

# overflow

CHRIS JOLLY - TENOR SAXOPHONE



CHRIS  
JOLLY





D'Addario artist Chris Jolly has had a huge amount of experience performing with some of the UK's top ensembles, including the Northern Saxophone Quartet, Quirk Saxophone Quartet, National Concert Orchestra of Great Britain, Equinox Saxophone Ensemble, National Saxophone Choir of Great Britain, ReedPlay Ensemble and many more. In this time he has toured Europe numerous times and performed at every World Saxophone Congress since 2009 with the latest event taking place in Zagreb, Croatia performing with Quirk Saxophone Quartet, Richard Ingham and Equinox Saxophone Ensemble where his saxophone quartet *Smudge* was performed.

Chris has also recorded albums with Equinox Saxophone Ensemble, ReedPlay and has worked with Joseph Horowitz while recording his clarinet and saxophone quartets. Before *Overflow* his most recent release was with Quirk Saxophone Quartet and special guest Richard Ingham who's work *Nine Pieces for Five Players* was recorded. In the near future, there will be more releases from the Chris Jolly Group, an evolved version of Zenith Quintet which Chris has led since setting it up in 2018.



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[www.chrisjolly.com](http://www.chrisjolly.com)

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# Inspiration for the album...



Chris Jolly

Through the Covid pandemic I had more time to think and reflect about who I was as a soloist and how I got to where I am today. I responded to this period of reflection by looking back at my own writing to date and how I had developed my compositional voice. It was an interesting exercise plotting these compositions alongside inspirational events and times when I had worked with certain musicians .



Nigel Wood



Charlotte Harding

What better way to capture this journey than to ask composers who have shaped me as a musician to write me new works for solo tenor saxophone that would sit alongside new and re-worked compositions by myself. The result has been an eclectic mix of exciting new repertoire for solo tenor saxophone and a record of my influences and playing to this point in my life and career.

Chris Jolly (2022)



Paul Harris



Richard Ingham



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# Overflow - Chris Jolly

## **1 // SEQ. (2022) - Charlotte Harding (mix - John Prestage) // (3'32")**

The creative process in creating this work was probably the most interactive of the whole album. After receiving the score and recording the saxophone part, I sent the raw material back to be manipulated and re-worked by Charlotte and John Prestage. The results are an energetic and ear-bending sound world that is driven by an 808-kick track throughout.

## **2 // A Whisky and an Anecdote (2021) - Richard Ingham // (5'43")**

Before I received the music I received a picture of the Laphroaig whisky distillery from Richard. I couldn't work out whether the inspiration was the picturesque setting of the distillery or the whisky itself! A sparse score with lots of room for interpretation and choices to make this piece truly my own. The sound world created here shows off how expressive and versatile the tenor saxophone can be.

## **3 // MUD (2015) - Chris Jolly // (8'30")**

The use of live loop and effects pedal here allow for the sound worlds to be built and manipulated in a more organic way than in SEQ. MUD is a re-work of a duet I wrote in 2015 for a third year chamber music recital at Leeds College of Music (now Leeds Conservatoire).



All tracks recorded and mastered at [Vibrations Studios](#) in Lockwood, Huddersfield with the expert help of Steve Longbottom. The exception being tracks 4-10 that were recorded at [All Saints Church in Netherthong](#), Holmfirth. A huge thanks to Nick Heaton for allowing us to use this great space. Thank you also to [D'Addario Woodwinds](#) for their continued invaluable support.

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## **4 // Jolly Blue (2021) - Nigel Wood // (3'21")**

My expectation from Nigel Wood's music is melody, so it was surprise to receive Jolly Blue and discover the focus of the piece seemed to be subtly shifting harmony over a constant flow of quavers. The subtitle of this work is 'The end of lockdown is nigh', maybe the perfect explanation as to why much of this piece moves in unpredictable ways.

## **5-10 // Assemblage of Virtues (2021) - Paul Harris // (7'30")**

**5\_Assertiveness\_(0'35")**

**6\_Compassion\_(1'27")**

**7\_Joyfulness\_(0'53")**

**8\_Peacefulness\_(2'04")**

**9\_Friendliness\_(1'02")**

**10\_Purposefulness\_(1'29")**

A closer working relationship developed over lockdowns with Paul Harris but I, like many saxophonists, have played his music for much of my life. These miniatures perfectly depict the characteristics of each title with them having the classic Paul Harris stamp of harmony being expertly intertwined with melody.

## **11 // Twisted Feather (2013) - Chris Jolly // (5'38")**

Twisted Feather is another re-worked piece, this time the original was for solo alto saxophone but again for live loop and effects pedal. The extended opening allows space for the melodic development to establish itself before the energetic and driving layers build up to a climactic ending.

## **12 // Overflow (2022) - Chris Jolly // (3'39")**

The title track and name of the album are inspired by a photograph taken by my dad of a reservoir overflow. This whole track is an improvisation over a drone, a common way I look for melody when writing.

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