

# ESTIVAL

## Moutin Reunion Quartet is doubly pleasing

BY ALEX HUTCHINSON

The empathy — or is it telepathy? — between twin brothers François and Louis Moutin is at the heart of the Moutin Reunion Quartet's appeal.

As a tradition, they showcase this bond by playing a duet as the third number of every performance. "Do you remember when we were still in our mother's belly, and our parents put on that Charlie Parker record?" bassist François asked drummer Louis yesterday's performance at Library and Archives Canada.

"OK. Let's try to catch the same vibe."

What followed was a free-flowing *tour de force*, as the brothers bounced ideas back and forth, and occasionally converged in joyous synchronicity.

Louis put away his drumsticks and used his hands and wrists to elicit a dazzling range of sounds from his drum set. The tribute to bebop legend Parker became apparent later as François displayed dexterity worthy of the great saxophonist in quoting long swaths of Parker tunes like *Donna Lee* and *Ornithology*.

That's not to say the band was any less exciting when the other two members were playing. Pianist Pierre de Bethmann merged seamlessly with the Moutins to craft a rhythm section that surged forward relentlessly behind former Miles Davis sideman Rick Margitza on tenor saxophone.

The Paris-based quartet will release its third album in August, and they saved the title track, *Something Like Now*, for a rousing closer.