maturity as a musician and composer. The playing, by an all star cast, is excellent throughout with the leader's contribution at the heart of the ensemble."

★★★★★ **The Jazz Mann**

"This new songbook draws a coherent line through groove, swing and avant-garde sensibilities... Impressively helmed by a bandleader who is in the ascendant."

★★★★★ **Jazzwise Magazine**

Michael Janisch Biography



Michael Janisch has established himself as a tireless creative force across the developing international spheres of contemporary improvised and experimental music. Based in London (originally from the USA), he successfully traverses this creative topography as a first-call electric & double bassist, MOBO-Award nominated solo artist, prolific producer, and owner of Whirlwind Recordings, which has become one of the world's premiere indie labels of the last decade. Janisch's previous solo albums have been nominated for multiple industry awards, while getting radio spins on Gilles Peterson, NPR, WDR, BBC, JazzFM shows as well as coverage in Jazzwise, Jazz Thing, Downbeat & Concerto Magazines, The NY Times & Guardian and beyond to international acclaim. His

new album *Worlds Collide* is an electro-acoustic album of original material recorded at Abbey Road Studios and has been described as combining contemporary jazz heavily influenced by both the London/New York scenes alongside free improvisations and soaring melodies over multi-metered grooves, paying homage to artists such as Feli Kuti & Afro-Beat and the electronic music pioneer Aphex Twin. The album features a cast comprised of some of the world's most creative improvisers.

Michael has performed with:

Quincy Jones, Shirley Horn, George Garzone, Roy Hargrove, Dianne Reeves, Phil Robson, Mark Turner, John Taylor, Joe Lovano, Ingrid Jenson, Jaleel Shaw, Perico Sambeat, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Vincent Herring, Gary Burton, Evan Parker, Clarence Penn, Kenny Wheeler, Lee Konitz, Donny McCaslin, Walter Smith III, Sir John Dankworth, Paul Jackson, Leon Parker, Mike Moreno, Claire Martin OBE, Gwilym Simcock, Jason Palmer, Jacob Collier, Donna Lewis, Till Brönner, Will Vinson, Christine Tobin, John Taylor, Ambrose Akinmusire, Wynton Marsalis, Chris Botti, Patrick Cornelius, Ralph Alessi, Jeff Ballard, Kendrick Scott, Jeremy Pelt, Logan Richardson, Alex Garnett, Gary Husband, Greg Osby, Aaron Parks, Martin Taylor, Kurt Elling, Richard Galliano, Seamus Blake, Matthew Stevens...