

Tracks

1.Right Angle 2.Mo 'Hip 3.And I Love Her 4.Split 5.Origin
6.Sure Would Baby 7.Sea Saw 8.Holly's Moment

Interpreters

Linley Hamilton: trumpet

Derek O'Connor: tenor sax

Cian Boylan: piano, organ

Mark Egan: electric bass

Adam Nussbaum: drums

Record Label: Teddy D Records

Recorded at Camden Recording Studios, Dublin, in May 2019.

Dr Linley Hamilton has been a part of the Irish music scene for over twenty years, as a trumpet player, as a jazz announcer on BBC Radio Ulster (Jazzworld with Linley Hamilton) and as a music professor at Magee University in Ulster.

Graduated from DIT Dublin with a First Class Master's Degree in Jazz Performance and Student Academic Medal. He also has a Ph.D. in Jazz Performance from Ulster University Magee.

In addition to releasing several albums under his own name, Hamilton has also worked as a session musician, performing several times with Van Morrison and on recordings by Eleanor McEvoy, Paul Brady, Jacqui Dankworth, Dana Masters, Jean Toussaint, and Ken Peplowski.

He presents his fifth album entitled "For the Record" where in addition to his usual collaborators, Cian Boylan and Derek O'Connor, two New York heavyweights, Adam Nussbaum and Mark Egan, join us.

With this album, Hamilton culminates a long-standing ambition of working with two of his musical icons, Adam Nussbaum and Mark Egan, along with his two good friends, Derek O'Connor and Cian Boylan. The trumpeter suggested that they form a band, which they agreed to by reserving four dates for a tour of Northern Ireland.

The original music was composed for this lineup and was written before the tour. The members of the group were sent so that they would have time to assimilate it and make sure that when they played live it was a success, as it was. The project took a year to complete.

The album begins with an elegant piano introduction by its composer, Boylan, on "Right Angle" that gives way to a vibrant theme with Hamilton and O'Connor in unison and in which the solos of tenor, powerful, and trumpet, they are really good. The rhythm maintains the tension without decaying in the least. In the end, a Hamilton and an O'Connor face off, while the rhythm section continues to add fuel to the fire. Nussbaum does his thing on drums, unsurprisingly. The album couldn't have started better.

Follow with "Mo 'Hip", also signed by Boylan. The calm comes after the storm. Egan's bass throws and maintains the pulse throughout the song. The winds drive the pace. They show us the quieter side of the quintet where Linley's trumpet shines. Nice piano sound from Boylan and nice solo from O'Connor.

We arrive at the third cut of the album and we are surprised by a beautiful trumpet solo from "And I Love Her" (Paul McCartney) from The Beatles album "A Hard Day's Night" from 1964. Beautiful version, which reveals the qualities of Hamilton for ballads and to perform versions of pop pieces. Boylan's piano borders on lyrical perfection. Egan and Nussbaum restrained, they collaborate to maintain that evocative atmosphere "Split" is co-written by Hamilton and Boylan. They take up the momentum of the song that opens the album, perhaps with more vigor if possible. Boylan doubles at piano and Hammond. O'Connor and Hamilton show off their blowing capabilities again.

Follow "Origin" by Johnny Taylor, former Hamilton pianist. A slow piece, where Hamilton's trumpet shines with its own light and in which Egan and Nussbaum contribute in the shade but in a masterful way. The intensity rises in the final section, but without exceeding the previously established limits.

The sixth track is "Sure Would Baby", a composition by Adam Nussbaum. An excellent blues originally interpreted by The Impossible Gentlemen and for which the years do not pass. Boylan's first notes already announce what awaits us if we keep listening.

All are equally excellent. The solos of Hamilton, Boylan and O'Connor, with the sustenance of Egan and Nussbaum, verge on perfection.

We are nearing the end of the album. Egan signed "Sea Saw" from his album "Truth Be Told" (2010), released on his own Wavetone record label. Interestingly, Egan started out as a trumpet player before deciding on the electric

bass, inspired by Jaco Pastorius. Light piece where, after an introduction by the band, Hamilton performs a single followed by another fluid solo by Egan himself. The album closes with another Hamilton and Boylan song, "Holly's moment", dedicated to the birth of O'Connor's little daughter, called Holly. It is certainly a joyful theme, as joyful is the birth of a child, a celebration without limits. Hamilton also made sure that this dream come true was recorded on record, this one that we can enjoy today. The disc is dedicated to Maureen, O'Connor's sister, who passed away during the planning of this project. Hamilton's future projection will have to be closely monitored.

The Jazz Room