

Media Contact
Lisa Mezzacappa
[510-708-2530](tel:510-708-2530)
lisamezz@gmail.com
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAMBER JAZZ QUARTET
BRISTLE
RELEASES NEW CD “Future(s) Now(s)” and
ANNOUNCES
DECEMBER 2014 CD RELEASE CONCERTS**

**Berkeley CD release celebration features an array of local musicians as
special guests,
plus the debut of “Big Bristle”
[Listen to a preview here](#)**

Watch live **VIDEO**

Saturday December 6, 7:00 pm
Maybeck Studio
1537 Euclid Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94708
Tickets are \$15

Advance reservations are required due to limited seating, and can be made
online at:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/bristle-tickets-14365773415?aff=eorg>

Monday December 8, 7:30 pm
Nebraska Mondays Series
at Luna’s Café
1414 16th St, Sacramento, CA
Admission at the door is \$10

November 14, 2014, Berkeley, CA – Berkeley’s Queen Bee Records announces
its second release, ***Future(s) Now(s)***, by the Northern California chamber jazz
quartet Bristle, with two area CD release celebration concerts planned in early
December. Led by Grass Valley reeds player/composer **Randy McKean**, Bristle

also includes Oakland winds player/composer **Cory Wright**, Berkeley acoustic bassist **Lisa Mezzacappa** and Nevada City oboist and violinist **Murray Campbell**. Bristle plays McKean's and Wright's inventive, irreverent and sometimes outlandish compositions that de- and re-construct familiar musical genres and pillage the farthest corners of jazz past and present.

For its Berkeley concert at the intimate Maybeck Studio on Saturday December 6 at 7:00 pm, Bristle is joined by an array of Bay Area improviser colleagues, including **Jason Levis** and **Jordan Glenn** (percussion); **Tom Djill** (trumpet); **Tim Perkis** (electronics); and **John Finkbeiner** (electric guitar) for a series of "round robin" improvised duos, trios and quartets which will culminate in the debut of a McKean new uber-band, "Big Bristle."

As a special treat that is also a testament to the rich cross-pollination and collaboration at the core of the Bay Area music community, different combinations of these musicians also perform with members of Bristle as part of other pre-existing ensembles: Mezzacappa and Levis will perform as **duo B.**, continuing a 10-year-old musical partnership; then Wright will join them to present his trio, the cerebrally swinging **Green Mitchell**. McKean and Campbell will perform as their duo project, **Gargantius Effect**, and then merge with **Kinda Green**, the duo of Djill and Perkis, for a quartet improvisation.

Bristle will also play a full quartet set, featuring the original compositions on *Future(s) Now(s)*: the energetically riffing jigsaw *Butts Up*, the insistent, piccolo-driven jingle *Whistle Tune*, the burbling melodic groove *Conference Call*. Wright sets the unique sound of the "half-clarinet" against somber strings on his moody chamber piece *Sei Sev Lah*; McKean celebrates his Midwestern roots with the buoyant fiddle tune *Hick*, and leads his companions through the genre-mixing maze of *Escherish*.

The street date for the CD release of *Future(s) Now(s)* is November 18, and the recording will be available for hard-copy purchase or download on the [Queen Bee Records](#) Bandcamp site, through the Bristle website, and through the major online mp3 music retailers such as iTunes, eMusic and Amazon.

About Bristle

Bristle's unique reeds and strings sound explores the boundaries and links between modern jazz and chamber music, between intricate compositional schemes and free improvisation spaces. In addition to its two CDs *Future(s) Now(s)* (Queen Bee) and *Bulletproof* (Edgetone), Bristle has performed at venues throughout Northern California, including San Francisco's Center for New Music, the Berkeley Arts Festival, and Sacramento's In the Flow Festival. The

group began in 2009 when McKean invited fellow reeds player and composer Wright to form a group to play their original compositions; both share a love of traditional jazz and its experimental, creative offshoots. Mezzacappa was drafted to anchor the group on bass, and brought her formidable talents as composer and bandleader to the mix. The addition of Campbell, with his rare talent of doubling equally well on violin and oboes, gave the foursome an agile, elastic quality that influences the writing and performances of this drummerless quartet. Equally at home in both hushed concert halls and raucous clubs, Bristle seeks to mix the high and the low, the serious and the playful in one compelling package.

[Visit the Bristle Website](#)

The Musicians

Alto saxophonist/clarinetist Randy McKean is carrying on the tradition of those performer/composers who have revitalized creative music from the inside out, drawing upon its rich history of ideas to produce his own unique forms of expression. McKean's music draws upon methods of distillation and synthesis pioneered by composers such as Anthony Braxton and Iannis Xenakis in order to fashion an individualized but systematically coherent musical world. Not only music but a multitude of sources inform McKean's work: the abstract expressionist films of Stan Brakhage and the paintings of Mark Rothko, the multi-tiered writings of Julio Cortazar, Alain Robbe-Grillet and Philip K. Dick, concepts from chaos theory and modern physics, all have influenced his use of form and representation. McKean leads or co-leads several bands, including the chamber jazz quartet Bristle, the saxophone quartet Goggle, the improv trio Pluck Vim Vigour, the avant-folk duo Sawbones, the acoustic-electronics duos Wild Horsey Ride, Zap!, and The Gargantius Effect, and his latest project, the power trio Moch Mach I. McKean's releases include the CDs Wild Horsey Ride, Bristle's Bulletproof (Edgetone), So Dig This Big Crux (Rastascan), the Great Circle Saxophone Quartet's Child King Dictator Fool (New World), and the electronic release Gargantius Effect +1+2+3 (w/Han-earl Park, Gino Robair & Scott Looney). He studied with trumpeter Paul Smoker and composers Anthony Braxton, David Rosenboom, and Maggi Payne. He currently lives in the Sierra Nevada foothills town of Grass Valley, CA.

Reeds player **Cory Wright**, educated at Oberlin Conservatory and the University of Southern California, has been involved in both the jazz and creative music worlds for the past 20 years, including time spent in New York, Los Angeles and his current home in the San Francisco Bay Area. Cory has played in ensembles lead by Anthony Braxton, Vinny Golia, Eddie Gale, Adam Rudolph and Yusef Lateef. He is currently a member of bay area groups Bristle, Wiener Kids, the Nathan Clevenger Group and the Oakland Active Orchestra, and leads his own projects Green Mitchell and the Cory Wright Outfit.

Lisa Mezzacappa is a San Francisco Bay Area-based bassist, composer, and curator. An active collaborator in the Bay Area music community for 13 years, her music spans avant-garde jazz to ethereal chamber music, scores for experimental film and immersive sound installations. Mezzacappa was voted “Rising Star” bassist in the Downbeat 2013 and 2014 critics polls, and leads her own groups Bait & Switch, Nightshade, the Lisa Mezzacappa Trio, Eartheaters and the Interlopers, and co-leads the ensembles duo B., Cylinder, BODABODA, LMNOP, and Les Gwan Jupons. She has released her music on the Clean Feed, NoBusiness, Leo, NotTwo, Evander and Edgetone record labels, and has recorded as a sideperson for the Tzadik, Kadima and Porto Franco labels. Her own label, Queen Bee Records, was launched in 2013 and focuses on releasing the work of her West Coast creative musician peers.

Murray Campbell, originally from Scotland, comes from a prodigiously talented musical family. He studied electronic music in the Netherlands and plays double reeds in the Auburn Symphony and many other regional symphonies and chamber music groups. He is a member of Beaucoup Chapeaux, Gargantius Effect, Bristle, and Lisa Mezzacappa’s Interlopers.

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