

LAURENCE MACKIN

12 Points jazz festival day three: Hanna Paulsberg Concept, Nikolas Anadolis and Koenigleopold

...Next up is one of the more anticipated sets at 12 Points. *Nikolas Anadolis* is the first Greek participant at the festival and it's been worth the wait. Anadolis is technically formidable behind the grand piano, throwing a torrent of notes at every song and barely pausing for breath while the crowd hold theirs.

He is perhaps the most technically gifted musician at the festival. Home tutored by his father, Anadolis won a scholarship to Berklee College and won the Martial Solal Prize in Paris before he turned 19. His set here is much more classical than jazz, though he's not above throwing in the odd bluesy swagger to show he's got that area covered too. He throws reams of ideas at each song in a blistering performance, though he never looks out of control or troubled; indeed, the only time he looks slightly uncomfortable is in-between tracks, when he has to handle the copious rounds of applause, which he smiles through the whole time, looking like his itching to start playing again.

Anadolis never lets the pace drop in his pieces; at no point does he allow space to creep into the songs. There's no doubting his musical intelligence, or his control, power and ability; but a bit more dynamic and a little more room for the tracks to breathe and emote could make this a more rounded and satisfying set. That said, being in the audience for an Anadolis concert in a venue this small certainly seems like a privilege that might never be repeated.(...)