

# davemilligantrio

Biography

2008

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## The Trio

Based in Scotland, the Dave Milligan Trio have been playing a blend of jazz, folk and other stuff all mixed together for over 10 years. Dynamic, engaging, humourous, dazzling, uplifting, the trio's performances have consistently thrilled audiences and critics alike over the years. All band leaders in their own right, Milligan, Bancroft & Lyne have developed an empathy that can only come from years of playing together. Critics have at times drawn comparisons to piano trios such as The Bad Plus, Brad Mehldau, E.S.T., Bobo Stenson and even Keith Jarrett, but always recognising the group's strong, distinctive folk-tinged identity that sets them apart. The Dave Milligan Trio's debut album Late Show has received rave press notices for its warm, soulfully melodic approach and collective understanding, and the group continues to develop as a very unique musical voice.

[www.davemilligan.co.uk](http://www.davemilligan.co.uk)

## Dave Milligan

Dave Milligan, born and raised in the Scottish Borders, is a pianist whose musical imagination flows freely between jazz improvisation and the traditional airs and dance meters of his native Scotland. In a professional career spanning fifteen years, Dave has performed throughout Europe, USA, Canada, Australia and Asia. Many will know him from his earlier work in mainstream jazz with leading figures such as Carol Kidd, Scott Hamilton and Art Farmer, but in more recent years Dave has also become familiar to a new audience. His interest in traditional & folk music inspired a unique crossover piano style which has featured most prominently in the critically-acclaimed Bachué, with harpist and singer Corrina Hewat, in the duo with concertina virtuoso Simon Thoumire, as a core member of the Catriona Macdonald band, and in the 22-piece folk orchestra The Unusual Suspects, which he and Hewat masterminded. Folk music also has a strong presence in Milligan's work in the jazz scene; mainly in the trio with bassist Tom Lyne and drummer Tom Bancroft, but also in his crucial role as pianist and arranger for award-winning trumpeter Colin Steele's Quintet and 10-piece Stramash. The essence of Dave's own music however, continues to be improvisation and a fascination for juxtaposing styles has earned him an enviable reputation as one of the UK's most individual voices.

## Tom Bancroft

Tom Bancroft is a drummer, composer, bandleader and educator. He ran Caber Music, the Scottish Jazz Record label for 7 years, and now runs ABC Creative Music with his twin brother Phil. He trained as a medical doctor at Cambridge but now makes a living from playing, composing, and creating music education resources. He has played with many great musicians ranging from Sun Ra & Martyn Bennett to Geri Allen and Bill Wells. He is a co-leader of the bassless Trio AAB, and leads his own big band Orchestro Interrupto, children's project Kidsamonium, and sextet the Tom Bancroft 6-pack as well as playing in several other long term projects including the Dave Milligan Trio. In 2004 he won the Creative Scotland Award and in 2007 he won the BBC Jazz Award for Innovation and a Herald Angel award for the performance of Kidsamonium in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. In November Tom lead the Voice/Space/Body/Beat at the London Jazz Festival featuring 160 primary school children performing their own compositions and a massed drum choir featuring piper Finlay MacDonald and table virtuoso Manjiit Rasiya. Tom is an active teacher and educator - from private drum students to teaching composition and leading big bands.

## Tom Lyne

The bass is full, the roots thump joyously, and his large distinctive tone may be as close to receiving a hug from a bass line as you ever get. Tom Lyne is a passionate bassist with a very focused range of sensitivity and power. His roots come out of rock and roll, rhythm and blues, and an early initiation into jazz and improvised music, and he is equally at home playing through the changes and laying down the steady pulse as forging well off the page and into uncharted territory. Outwith the Dave Milligan Trio, Tom performs regularly with singer-songwriter Sophie Bancroft. He formed The Band Lyne in 2005 with keyboard player Chick Lyall, accordionist Martin Green and drummer Tom Bancroft to showcase his own compositions. Tom – who is originally from Canada – has toured all over Europe and spent many years living in Amsterdam while playing with the band Granny Smith in the 1990s. Tom also works as a freelance bassist with musicians such as Brian Kellock, Tommy Smith, Fionna Duncan, Joakim Milder, John Rae, Sandy Wright, Donald Hay, Ian Copeland, Rick Taylor, Kevin Mackenzie, Simon Thoumire, Catriona MacDonald and Alyth McCormack.

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### PRESS QUOTES:

***“A great trio - thumping, funky Bad Plus-style grooviness... this is a unit with a deep sense of dynamics and groove. Highly contagious.”***

JAZZWISE

***“A pianist of quite astonishing verve and subtlety... A fervently jigging, Scottish-dance feel... a cracking trio.”***

THE GUARDIAN

***“A delight - excellent, captivating, entertaining... an individual voice... ”***

JAZZ REVIEW

***“The trio has an exceptionally complete and cohesive sound... beautifully restrained”***

THE OBSERVER

***“Superbly constructed composition, breathing as one... intensely satisfying.”***

JAZZVIEWS

***“A dazzling display of technical skills and invention... makes an enormous impression - a keyboard master of today who is more melodic than, say, Bobo Stenson, but gentler than Jarrett. Certainly that's the sort of company he belongs in.”***

JAZZ UK

# DAVE MILLIGAN - SELECTED DISCOGRAPHY

## Jazz

*Dave Milligan Trio*  
“**Late Show**” (CABER030)

*David Milligan : Solo Piano*  
“**Did You Used to be R.D.Laing?**” (MMP001)

*Colin Steele*  
“**Through the Waves**” (ACT 9436-2)  
(Featuring Michael Buckley, Dave Milligan, Aidan O'Donnel and Stuart Ritchie)  
“**The Journey Home**” (CABER029)  
(Featuring Julian Arguelles, Dave Milligan, Aidan O'Donnel and John Rae)  
“**Twilight Dreams**” (CABER024)  
(Featuring Julian Arguelles, Dave Milligan, Brian Shiels and John Rae)

## Folk

*The Unusual Suspects*  
“**Live In Scotland**”  
(CDFSR1727)

*Simon Thoumire and David Milligan*  
“**Third Flight Home**” (CDFSR1736)  
“**The Big Day In**” (CDFSR1713)

*Bachue*  
(Corrina Hewat and David Milligan)  
“**The Butterfly**” (BBR015)  
“**A Certain Smile**” (CUL114D)  
“**Bachue Café**” (HRMCD001)

*Corrina Hewat*  
“**My Favourite Place**” (CDFSR1719)  
(Featuring David Milligan, Donald Hay and Karine Polwart)

*Catriona Macdonald*  
(Featuring David Milligan, Conrad Ivitsky and James Mackintosh)  
“**Over The Moon**” (PAP002)  
“**Bold**” (PAP001)

For bookings and information, contact:

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**Croft House**  
**Sowerby Bridge**  
**West Yorkshire**  
**HX6 3AS**  
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