

COLIN VALLON TRIO PRESS

"The Swiss pianist Colin Vallon has a gleaming new ECM debut, "Ruga," that reflects his interest in folklike melody and rippling harmonic suspension. ...his approach to pianism suggest both classical training and a fondness for crescendo-driven art-rock, and the hovering way he drives this group can evoke the original, pre-millennial Brad Mehldau Trio. But the thrust of the material and the searching quality of the playing point in other directions. You can only hope for a trio of this promise that one of those directions is forward."

Nate Chinen, New York Times

"... an album rich in subtly unfolding dynamics and tempered yet potent drama, with what sound like occasional prepared piano effects integrated beautifully into the evolving poetic whole."

Michael Tucker, Jazz Journal

"...the music tends to go from a kind of morning fog just above the ground to something more elevated, seemingly weightless as it heads skyward. The players - with Vallon's more methodical, chordal approach, Moret's subtle, insistent bottom and Sartorius's alternately snappy and subdued percussion - blend particularly well together."

John Ephland, Downbeat

"...this album from the young, Swiss-born pianist advances a longtime legacy of European jazz with empathetic ensemble playing and a rich variety of textured, evocative twists that sidestep convention."

Chris Barton, Los Angeles Times, 10 Best Jazz CDs of 2011

"...the strength and reserved power of this threesome is evident..."

John Fordham, the Guardian, 2011

"...Terse and focused, each performance is an intense, measured musical conversation, a nuanced, rhythmically fluid mix of colour and texture woven around deceptively simple, songlike lines. ...

It's also an impressionistic approach that achieves dramatic resolution,

at its best in the varied moods of such pieces as Telepathy, Rruga, Home, Polygonia and Eyjafjallajökull , brief evocations full of an austere and stately beauty that illustrate the range of an accomplished, individual trio."

Ray Comiskey Feb 11, 2011, The Irish Times

"In contrast to most new young piano trios located anywhere between Oslo, New York and Tel Aviv, Colin Vallon emphasizes neither virtuosity nor power play - although he dominates both. His specialty are the intermediate sounds, which - be they lyrical or growling, catchy or difficult - originate out of his curiosity for stylistic variety and drive to reach emotional depth. ... Vallon introduces surprising ideas into his music again and again, which makes his trio one of the currently most innovative anywhere."

Frank von Niederhäusern, Radiomagazin

"...the Colin Vallon Trio is up to something rather special...

...The concepts that run throughout this program create a new and irrefutably charismatic aura. Saturated with neither effects nor cacophonous expressionism, Ailleurs professes a sense of oneness that hits home from the start."

Glenn Astarita, All About Jazz

"A twenty-six-year-old stirring pianist from Switzerland, a singing, driving piano, a trio that has borrowed the poesy from Brad Mehldau and the dynamics from Esbjörn Svensson."

Konrad Heidkamp, Die Zeit

"... extremely impressive, even fascinating, how the three use fresh resources to reach unusual, new horizons from the apparently worn-out path of tonal jazz. A listening experience!"

Johannes Anders, Jazz 'n' More

"... Vallon's playing and pieces are tonally dense and rhythmically adept. They have something magic that holds the listener captive"

Reiner Kobe, Jazzpodium