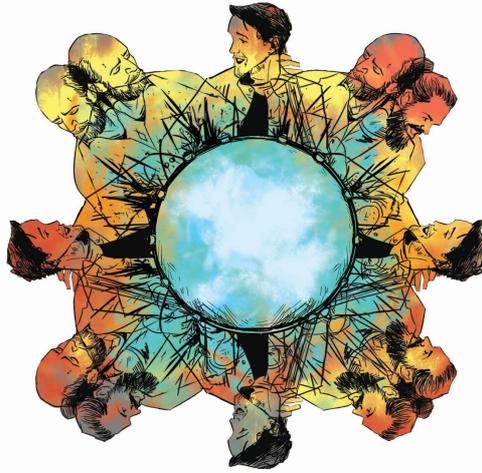


THE KOBE (KO-BE) TRIO



Kobe – Released 21st February 2020

Mark Murphy – Piano Jaimie Carswell – Bass
Con Schmaucks - Drums

“My music is the spiritual expression of what I am – my faith, my knowledge, my being. When you begin to see the possibilities of music, you desire to do something really good for people, to help humanity free itself from its hangups. I want to speak to their soul.”

John Coltrane

As we all struggle with our own day-to-day problems, a sense of compassion and community becomes ever more important. The Kobe Trio are a fraternity, a guild of individuals with a shared love and purpose. To explore and share improvised instrumental music in a hamlet with those looking to delve into the unknown, bring people together and take part in the music.

“I think life is really hard sometimes. It's not easy to wake up every day and go through what you go through. But the beautiful moments that you share with people that you love, or even experience alone, are worth all of the pain and sorrow. Those moments should be cherished, and I think that's what music is all about- to remind people of the beautiful moments that are in everybody's life.”

Charlie Haden

The Trio, along with Wilde on occasion, have performed throughout the north-west of Ireland, including multiple times at the esteemed Sligo Jazz Project, the amazing Cairde Arts Festival as well as the outstanding Carrick Water Music Festival. This is project slowly gaining some real momentum, looking to spread the love and joy of improvising with any and all willing to listen.

“We're all in it together”

Ari Herstand

The Trio are just out of the studio having recorded their debut album, with special guest Ciaran Wilde on saxophone. All four musicians are tremendously capable musicians, providing a highly cinematic listening experience.

The ensemble have concocted a collection of some beautiful soundscapes, weaving their original compositions and intertwining them integrally into their solos. Each musician has brought out the finest in each other, together working in an ambient meditative place while leaving plenty of room for improvised antics. Their energetic ostinatos blended with expansive harmonies provide the back-drop to rich solos.

The quality of the studio recordings adding to the charm of this lovingly molded album. Moving between trio and quartet line-ups, between angular and elegant, grabbing the listener's attention. Carswell's bass playing meanders and glues each groove while Schmaucks simmers beneath with an array of percussive textures. Murphy's harmonies bloom dreamily with huge depth and Wilde's alto tone both supple and robust as he arpeggiates through flowing solos.



<https://www.kobetrio.com/>
<https://thekobetrio.bandcamp.com/album/kobe>

Biographies

Murphy piano tutor. Mark has performed in rock, folk and jazz settings with many bands including The Bughouse band, Perry Blake, The Bill Stewart Quintet, That 70's Band, Jive Turkey and The Honey Bees. and most recently a founding member of The Kobe Trio. Mark has also frequently performed as a solo artist. Mark also holds an honours degree specialising in jazz performance from Newpark College in Dublin.

Jaimie Carswell is the founder and director of the Irish National Clown Orchestra of Ireland. As a bass player he has performed with Christy Moore, Duke Special, and Steve Wickham as well as the jazz groups Shankar Urwell Trio and tRiot with Finnish pianist Juhani Snellman. He also plays bass with the Craic Addicts, The Mass Band, and American soul artist Mirenda Rosenberg.

Con was born and grew up in Dublin. He recently graduated from Newpark Music Centre with an honours B.A. in Jazz Performance and has settled in Sligo, teaching and playing in various groups such as Mr T and the Biscuits and The Curlybobs.

Con discovered music at a very young age and has tried his hand at numerous instruments including piano, trumpet, clarinet, saxophone, guitar and finally settled on the drums. This instrument has led to a life long passion. Con has studied numerous styles and forms of music with such greats as Adam Nussbaum, Kevin Brady, Conor and Ronan Guilfoyle, Phil Ware, and Dr. Stephen Davis. These world class musicians have inspired and stoked a fire in everyone who crosses their path, musician and student alike including Con.