

Artist Q&A:

MATT WILSON

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On The Charts:

#1 Jazz Album – *Billy Strayhorn: Lush Life*

#1 College Jazz – *Norah Jones*

#1 World Music – *Lynch/Palmieri*

#1 Smooth Album – *For Luther II*

#1 Smooth Single – *Kirk Whalum*

Reviews

Mario Adnet

Jobim Jazz (Adventure)

ANTONIO JOBIM'S 80TH birthday would have been January 25, 2007. Instead the maestro died in 1994, but his legacy had long been sealed by then. No newcomer himself, the Brazilian guitarist/arranger Mario Adnet has been on the scene since the '70s, releasing a number of records, but only now getting some exposure in the U.S. market. This fine disc lives up to the promise of its title, playing up the cinematic and West Coast jazz sound that so influenced Jobim. It comes out particularly on such songs as "Tema Jazz" and "Polo Pony," but there is a more general jazz tie-in thanks to the lush brass arrangements. Such tunes as "Surfboard" and "Frevo de Orfeu" are part of the Jobim hit parade, but there is also more obscure stuff like the fractured choro "Bate Boca." A little jazz and little Brazilian, there is a lot to like on this skilled tribute.



— Tad Hendrickson

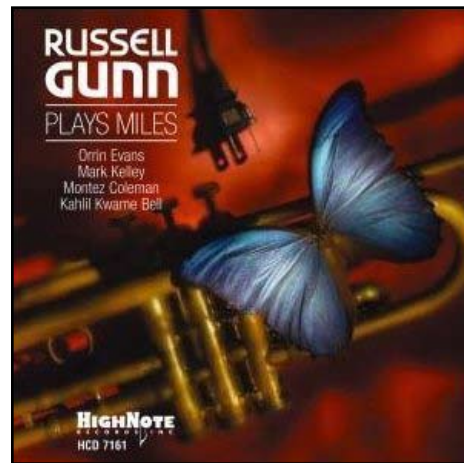
Contact: Dr. Jazz
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Add Date: Now
Release Date: February 13

Russell Gunn

Russell Gunn Plays Miles (HighNote)

TRUMPETER RUSSELL GUNN raised a few eyebrows with his series of *Ethnomusicology* albums that fused hip hop with bop; sticklers found them heretical while other critics (including this one) saw them as innovative and refreshing. Fusing current vocabulary with jazz is what Miles Davis did; Gunn, also an East St. Louis native, pays tribute to Davis with an album that's not as jarringly cutting-edge as the aforementioned series, but which is both progressive and reverential.

With a horn sound that's born more of the 1960s hard bop trumpeters than the laconic Davis, Gunn still evokes Miles with his economy of notes. Highlights include a shuffling "All Blues," an African-rhythmed "Footprints," "Blue In Green," and the original "New New Blues." With the acclaimed Orrin Evans on piano and Rhodes and a fat electric bass from Mark Kelley, plus drummer Montez Coleman and percussionist Kahlil Kwame-Bell, Gunn salutes Davis in a crisp and contemporary way.



— Ed Trefzger

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Release Date: Jan. 30

David "Fathead" Newman

Life (HighNote)

ALMOST LIKE CLOCKWORK, you can depend on a fine new release from David "Fathead" Newman early each year. *Life*, a dedication to friend John Hicks, who passed away in 2006, is no exception. This time out, Newman sticks to mostly mid-tempo tunes and ballads, with turns on both tenor and alto sax and on flute. The latter instrument is his choice on the title tune, by Hicks, "I Can't Get Started," and a nice ➤

