

COLUMN

THE SNOWBOY COLUMN (MARCH)



Welcome back. The line-ups for both Cheltenham and Oxford Jazz Festivals have been announced and I'll be going through the bands next month. There seems to be a lot of activity around the Jazz world at the moment, as my column shows this month.

BRIT JAZZ WEEK IN AUSTRIA AND GERMANY

Air Artist Agency has announced their **Brit Jazz Week** in Germany and Austria, featuring six of the UK's best acts from their roster.

The Brit Jazz Week comprises 76 gigs across 13 different cities, with 14 different clubs hosting performances from a different one of the bands each night. Between them, the bands have been recognised by the **MOBO** and **MOJO Awards**, **Mercury Music Prize** and just about every British jazz award available. They have all toured internationally but this is the first time any of them will be presented in Germany and Austria in such a big way.

With influences as diverse as Indian music, hip-hop, rap, trip-hop and rock, the bands involved are ex-**Portishead** jazz-rockers **Get The Blessing**, saxophonist **Jason Yarde**, Indo-Jazz clarinetist **Arun Ghosh**, pianist **Kit Downes**, **The Julian Siegel Quartet** and rapper-saxophonist **Soweto Kinch**.

This tour will be launched with three nights of performances in London's Pizza Express Jazz Club (Dean Street):

11th March – Get The Blessing / Arun Ghosh

12th March – Julian Siegel Quartet

13th March – Kit Downes Trio + Jason Yarde / Andrew McCormack's 'MY Duo' + Jason Yarde's 'Trio WAH'

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