

showtimes

04/10/2005
7:30pm
\$10

KATAHDIN'S EDGE ON THE MAINSTAGE



Genre: Modern piano trio jazz with Balkan rhythms and groove beats

Related Artists: The Bad Plus, Medeski, Martin & Wood, Dave Brubeck

The standard jazz piano trio is experiencing a renaissance and even something of a revolution. Outfits such as The Bad Plus, Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey and E.S.T.---all of whom have played The Triple Door---are blowing away the cobwebs of the archetype with imagination and gusto.

Enter Katahdin's Edge. Pianist Willie Myette, bassist John Funkhouser and drummer Mike Connors distinguish themselves with a particularly nimble fusion of straight jazz, complex ass-over-teakettle Balkan rhythms and in-the-pocket groove beats. Their music sometimes sounds like a streamlined update of the dervish kickoff to Dave Brubeck's famous "Time Out" album, "Blue Rondo A La Turk".

Myette and Funkhouser are thoroughly-schooled musicians, the former attending Boston's Berklee College of Music and the latter the New England Conservatory. Myette has also studied with the great Fred Hersch and Funkhouser is currently on the faculty at Berklee. Connors, who combines muscular athleticism with impeccable taste, learned much from master drummers Joe Hunt (Stan Getz) and Alan Dawson (Tony Williams's teacher).

Together, Katahdin's Edge takes flight with a contagious enthusiasm that communicates readily even when they're dancing out on the creative edge. They are as rooted in jazz tradition as Oscar Peterson and as contemporary as Wayne Horvitz. The intrepid website CD Baby, friend to independent musicians everywhere, hails their music as: "...jazz that should satisfy fans for everyone from Harry Connick to Medeski, Martin & Wood."

Discography:
"Step Away" Incline

For more information, visit www.jazzontheedge.com