



Les Paiens

jazz-rock

“A big, squalling rock attack meets deft jazz improvising puts Les Paiens in a sound class of its own...”

GRANT KERR The Telegraph-journal
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BIO

This Moncton New Brunswick instrumental quartet is making waves as one of the most creative and accomplished bands in Atlantic Canada. Their fourth album, “Pyramyd : Epiphondes 3” marks the end of the “Épiphondes” trilogy started in 1999. Having opened for artists such as Charlie Hunter, the Jimmy Swift Band, Slowcoaster, Groovy Aardvark, Soul Jazz Orchestra and Kermit Ruffins, les Paiens have been perfected the blend of jazz and rock into a sound that is their own.

Their influences : Miles Davis, Érik Truffaz, Tortoise, Medeski, Martin and Wood, Jagga Jazzist.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Nomination for the ECMA Jazz recording of the year, 2010
Montreal Jazz Festival 2009
Festival Les Francophonies en Limousin (Limoges, France) 2009
Sun Set Jazz club (Paris) 2009
Le Chat Noir (Geneva) 2006, 2009
Nomination for the ECMA Instrumental recording of the year, 2006
Harvest Jazz and Blues (Fredericton NB), 2005, 2006 & 2007
Nuits acadiennes (Paris, France) 2003 & 2006
Evolve Festival (Antigonish NS) 2005
Sunseekers Ball (NB) 2006, 2009
Les Déferlantes de Cap Breton (France) 2004
Les Météors (Douai, France) 2004
Les Francfolies de Montréal (with the Kacho Show) 2003

A LITTLE PRESS

CD Review for Pyramyd:Épiphonde 3 in [HERE] by Ken Kelly (2008)

For those not already familiar with Les Paiens, they've been identified as being "steeped in the late '60s/early '70s jazz-rock fusion of Miles Davis and The Mahavishnu Orchestra." And on their fourth record, Moncton based band Les Paiens continue proving that they're one of the best jazz-rock fusion bands from this end of the country.

What I truly love about the group is their innate ability to create relatively straight-shooting jazz tunes like La Chambre Bleu and Le Phare while also creating more progressive and atmospheric pieces such as Sneaky Squid and Flubba Lubba Lubba.

A strictly instrumental ensemble, the band has the ability to appeal to fans of jam bands as much as they do to jazz fans. While they might be steeped in some of jazz's greatest names, Les Paiens are carving out a great name for themselves on both the Canadian and international music scenes. We can only expect their name recognition to continue to flourish as more and more people make themselves familiar with just how fantastic of a group they are.

Heathen Fusion : A dozen years after forming, les Paiens are stripped down and grown-up. The Telegraph-journal, January 25th, 2007 by GRANT KERR

«Although thoroughly modern in its electric-eclectic attack, Les Paiens are steeped in the late 1960s/early-'70s jazz-rock fusion of Miles Davis (In a Silent Way, A Tribute Jack Johnson), the Mahavishnu Orchestra and later Blow-by-Blow-era Jeff Beck. A big, squalling rock attack meets deft jazz improvising puts Les Paiens in a sound class of its own in this region. »

The weekend starts on Thursday ... And Les Paiens steal the show The Argosy, January 2006 by Liam Peacock

«... Nobody needed to tell Les Paiens when to play and when not to. I had never heard of this funky horn-led instrumental quintet from the Francophone side of Monton before, but the first impression they made on me and everyone else at the Roadhouse was indelible.»

La Voix- March 2004, Douai, France

«Les Paiens (...) refine an instrumental music where multiple influences mix together. Jazz, of course, but also funk, progressive rock... While listening to their compositions, we inevitably think of Miles Davis, Frank Zappa and even King Crimson. Great company to keep! Since they are definitely electric, Les Paiens have also composed the soundtrack for the movie Kacho Kompro screened at the Festival des Météores. A quintet full of talent and the ability to communicate joy through their playing. The public loved them. » (translated from French)

Album review Sphère : Épiphonde 2 [HERE], January 6th, 2005 by Steve Hickox

«I enjoyed this CD a lot and wish I had checked them out sooner. These guys could make a great movie score for a 70s action film. I could almost picture car race scenes in my head while some of this was playing. Its nice to know that progressive rock, feedback, and jazz can meld together so nicely. Great album.»

Atlantic Buzz: Rumours, Festivals, Trips And Nuptials [Chart Attack], sept 2004 by Jon Bruhm

«...Speaking of good shows, its been said that one of Monctons best-kept secrets is instrumental quintet Les Paiens. Theyve been hiding in the shadows for 10 years now, but have been up to some exciting things as of late. The bands next album should be out in late September and, following their return from abroad, look for Les Paiens to play in more cities across Atlantic Canada