

Saxophonist Josephine



Born into a musical family, Josephine played classical piano and flute as a child, taking up the sax at the age of 13 primarily to look cool. At 14 she was exposed to Pink Floyd's "Money", after which (whilst being capable of little more than a honking F major scale and blithely oblivious to the concept of 7/4) she added 4 years to her age in order to join a rock group and quaff her way around the odious dives of Hastings.

Realising at 16 that mastering an instrument rather than using it mainly as a hat stand takes some effort, she decided to become an actor instead and enrolled at Lewes Tertiary College on both the Music and Theatre courses. However, musicians being what they are, the stop for a "swift half" at the Royal Oak on the way from the music annexe to the main college meant that those studying Maths, English Lit., Biology (delete as appropriate) frequently failed to arrive.

Thus Josephine remained primarily a saxophone player and stumbled into the under graduate classical course at Guildhall. Deciding that classical saxophone was never going to float her boat, she embarked on the seemingly arduous yet ultimately fulfilling task of "learning to play Jazz".

Since graduating in 2000 she has remained in London working as a freelance musician, inundating herself with tea, and experimenting with hair colour.

Josephine studied classical and jazz saxophone at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, whilst there winning the 1999 Perrier Young Jazz Award with a quintet led by trumpeter Tom Allan.

She has since performed and recorded with the London Jazz Orchestra, Ronnie Scott's Vanguard Band, Jamie Cullum, Georgie Fame, Sax Appeal, Vortex Foundation Band, Will Young, Laurence Cottle Big Band, Gareth Lockrane's GrooveYard, Matt Wates sextet as well as a two year stint in the National Youth Jazz Orchestra.

Whilst being a regular member of various groups, Josephine also leads her own quintet performing original music. She is influenced and inspired by myriad sources, among them Chris Potter, Brad Mehldau, Walt Weiskopf and John Coltrane.

"A lyrical voice infused with a gritty, relentless dynamism...The future of the saxophone is in good hands." - Frank Griffith



For Further information contact



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