

Review: Southport Melodic Jazz Club's 20th anniversary concert

Jun 30 2011 by Janine Yaqoob

Top of the bill were The Impossible Gentlemen, a quartet comprising top British jazz pianist Gwilym Simcock, US stars Adam Nussbaum (drums) and Steve Swallow (bass guitar) and Manchesterborn guitarist Mike Walker, emerging as a truly world class player in this most rarefied of company.

Playing tunes written by each of the members, the band provided an unforgettable evening, occasionally dipping into the realms of rock super-group (as in Nussbaum's Sure Would Baby). Steve Swallow's beautifully melodic Ladies In Mercedes created exquisite contributions from all four players.

Star of the show was Mike Walker, whose contributions as a song writer (witness The Clock Maker, Wallander's Last Stand and Laugh Lines) and soloist were just sublime. The group received a standing ovation from the full house audience.