

## TORI FREESTONE/ALCYONA MICK DUO

*'In a tightly held discourse there grows this never before heard sound, full of esprit, insight, experience and joie de vivre - Concerto Magazine, Austria '*

*The no-hiding-place exposure of an improvising sax/piano duo is a tough call but the British pairing of pianist Alcyona Mick and tenor saxophonist Tori Freestone make light of it' - The Guardian, 'Jazz Album of the Month' \*\*\*\* review '*

Tori and Alcyona formed their duo in 2015 after being invited to perform together at the Manchester Jazz Festival. Both much in demand players on the London jazz scene, the two have known each other for years, working together in many different ensembles including Ingrid and Christine Jensen Whirlwind bigband, Nikki Iles Big band, Cleo Laine/Alec Dankworth band, and are permanent members of the London Jazz Orchestra. They recorded their debut album 'Criss Cross' at the famous Artesuono Studio in Italy in 2017, released in 2018 to wide critical acclaim followed by a tour of the UK and Germany with live radio performances.

The duo have a very spontaneous, interactive approach and share a large range of musical influences that fall not only within the jazz genre, including English folk, Brazilian music, Arabic music, free playing, Monk and more. Performances have included Birmingham Symphony Hall, Museo del Grifo (Spain), Emotion Festival (Bremen), Halle 242 (Hamburg), Salle Krieps auditorium (Luxembourg) and the Manchester and London Jazz Festivals. I

In 2020 they won the Help Musician's 'Do it Differently' and 'Record and release' awards to write and collaborate on a second album. The new music was premiered in live/streamed concerts including the Up and Down Festival (Spain) and the Royal Albert Hall for the 2021 London Jazz Festival in collaboration with Steinway. The latter premiere resulted in an Ivor Novello Award featured live on BBC radio 3 November 2022.

The much anticipated new album is due for release in 2023 and features the renowned world musician Natacha Atlas plus award winning jazz vocalist Brigitte Beraha.