

Cambridge Modern Jazz is a vital resource at the heart of the Cambridge jazz community.

As a professional musician who grew up in Cambridge, CMJ allowed me to see concerts by world-class artists as a teenager, and inspired me to pursue my career as a trombonist and composer.

Now, it's always a pleasure to return and play at CMJ - you're guaranteed a large and enthusiastic audience and it's a staple part of many UK musicians' touring schedules.

Tom Green

I've been attending gigs and performing at CMJ since around 2010. As an undergraduate, the club gave me an opportunity to meet and play support slots for Gareth Lockrane, Alex Garnett and Iain Ballamy.

I have since returned with my own groups during national touring and found large and engaged audiences both times – it's clear that they cultivate their regular audience very carefully, which is crucial in ensuring that gigs are well-attended, allowing visiting musicians to develop their own audience.

I know that CMJ is well-respected amongst musicians on both the Cambridge and London jazz scenes for their forward-thinking programming and musician friendly-setup.

Alex Hitchcock

I've been associated with Cambridge Modern Jazz since the late 1990's and been able to develop many of my projects through them.

I've also seen many great bands there with the most appreciative audience.

Their organisation is on a high level, allowing musicians to have total trust in a professional program.

Tony Kofi

Over the years Cambridge has benefited from the experience of being exposed to the music of a wide variety of musicians encompassing the whole spectrum of modern jazz.

Putting on a series of concerts and events to celebrate the club's significant 50th Anniversary milestone is entirely laudable and I hope that you see a way to giving it your generous support.

The proposed events would give employment to musicians who have suffered badly during the Covid crisis

Art Themen

One of the most cherished and consistent factors of the 'gig circuit', is when the body, or committee, of that gig, is made up of genuine music enthusiasts: lovers of jazz, as in the case of Cambridge Modern Jazz.

I've had the greatest pleasure, over the years, of bringing my music - as a solo artist, or a collaborator (Carol Grimes, Claire Martin) - to Cambridge. Initially curated by the wonderful Joan Morrell, the club has continued in fine form. It takes on board not just the varied and experienced artists but also provides a showcase for newer players.

I'm proud to have played a small part in its continuing programme. Although audiences travel from afar to attend, the local community that CMJ enhances is a valuable, important and connecting force in these trying times.

Ian Shaw