



THE CHRIS
MCGREGOR
GROUP

The turning point for the Chris McGregor Group was 1963. Until then they had been working clubs in the Cape area but at the 1963 National Jazz Festival Chris formed his first big band and on the strength of his success at the festival made the first ever jazz tour of South Africa with his small group.

Their single appearance at the Antibes Festival of 1964 brought rave reviews in Downbeat. After several months in Switzerland they came to England for a season at Ronnie Scott's and since then have played at universities up and down the country, apart from a successful one-night-a-week spot at Scott's Old Place.

Chris McGregor's Blue Notes from South Africa played just once, but their urgent, angular, unself-conscious music earned a solid reaction from the opening night crowds.

DOWNBEAT
Antibes, 1964

Without any doubt, this is the best live jazz available weekly in London now. I know only that from every possible angle of criticism, McGregor's music and McGregor's group are superb.

King

I would certainly recommend trying to catch McGregor's music while Feza is in London.

Melody Maker

The most exciting new combo in London is pianist Chris McGregor's group.

Downbeat

CHRIS MCGREGOR

Chris has been playing since the age of six, and his devotion to Music has been total since then. A French critic (Jazz Hot) has dubbed him "L'EXTRODINAIRE". Not an exaggeration.

DUDU PUCKWANA

Alto saxophone

From Port Elizabeth he moved to Cape Town where he met Chris in 1959 and they played together more or less consistently ever since. His solos are fragments of the complex structure of improvisations that almost always begin aggressively and then run through a ranging series of musical shocks.

MONGEZI FEZA

Pocket Trumpet

In Mongezi, the coherent humour of the McGregor group runs strong. He and McGregor joined forces at the 1963 Jazz Festival at Johannesburg. Recently Mongezi has played recording sessions, film music and TV commercials with Manfred Mann.

Management
Witchseason Productions
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83 Charlotte St., W.1.
01-636 9436
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JOHNNY DYANI

Bass

Johnny came to Europe with Chris and since then has played with Steve Lacey in Rome. Johnny has a deep vibrant sound and his solos push the bass out of the rhythm section into an equal place with the front line.

LOUIS MAHOLO

Drums

Louis' distinctive sound comes partly from his unusual wooden drum kit and partly from his mastery of African polyrhythms.

RONNIE BEER

Tenor saxophone

Ronnie and Chris first met at the Mermaid Club in Capetown, but their paths diverged in 1963 when Ronnie formed a group of his own with Mongezi. September 1965 saw him in London with Chris. The ferocious élan of his playing is one of the group's distinguishing characteristics.

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