

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Matthew Halsall**

Gondwana

Distribution by Baked Goods

### **Colour Yes**

GOND CD 003

released 9<sup>th</sup> November 2009

**24<sup>th</sup> October** Band On The Wall, Manchester, 11pm  
**29<sup>th</sup> October** Vibe Bar, Brick Lane, London E1, 8pm  
**22<sup>nd</sup> November** Dingwalls, London, 12 noon (Gilles Peterson all-day)

*"...you know I'm always happy when I can find some new jazz, something fresh, new players, new generations, holding the flame, keeping it alight...new music from Matthew Halsall from Manchester.."* - **Gilles Peterson**

Manchester based trumpeter **Matthew Halsall** is fast carving out a reputation as one of the UK's brightest talents. A sublimely gifted trumpeter with a beautiful, expressive tone, his debut album '**Sending My Love**' caught the ear of *Gilles Peterson* (one of the influential DJ's albums of the year for 2008), *Stuart Maconie* (BBC 6 Music), *Tom Robinson* (BBC 6 Music) and *Mike Chadwick* (Jazz FM) amongst others as well as picking up rave reviews in industry bible *Jazzwise* and *Mojo* magazine. The album's gentle power also caught the ear of *Nithin Sawhney* leading to a weeklong collaboration earlier this year.

Drawing on his love of the transcendental spiritual and modal jazz of Alice and John Coltrane and Pharoah Sanders, as well as the glories of '60s British jazz, Halsall's music is thoughtful, elegiac and explorative. But while imbued with a sense of history, the young trumpeter and DJ nevertheless brings a contemporary bounce to his beautiful music and his regular sessions at *Matt & Phreds* and recent concerts at the *Luminaire* and *Ronnie Scott's* in London (alongside Keith Tippett and Nostalgia 77) are notable for attracting a cool, youthful crowd alongside the more traditional jazzers. Indeed Halsall's music has a timeless quality that means there is nothing dated about his finely-tuned explorations of the music he loves and it's this love of the music that gives his music such a special hue.

**Colour Yes** delivers six brand new compositions and features some of Manchester's finest musicians including wonderful saxophonist **Nat Birchall** (whose own *Akhenaten* also on **Gondwana Records** was recently released to rave reviews). '**Together**' is a transcendental modal ballad which hints at Stan Tracey's 'Starless and Bible Black' '**Mudita**' is the jazz dance feature that will be a hit with the Sleepwalker and Soil & Pimp crowd and elsewhere the special rhythm section (**Adam Fairhall**, piano, **Gavin Barras** bass and **Marek Dorick** hint at the influence of Bill Evans, where the space between the notes almost mean as much as the notes themselves. And the addition of **Rachael Gladwin**'s harp brings a sense of liquidity to the modal explorations, while Halsall's beautiful playing will linger long after the music ends.

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