

SERIOUS

Sebastian Rochford

Press Quotes

On *Ouch Evil Slow Hop* with Pamela Kurstin (Slowfoot Records, 2011):

“The music pulses with unexpected interventions and exhilaratingly strange turns ... Thickly liquid textures tidally ebb and flow, scraped-metal sounds screech over crunching slow drums, pop-song melody-fragments are peppered with catlike yelps, sitar-like tonalities turn into rock-guitar breaks. Rochford – the Brian Eno of a personal space between rock, electronica, [jazz](#)/improv and world music – touches everything he does with exultant mystery.

“...the free rhythms and scorched electronics are more reminiscent of the more outré aspects of the Aphex Twin back catalogue.” [Clash]

“...fearless and adventurous and never anything less than exciting” [Music OMH]

“...and in the stellar musicianship in evidence both on this album and elsewhere, it's clear that when they're jamming together Rochford and Kurstin can do anything” [Drowned in Sound]

On performances as part of Trio Libero, with Andy Sheppard and Michel Benita:

“The trio cruised through a selection of the languid Latin drifters Sheppard has made his own, staccato postbop themes delivered with deceptive insouciance, a few computer-aided ambient explorations, and occasional solos from Benita and Rochford that were models of cool concision.”
(The Guardian)

“British sax maestro Andy Sheppard kicked off the UK’s world-class Cheltenham Jazz Festival weekend with the first airing of his new outfit, Trio Libero. This special collaboration featuring drummer Sebastian Rochford and French bassist Michel Benita was a triumphant premiere, setting the bar high for the festival’s ensuing acts.”
(JazzTimes)

On *Common Ground*, Polar Bear with Jyager (Leaf, 2010):

“Rochford creates weird, woozy electronics with *New Love*; bizarre syncopated blues with *Never Giving Up*; menacing G-funkish creeping with *Don't Think I Won't*; and *Flowerpot Remix* is very ‘spirit of jazz’”
(BBC Music online)

“It’s sonically very impressive indeed, and an immersive space as Rochford simply smashes *Peepers* into a thousand tiny shards and reconfigures them in entirely new, hip-hop-tinged ways.”
(Drowned in Sound)

SERIOUS

On Peepers, Polar Bear (Leaf, 2010):

“First serious contender for album of 2010” ****
(*Jazzwise*)

“Their albums have got better and better” ****
(*Uncut*)

“Mournful and beserk fun” ****
(*Observer Music Monthly*)

“The group that flung wide the jazz club windows and let fresh air into a scene mired in cliché and rear-view mirror gazing ... Rochford’s drums are characterful as ever, with that sexy groove supplied as standard”
(*The Wire*)

www.polarbearmusic.com

www.myspace.com/sebastianrochford

www.serious.org.uk