

SERIOUS

JULES BUCKLEY Biography 2009

Composer, orchestrator and conductor Jules Buckley is a musical pioneer who pushes the boundaries of contemporary genres. Buckley has written compositions and orchestrations for world-renowned artists from many different musical backgrounds, including Grammy Award-winning Brazilian producer and arranger Eumir Deodato, the Anglo-Swedish cultural phenomenon known as Razorlight, US jazz vocalist and multi-instrumentalist Jose James, Brazilian drummer Airto Moreira as well as many British artists including: Ninja Tune's radical DJ/sampler Amon Tobin, soul/folk artist Jonathan Jeremiah, Fred Wesley and Pee Wee Ellis, UNCLE and avant-garde musician and producer Brian Eno.

Buckley holds the position of Guest Conductor with Holland's Metropole Orchestra led by US composing and arranging legend Vince Mendoza, where he was recently conducted a project featuring Argentinian bandoneon virtuoso Dino Saluzzi; he has worked with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra (dir: Susanna Mälkki) in collaboration with American freak-folk band CocoRosie; he has provided orchestrations for a celebrated collaboration between Aboriginal musical force Black Arm Band and the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra; he has worked with Finnish musician Jimi Tenor at the B-oost Festival in Amsterdam; and he was a key figure in the George Martin Celebrations at Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

In 2007, Buckley conducted the BBC Concert Orchestra and Big Band's tribute to the late Joe Zawinul and he conducted their recent collaboration with South African jazz legend Abdullah Ibrahim at the Barbican. Other recent highlights are collaborations with Within Temptation (Roadrunner Records) with The Metropole Orchestra at the Ahoy Theatre, Rotterdam and with the German hip-hop Die Fantastischen Vier in Ingolstadt and Stuttgart.

Other artists who have made use of his prodigious skills as orchestrator and conductor include: Mercury Music Award winners Arctic Monkeys, Dylan Howe, Kirk DiGiorgio (Warp Records), UK Grime All stars, Cuban pianist Gonzalo Rubalcaba (Blue Note), J-Wave 15 Japan, The 747s, Terence Blanchard (Blue Note), Goldie, UK hip-hop producers The Freestylers, Cape Verdian musicians Bana, Gil Semedo, Dina Medina and Grace Evora, The Gwilym Simcock Big Band, Andy Sheppard's Saxophone Massive, Plaid (Warp records), Two Banks of Four, DJ Yoda and Gabriel Prokofiev, Stuart McCallum, The Cinematic Orchestra (Ninja Tune), Fernando Lamerienhas, BlackBud and US trumpeter Wallace Rooney

Bursting onto the London scene in 2004 as founder of The Heritage Orchestra, (developed in partnership with Chris Wheeler), the orchestra evolved out of late-night sessions at London's Cargo night-club, becoming a fully-fledged chamber orchestra dedicated to performing new music with a daring approach to crossing and linking musical genres. Voted runners up in the BBC Radio 1 session of the year in 2005, The Heritage Orchestra released their self-titled debut album in the UK and Europe on Gilles Peterson's Brownswood Recordings in 2006 and followed this up with sold-out concerts at London's Hackney Empire and the Big Chill Festival.

Ever the musical agitator, Buckley has led the orchestra through hugely successful live shows at such diverse venues as The Miles Davis Hall (Montreaux Jazz Festival), The Sage Gateshead (Gateshead International Jazz Festival), The Barbican Hall (London Jazz Festival), WDR Radiohalle (WDR Jazz 3 Festival) The CBSO Centre (Birmingham), Handelsbeurs (Ghent, Belgium), The Royal Albert Hall and The Liverpool Philharmonic Hall as well as the Orchestra's home venue, the Shoreditch club, Cargo. More recently, Heritage completed work on the adventurous multi-faceted collaboration between cutting-edge improvisers The Bays and composers John Metcalfe and Simon Hale for Liverpool's European City of Culture celebrations and this project performed at The Big Chill ahead of a nationwide tour in the autumn of 2008. Other recent highlights are the merger with the Slovakian Radio Orchestra as part of the Wilsonic Festival – a cross-cultural event which presented them in front of a massive audience in Bratislava, their Meltdown Festival debut where they were commissioned by Massive Attack to work

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with Vangelis, performing his soundtrack to Ridley Scott's *Bladerunner* at the Royal Festival Hall, their first Hollywood film score for *Black Water Transit*, featuring Laurence Fishburn, their performance with *The Streets* as part of the 2008 BBC Electric Proms at London's Roundhouse and with their groundbreaking collaboration with *The Bays* which was part of a UK tour in the autumn of 2008.