

## Sheffield Jazz Autumn 2021 Season

### **Crookes Social Club, Mulehouse Road, Sheffield, S10 1TD. tel: 0114 266 0114**

Doors open at 19.30, music starts at 20.00, finish time 23.00. Prices: Full £16 (£17 for Nikki Iles); over 60s, disabled unemployed £14 (£15 for Nikki Iles); students with NUS card £9; 15–17 year olds £4; under 15s FREE. Advance tickets available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/sheffield-jazz](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/sheffield-jazz).

### **Firth Hall, Firth Court, Western Bank, Sheffield, S10 2TN tel 0114 222 0468**

**(in partnership with University of Sheffield Concerts).**

Doors open at 19.00, music starts at 19.30, finish time 22.00. Prices: Full £17; over 60s, disabled, unemployed £15; students with NUS card £9; 15–17 year olds £4; Under 15s FREE.

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Date & venue	Band	Description
<b>Friday 1 October at 20.00 Crookes Social Club</b>	<b>George Crowley Trio</b> George Crowley: sax Rob Luft: guitar Tim Giles: drums	George Crowley has established himself as a key player within London's burgeoning creative jazz and improv scene. His energy and expressive, warm saxophone sound mark him out as a musician to watch. He is accompanied here by Sheffield favourite Rob Luft, a tremendously fluent and innovative guitarist and the versatile Tim Giles on drums. A dynamic trio playing George's original music and covering a diverse territory, with the music predominantly being driven by very strong melody, from lyrical folk to more contemporary electronic textures. <i>"a fine young composer/player who knows where the music has been and where he's headed with it."</i> – John Fordham, <i>The Guardian</i> .
<b>Friday 8 October at 20.00 Crookes Social Club</b>	<b>Nikki Iles Jazz Orchestra</b> Nikki Iles: conductor/piano; Tori Freestone: tenor sax, flute; Julian Siegel: tenor sax, bass clarinet; Karen Sharp: baritone & tenor sax, clarinet; Gareth Lochrane: flute, alto flute; Paul Jones: alto sax, flute; Andy Schofield: alto & soprano sax, flute; trumpets: Henry Lowther, Tom Walsh, Nick Smart, James Copus; trombones: Gordon Campbell, Richard Henry, Harry Maund, Ollie Martin; Mike Walker: guitar; Steve Watts: bass Ian Thomas: drums	Another big band treat at Crookes Social Club! Award-winning pianist, composer and educator Nikki Iles' Jazz Orchestra marks a new chapter in a long and distinguished career in British Jazz. Featuring commissions from over the years, new orchestrations of her own small band tunes and new compositions, the superb band she has assembled will showcase the depth and range of her writing and arranging. Expect great jazz from top-drawer musicians highlighting Nikki's distinctive creative voice.
<b>Friday 15 October at 20.00 Crookes Social Club</b>	<b>Hexagonal</b> John Donaldson: piano Jason Yarde: alto & baritone sax Greg Heath: tenor sax Graeme Flowers: trumpet Simon Thorpe: bass Tristan Banks: drums	A welcome return for this sextet whose exciting, high energy music with African and Jazz influences makes for a joyous, uplifting live experience. Formed in 2016 to perform the music of two titans of jazz piano - South African multi-instrumentalist and composer Bheki Mseleku and US jazz icon McCoy Tyner - it was an ambition born of love and experience; Simon and John toured with Bheki while Jason worked with McCoy. These associations bring an authority and authenticity to the group's music and a strong influence on their original material. Expect a variety of rich melodies, vibrant harmonies and infectious grooves reflecting Mseleku's lyricism and Tyner's blues sensibility.
<b>Thursday 21 October at 19.30 Firth Hall (in partnership with University of Sheffield Concerts)</b>	<b>Acoustic Triangle</b> Malcolm Creese: bass Gwilym Simcock: piano Tim Garland: saxophones and bass clarinet	A long awaited performance from this award-winning trio, part of a delayed tour to celebrated its twentieth year in 2020. These extraordinary virtuoso musicians present a unique blend of melodic jazz, classical and folk styles as they move effortlessly between the different genres with an emphasis on melody, spontaneous improvisation and thrilling interaction between the players. The trio's repertoire includes compositions written by Tim Garland and Gwilym Simcock, breath-taking improvisations and tasteful arrangements of pieces by Maurice Ravel, Kenny Wheeler, Bill Evans and Cole Porter that will surprise and delight. <i>"Adventurous, eclectic, frequently breathtaking ...three undisputed masters of the game"</i> – <i>The Guardian</i>

<p><b>Friday 22 October at 20.00 Crookes Social Club</b></p>	<p><b>Trish Clowes' My Iris</b> Trish Clowes: sax Chris Montague: guitar Ross Stanley: piano &amp; Hammond organ James Maddren: drums</p>	<p>Saxophonist Trish Clowes returns with her band My Iris, drawing inspiration from the concept of an iris opening and the kaleidoscopic range of sounds which the band is exploring. Following the band's two acclaimed studio albums Trish released a digital download only live album in 2020 to equally strong reviews. Expect thought provoking music – an exhilarating mix of brooding tunes with driving grooves, distinctive melodies and inventive shifts in tempo. <i>'An awesome foursome...With just four players, the variety of tone colour is quite remarkable and the playing is impeccable' ...**** Dave Gelly, The Observer</i></p>
<p><b>Friday 12 November at 20.00 Crookes Social Club</b></p>	<p><b>Bird Migration: Charlie Parker Centenary Big Band</b> saxophones: John O'Gallagher, Zhenya Strigalev, Alex Garnett, Josephine Davies: trumpets. Byron Wallen, Percy Pursglove, Robbie Robson: trombones: Trevor Mires, Winston Rollins, Richard Henry. Hans Koller: piano Calum Gourlay: bass Shane Forbes: drums</p>	<p>A 13-piece ensemble exploring and celebrating the musical ideas of Charlie 'Bird' Parker. Bird Migration is an innovative, cross-genre project from critically acclaimed composer and multi-instrumentalist Hans Koller, Head of Jazz at Trinity Laban Conservatoire. The project features a stellar group of top jazz musicians who have experience in diverse musical worlds, are characterised by a willingness to experiment and are committed to open improvising as well as being a disciplined part of an overall, innovative sound. Expect a rich soundscape reflecting Parker's revolutionary jazz innovations as well as his interest in contemporary classical composers.</p>
<p><b>Friday 19 November at 20.00 Crookes Social Club</b></p>	<p><b>Deschanel Gordon Trio</b> Deschanel Gordon: piano Will Sach: bass Will Cleasby: drums</p>	<p>Winner of BBC Young Jazz Musician 2020, pianist Deschanel Gordon is already making waves on the UK jazz scene. Deschanel, who has worked with the likes of upcoming trumpeter Mark Kavuma, Cassie Kinoshi's SEED Ensemble and US-born singer Judi Jackson, brings own trio to Sheffield which includes drummer Will Cleasby who so impressed as part of Jean Toussaint's Quartet at the Crucible last year. Expect a mixture of original tunes coming from a heavily straight ahead swing context, but influenced by the contemporary London scene and the music of his Jamaican heritage, plus his own take on some selected jazz standards. <i>"the piano man to watch...Deschanel Gordon" - London Jazz News</i></p>
<p><b>Friday 26 November at 20.00 Crookes Social Club</b></p>	<p><b>Freddie Gavita Quartet</b> Freddie Gavita: trumpet &amp; flugelhorn Tom Cawley: piano Calum Gourlay: bass Will Glaser: drums</p>	<p>Another chance to enjoy Freddie Gavita's quartet whose 2017 gig at Crookes was so impressive. Rising star Freddie is <i>establishing a reputation as one of the top trumpeters on the UK jazz scene</i>. He won the British Jazz Award for Best Trumpeter of 2017 and his acclaimed debut album 'Transient' was aimed at the heart, not the head, with a highly evocative collection of compositions written for his quartet. Expect scintillating grooves, heartfelt ballads and some serious swing from a line-up of top players which again <i>features Freddie's long-time collaborator, the award-winning keyboard player Tom Cawley. "Bebop for the 21<sup>st</sup> century" – Patrick Hadfield, London Jazz.</i></p>
<p><b>Friday 3 December at 20.00 Crookes Social Club</b></p>	<p><b>Clark Tracey Sextet</b> Clark Tracey: drums Tom Ridout: reeds Mark Armstrong: trumpet Daniel Higham: trombone Will Barry: piano James Owston: bass</p>	<p>Following a great gig at Crookes in 2018 with his quintet Clark Tracey returns to Sheffield with another line-up featuring some of the most gifted young jazz musicians. Aside from Clark, a six-time winner of Best Drums in the British Jazz Awards, Tom Ridout and James Owston were both past finalists in the BBC Young Jazz Musician competition while pianist Will Barry, who has played in Sheffield with Jasper Hoiby's and Alex Hitchcock's bands, won the Musicians' Company Jazz Young Musician award in 2017. From his own experience of over 40 years in jazz, Clark leads them through bebop to post-bop, a highly accessible journey that swings all the way.</p>
<p><b>Friday 10 December at 20.00 Crookes Social Club</b></p>	<p><b>Yazz Ahmed Quartet</b> Yazz Ahmed: trumpet &amp; flugelhorn Ralph Wyld: vibraphone Dave Manington: bass Josh Blackmore: drums</p>	<p>Yazz Ahmed returns to Sheffield following her hugely popular gig at Crookes in 2018. Her 2017 album 'La Saboteuse' was widely judged to be a jazz album of the year, blending Western and Middle Eastern influences. Her quartet will be performing music from her latest album 'Polyhymnia', a celebration of female courage, determination and creativity. <i>"Rich, powerful, colourful, exciting and highly evocative. Ahmed's most ambitious and most successful work to date..." The Jazz Mann</i>. It was rated Jazz FM Album of the Year 2020 while Yazz received Jazz Act of the Year in the same awards. Expect undulating rhythms, melody resonant with the sounds and sensations of the Middle East and sonorous trumpet lines.</p>