COLIN VALLON TRIO

PRESS TEXT

Colin Vallon – piano
Patrice Moret – double bass
Julian Sartorius – drums

> “Hearing the Colin Vallon Trio feels like you’re being knocked over by a towering wave, then pulled under and spun around by the undertow. It’s an immersive experience, beautifully disorienting and dreamlike. Like a David Lynch movie or the haikus of master Hosai Ozaki, their music transmutes the mundane into the magical and uncanny. You might call it jazz, given its technical rigour and improvisatory design — yet it remains singular. They are signed to ECM, and their love affair with manipulating tension and resonant silences makes them a good fit for the label, but that’s where the overlaps end. The trio is committed to a sonic exploration that ensures that the only constants in their work are evolution and flux. By the time you think you’ve got them figured out, they’re already mutating into something new. Colin Vallon Trio are: Colin Vallon (piano), Patrice Moret (bass) and Julian Sartorius (drums). When they play, they are one.”
>
> LUKASZ POLOWCZYK

The Colin Vallon Trio was founded in 1999. The first album, « Les Ombres », was released in 2004 on Swiss label Unit Records. In 2005, the trio is joined by US guitar player Kurt Rosenwinkel for the Swiss Diagonales Festival opening.

In 2006 « Ailleurs » was released on Hat Hut Records. The third album of the trio, « Rruga », was released in 2011 on the internationally renowned label ECM Records, followed by « Le Vent » in 2014, « Danse » in 2017 and « Samares » in 2024, also on ECM.

The Colin Vallon Trio has played at numerous international festivals (Paris, Vienne, Rome, London, Portland, Montreal, Vancouver…). Tours in Europe, USA, Canada, Japan, South Korea, China.

Colin Vallon – piano

(CH, 1980) Where most other jazz pianists are already at wit’s end, Colin Vallon really just begins. In a breath-taking manner and with a maximum of verve and chutzpah, he reconciles a sense of form with a passion for experiment – he doesn’t only juggle with melodies and harmonies, but rather he also integrates a multitude of prepared sounds in his playing.

He has played or recorded with artists such as Larry Grenadier, Jorge Rossy, Jeff Ballard, Ambrose Akinmusire, Wolfgang Muthspiel, Tom Harrell, Kenny Wheeler…

Patrice Moret – double bass

(CH, 1972) Basically, there are two kinds of bassists: those who set out to overcome the weight of their instrument through virtuosity, and those who bring out its gravity with staggering force. Patrice Moret belongs to the latter: he uses notes sparingly, yet charges each one with maximum drive.

He has played or recorded with Tom Harrell, Ben Monder, Jojo Mayer, Uri Caine, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Rich Perry, Lionel Loueke, Ellery Eskelin...

Julian Sartorius – drums

(CH, 1981) In a dynamically fine gradation and with a gift of coordination seldom seen, Julian Sartorius makes his drums talk and cymbals hiss and whisper. Enormously agile and quick to react, Sartorius combines onomatopoetic sophistication with kinetic energy; his multifaceted drumming, in which pre-cut patterns have not lost anything, is a prime example of spontaneous and quick-witted playing.

He has played with, among others, Sylvie Courvoisier, Dimlite, Pierre Favre, Sophie Hunger, Shahzad Ismaily, Drew Gress, Merz, Nils Petter Molvaer...