

Mike Downes Quartet



Mike Downes – bass
Robi Botos – piano
Larnell Lewis – drums
Ted Quinlan – guitars

The Mike Downes Quartet has been performing since the mid-90s. The original quartet toured Canada and recorded their first album *Forces* to great acclaim. The Jazz Report stated “*Bassist Mike Downes is one of Canada’s immensely talented young giants.*” *Forces* was followed by *Then* and *The Winds of Change* (“*Top 10 CDs of 2004*” - JazzFM91). Mike formed a new trio/quartet in 2012 and released *Ripple Effect* which won a JUNO award in

2014. His next recording *In the Current*, featured compositions for an 11-piece chamber jazz ensemble, and his latest quartet recording *Root Structure* was recently nominated for a 2018 JUNO for Jazz Album of the Year.

The quartet features four of Canada’s top musicians - Mike Downes (JUNO award winner 2014), Robi Botos (JUNO award winner 2016), Ted Quinlan (JUNO nomination 2003) and Larnell Lewis (Grammy award winner with Snarky Puppy 2017). These four musicians are “*a team that has everything covered. Together, they carry out Downes’ mission of foundational exploration while shedding light on his compositional gifts.*” - Dan Bilawsky, All About Jazz. Mike Downes has performed with a veritable who’s who of Canadian and international jazz artists, including Pat Metheny, Chris Potter, John Abercrombie, Molly Johnson, Don Thompson and many others.

“Mike has produced a beautiful new record that shows the great playing of these heavyweights but also Mike’s tremendous compositions.” JAZZ.FM91 First Listen

“Simply beautifully-written repertoire. Downes’ traversal of the ten songs is spellbinding...” Raul da Gama, Toronto Music Report

“The music soars with melody and lush solos along with powerful rhythmic foundation”... Jazz versions of classical tunes are common, but this group’s interpretation of a Chopin’s Prelude shows how such a crossover should be done...” Keith Black, The Winnipeg Free Press

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Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mike_Downes