



P R E S S R E L E A S E

For Details, Contact:

Dan Forshaw
Tel 07968 528929
Email dan@danforshaw.com

BLUE OF A KIND

50th Anniversary Special at the Villa

Outline

In December 1959 seven of the most famous jazz musicians in history assembled in 30th Street studios in New York, to record what is still the best selling jazz album of all time, Miles Davis' *Kind of Blue*. Now, nearly fifty years later the Dan Forshaw Quartet are performing the work in its entirety on Friday, 5th June 2009. The ensemble will be augmented by the addition of Manchester based Trumpeter, Chris Smith and Lancaster's teenage Alto Saxophonist, Beth Atkinson, enabling all of the album (originally recorded by a six piece ensemble) to be faithfully performed.

Body

The band first performed the whole album at the Villa during the inaugural season at the venue, back in July 2003. More recently, *Kind of Blue* has been brought to public attention through the BBC four series '1959'. The year was pivotal in jazz history due in no small part to the number of highly influential (and high selling!) albums released and recorded that year. Dan Forshaw commented, "*Kind of Blue* is a special album not only for its musical content, but for the influence that music had on everything that came after it. Before *Kind of Blue*, jazz had started to become a highly cerebral art form, in which the aim was to produce virtuosic art music, appreciated for its sheer complexity, rather than its beauty. *Kind of Blue* is mostly very simple, but it also displays quite vividly how the simplest music, can be the most beautiful music." The original album features Miles Davis alongside saxophonist's John Coltrane and Cannonball Adderley; pianist's Bill Evans and Wynton Kelly, bassist Paul Chambers and the only surviving member, drummer Jimmy Cobb. The event starts at 8pm and finishes late. The events have no cover charge and you are advised to arrive early in order to guarantee yourself seating.

ENDS

Further information for editors

1. The Villa runs a monthly jazz event on the first Friday of each month (except December) and it is promoted by Dan Forshaw who was brought back into the Villa in July 2008 by new manager Stewart Macintosh. Dan had previously promoted a highly successful series of jazz nights at the venue over four seasons from 2003.
2. Dan Forshaw is a professional musician and educator originally from the Blackpool area. He now performs and teaches across the world and has released seven albums under his own name. His music has been called "*cool, clever and creative*" and he is regarded by critics as "*one of the leading young lights on the British jazz scene.*"
3. Chris Smith is a multi-instrumentalist and music producer based in Manchester. In 2006 Dan and Chris combined their talents on their critically acclaimed jazz and drum n bass fusion album, *Message* which has been played in clubs across the UK. They originally performed together as part of the local student dance bands, and then as part of the Blackpool based *Amazing Blues Brothers Soul Revue*, which

4shaw Music group – 2a Birch Cottages – Birch Drive – Bangor – Co. Down
Phone: 07968528929
Email: dan@danforshaw.com Website: www.danforshaw.com