

# **BARKINGSIDE/ ELECTRIC BARKINGSIDE**



**Alexander Hawkins** – piano/keyboard  
**Dominic Lash** – contrabass/electric bass  
**Paul May** – drums and percussion  
**Alex Ward** – clarinet/electric guitar

Two bands in one! Formed in 2006, **Barkingside** have been described as:

“a mix of cutting-edge, experimental and improv jazz, that proved both emotionally exhilarating and always aurally refreshing. Sometimes raging in like a stormy squall of post-punk industrial gothic heavy-metal and at others weaving intricate hints of melody from beat era free jazz or pulses of Latin rhythms and sonic sambas, amongst the complex acoustic foreground.”

- Rich Creed, Rising Sun Arts Centre

**Barkingside** play both as a purely acoustic quartet that draws on many musics from the rich tradition of English free improvising and far beyond, and as a raging electric ensemble that while not forgetting these influences also draws on the raw energy of rock, punk, funk and noise musics. And yet the acoustic ensemble can also turn up the heat, while the electric version has its sensitive side . . .

Their acoustic debut album was released to widespread critical acclaim in 2008 on the highly-regarded Emanem record label.

Either version of the band is available for concerts, festivals or touring. Alternatively, both line-ups can play, either on the same or on subsequent days.

For full reviews, video clips and more, see <http://www.studio282.com/dl/barkingside>

For more information contact Dominic Lash at [domlash@hotmail.com](mailto:domlash@hotmail.com), on 07713056202 or at The Lodge, Ewert Place, Oxford, OX2 7DB

## **Some press quotes:**

“Barkingside have a very bright future.”

*All About Jazz*

“Groups like Barkingside and labels like the indefatigable Emanem are doing the heavy lifting ... ensuring that as older improvisers regrettably retire and expire the art form continues unabated.”

*Bagatellen*

“... preludes and interludes with ample spaces given to single instrumentalists to demonstrate a prowess that goes beyond the collective homogeneity.”

*Touching Extremes*

“When the band gets cooking, the music seems to reach in many directions as they move as a whole while the sounds seem to expand with four lines pushing simultaneously outward into different corners.”

*Bixobal*

**Alexander Hawkins**, born in Oxford, UK in 1981, is a pianist with a fast-growing reputation, described as having a 'fierce technique' and a 'wizard's touch'. Equally at home with completely free as with complex notated territories, he works in improvised idioms ranging from funk to jazz to non-idiomatic European styles. He performs with a very wide range of musicians including Lol Coxhill, Evan Parker, Orphy Robinson and Clark Tracey.

**Dominic Lash** was born in Cambridge, UK in 1980. His work as a double bassist is featured in ensembles ranging from the raw energy of a trio with saxophonist Tony Bevan and drummer Chris Corsano (documented on the CD *Monster Club* on Foghorn) to the subtle acoustic explorations of his work with violinist Angharad Davies. He and Hawkins also both feature on the FMR CD *Live in Oxford* with the transatlantic ensemble *The Convergence Quartet*, featuring cornettist Taylor Ho Bynum (Anthony Braxton's right-hand man) and drummer Harris Eisenstadt.

London-based **May** is a hugely resourceful drummer, often working with a very minimal kit yet drawing a huge diversity of sounds from it. His collaborators have included Steve Beresford, John Butcher and Alan Wilkinson. He has released four CDs on the Leo label with pianist Carolyn Hume.

**Alex Ward** is one of the most extraordinary young improvisers on the scene today. His work with Derek Bailey began while still in his teens, and he was a member of Bailey's last group project, *Limescale*. His work increasingly extends into the world of rock; he leads the bands *Dead Days Beyond Help* and *Alex Ward and the Dead Ends*. Recent touring ensembles have included a trio with bassist Simon H. Fell and guitarist Joe Morris.