



## MATT RIDLEY TRIO *THYMOS*

Whirlwind Recordings (WR4643)

Launch **1 October 2013** – Pizza Express Soho, London  
Release **14 October 2013**

**Matt Ridley**, bass; **John Turville**, piano; **George Hart**, drums

With special guests **Jason Yarde**, sax; **Attab Haddad**, oud; **Vasilis Sirkis**, percussion

*Thymos* is the ambitious debut album from double bassist and composer **Matt Ridley**, an album that blurs the line between genres, fusing the modal and rhythmic elements of Middle-Eastern music with the harmonic complexities of jazz.

*"I envisaged a sound encompassing the exotic flavours and emotions of Middle Eastern music with the jazz sensibility of improvisation on complex structures"* says Ridley on his inspiration.

London-based Matt is known as one of the prominent talents of his generation. He has led the Trio for a number of years, in various formations which have included Kit Downes, and has composed the majority of the tracks on the album. Taking inspiration from his varied collaborations, the album also bears influences as diverse as funk, contemporary jazz inspired by both the London and NYC scenes, composers Kenny Wheeler and Vijay Iyer, as well as 20th century minimalism.

The core of the album is the tight unit that is the **Matt Ridley Trio**. With Matt at the helm, the trio of award-winning pianist **John Turville** and the highly musical drumming talents of **George Hart**, soars through the leaders' genre-bending improvisational territory, creating a unique sound world unlike any working unit in London today. As a bassist, Ridley is solid to the core, yet light on his fingers across the fingerboard as he navigates his own compositions.

**Special guests** on the album include Oud virtuoso **Attab Haddad** and percussionist **Vasilis Sirkis** – both of whom Matt has worked with in previous line-ups. The album also heralds the beginning of a new and compelling collaboration with saxophonist **Jason Yarde**.

The result is Ridley's shining achievement; a debut album featuring brilliant improvisations from all members of the band, with an inspired and exciting cohesive group-sound throughout.

[www.mattridleybass.com](http://www.mattridleybass.com)

<http://www.whirlwindrecordings.com/thymos/>

Soundcloud: <http://soundcloud.com/mattridleybass>

### Tour dates – Trio with special guest, Jason Yarde

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>October - Tues 1</b> | <b>LONDON</b> Pizza Express Jazz Club Soho, 10 Dean St, Soho W1D 3RW<br>8.30pm £15 <a href="http://www.pizzaexpresslive.co.uk">http://www.pizzaexpresslive.co.uk</a> 0845 6027 017 * <b>LAUNCH</b> * |
| <b>Fri. 11</b>          | <b>BRIGHTON</b> The Verdict, 159 Edward Street BN2 0JB<br>8.30pm £12/£9 <a href="http://www.verdictjazz.co.uk">www.verdictjazz.co.uk</a> 01273 674847  |
| <b>Sun. 13</b>          | <b>ASCOT</b> Jagz, Station Hill, SL5 9EG<br>1pm £8/£6 members <a href="http://www.jagz.co.uk">http://www.jagz.co.uk</a> 01344 878100   |
| <b>Fri. 18</b>          | <b>BIRMINGHAM</b> The Red Lion, 95 Warstone Lane, B18 6NG<br>8pm £12/£10 <a href="http://www.birminghamjazz.co.uk">http://www.birminghamjazz.co.uk</a> 0121 233 9144                                 |
| <b>Sat. 19</b>          | <b>MUCH WENLOCK</b> The Edge Arts Centre, Farley Road, TF13 6NB  |

Press requests: Lee Paterson 07947 103892 [lee@gogobetween.com](mailto:lee@gogobetween.com)

8pm £10 [www.edgeartscentre.co.uk/](http://www.edgeartscentre.co.uk/) 01952 728911

**November – Fri. 8** **LIVERPOOL** The Capstone Theatre Liverpool Hope University 17 Shaw St, L6 1HP £14/11.50 <http://www.thecapstonetheatre.com> 0844 8000 410

7.30pm

**Sat. 9** **SHREWSBURY** The Hive, 5 Belmont, SY1 1TE

8pm £12/£10 [www.hiveonline.org.uk](http://www.hiveonline.org.uk) 01743 234970

**Sun. 10** **BRISTOL** The Hen and Chicken, 210 North Street, Southville BS3 1JF

7.30pm £12/10 <http://jazzata.com> 0117 966 3143

**Fri. 15** **COLCHESTER** Fleece Jazz, Stoke By Nayland Hotel, Keepers Lane, Leavenheath, CO6 4PZ £15 [www.dovbear.co.uk/fleece](http://www.dovbear.co.uk/fleece) 01787 211865

8pm

**Weds. 20** **BERWICK-UPON-TWEED** The Maltings Theatre, Eastern Lane TD15 1AJ

7pm £13.50/£12 [www.maltingsberwick.co.uk/](http://www.maltingsberwick.co.uk/) 01289 330 999

**Thurs. 28** **CAMBRIDGE** Cambridge Modern Jazz @ The Hidden Rooms, Jesus Lane CB5 8BA £15/£12 [www.cambridgejazz.org](http://www.cambridgejazz.org) 01223 514777

8pm

**December Sun. 1** **COLCHESTER** Colchester Arts Centre, Church Street, Essex CO1 1NF

8.30pm £12 table/£10/£8 [www.colchesterartscentre.com/](http://www.colchesterartscentre.com/) 01206 500 900

## Biographies

**Matt Ridley** Since graduating from Trinity College of Music in 2005, Matt has established himself as one of the most versatile, creative and hard-working bass players on the UK scene, in demand for both straight-ahead and modern jazz, and with much experience in the spheres of World Music, Folk, Classical and Pop. His collaborations with Attab Haddad (featured on the album), and Azeri violinist Sabina Rakcheyeva (joint composer of 'Hijaz'), have substantially impacted the development of his composing talents, and more recently, playing with Jason Yarde promises future prospects.

Aside from his own project, Matt is kept busy with the MJQ Celebration which also includes Jim Hart, Barry Green and Steve Brown. Matt is a founder member of the SE Collective in London, plays worldwide with Darius Brubeck (son of jazz legend Dave Brubeck) including a forthcoming tour of South Africa in December, and has just finished a UK tour with Lyric Ensemble in memory of Michael Garrick, featuring Tony Woods, Nette Robinson and Nikki Iles.

**John Turville** A graduate of Cambridge and the Guildhall, he has received numerous awards and played and recorded with many of Europe's leading jazz and tango groups, including Lighthouse Trio and Acoustic Triangle, the Gilad Atzmon Quartet, the Kairos 4tet, Tim Whitehead, Koby Israelite, the Yuriy Galkin Nonet, Asaf Sirkis Trio, El Ultimo Tango, Transtango and the London Tango Orchestra. John is also an experienced composer and arranger, working regularly on commission and he founded, writes for and directs the E17 large ensemble.

**George Hart** A graduate of the Royal Academy of Music in 2002 George has been freelancing on the London scene and recording with Phil Donkin, Ivo Neame, Brigitte Beraha and Seb Pipe. He has been involved in a wide spectrum of playing situations, from Classical through to Heavy Metal, most recently, touring and recording with "Swing Out Sister" and recording with Colin McKenzie's "Transit".

**Jason Yarde** is a highly regarded saxophonist, MD, producer and composer. From early days with Jazz Warriors and J-Life, he has worked with numerous artists and ensembles from 4hero to Plan B, Bembe Segue to Britten Sinfonia, Terri Walker to TY, Keziah Jones to Kronos Quartet, Jonzi-D to Jack DeJohnette and Dennis Brown to BBC Blast. He is a familiar presence on the scene with a range of bands and with his duo with Andrew McCormack.



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