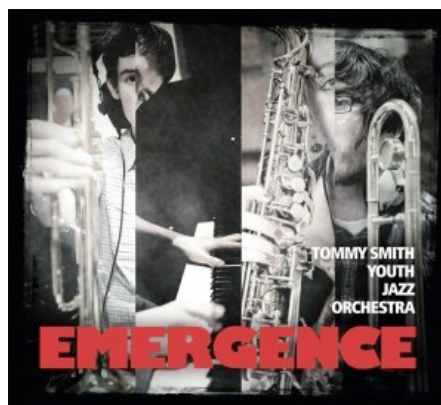


**TOMMY SMITH
YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA**

EMERGENCE

Featuring the very best young jazz musicians from Scotland



Spartacus Records
Release date 6th Feb 6th 2012

Celebrating its tenth anniversary, the Tommy Smith Youth Jazz Orchestra releases a second album, Emergence that re-confirms the ensemble's ability to deliver jazz from a wide-ranging repertoire with passion, verve and maturity beyond their years. Established in June 2002 by internationally acclaimed saxophonist Tommy Smith, the TSYJO features the very best young musicians on Scotland's burgeoning jazz scene and has already drawn enthusiastic responses from critics and audiences alike on both sides of the Atlantic. To underline the high standards set over its lifespan, musicians from the TSYJO have regularly progressed into the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra, which has earned the accolade of Europe's leading large-scale jazz ensemble, and all five winners of the Young Scottish Jazz Musician of the Year competition, which was launched in 2007, feature on Emergence.

Emergence includes jazz classics by Ellington, Basie, Miles Davis and Billy Strayhorn, the new tango style patented by bandoneon master Astor Piazzolla and a glorious big band take on Steely Dan's Black Friday, all delivered with collective zest and individual creativity of the first order.

www.tsyjo.com
www.spartacusrecords.com

For more information, images & interviews:-

Kerstan Mackness at Riotsquad Publicity



Notes for editors

Tommy Smith is a major creative force in contemporary music. The saxophonist, composer and bandleader performs in settings ranging from solo saxophone to big bands and symphony orchestras.

He has recorded over 24 albums as a leader, featuring world-renowned musicians like Jack DeJohnette, John Scofield, Kenny Barron, Eddie Gomez, Kenny Wheeler, Jon Christensen and Arild Andersen among others. He has also performed with Chick Corea, Dizzy Gillespie, Jaco Pastorius, Al Cohn, Benny Golson, NHØP, Trilok Gurtu, Billy Hart, Buster Williams, Idris Mohammed, Randy Brecker and Ruby Braff to name a few.

His albums include over 250 of his own original compositions, including Beasts of Scotland, Hall of Mirrors, Planet Wave, Beauty & the Beast, Monte Cristo, The Sons & Daughters of Alba, Un Ecossais A Paris, Torah and the World Of The Gods.

Born in Edinburgh 1967, Tommy Smith, a keen nurturer of young talent he formed, single handedly, Tommy Smith Youth Jazz Orchestra in 2002 and the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra in 1995.

Smith first came to prominence when he joined Gary Burton's group aged 18, touring worldwide and recording the Whiz Kids album on ECM Records. He signed to Blue Note Records in 1989 recording 4 albums, then signed to Linn Records in 1993 for a further 7 recordings, then he formed Spartacus Records in 2000.

Smith has resented many TV and radio shows for the BBC and Channel 4 and has received many honours including 3 British Jazz Awards (1989, 1996 & 2002), BBC Heart of Jazz Award, Best Woodwind, Best Big Band - Scottish Jazz Awards (2008), the Scottish Jazz Expo Award (2009), Lord Provost Music Award (2009), honorary doctorates from Heriot-Watt (1999) and Glasgow Caledonian (2008) universities, a professorship from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (2010), and Best Educator, Best Big Band - Scottish Jazz Awards (2011).

He is currently Head of Jazz at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, artistic director of SNJO and TSYJO, tours regularly

with Arild Andersen and his group KARMA and is director of Spartacus Records.