for more news on Jay's activities in future issues of JazzUK, as he seems to have a few projects up his sleeves in the coming months... www.jayphelpsmusic.com

Will Michael

Education Awards

On 10th October, the Royal Academy of Music will be hosting the annual Will Michael Jazz Education Awards. Presented by Jazz Services in association with the National Music Council, the awards recognise those Music Hubs which go the extra mile in their commitment to jazz education. The occasion will be distinguished by a performance by the RAM Big Band under Stuart Hall and Head of Jazz Nick Smart featuring the music of Dudu Pukwana with special quest Byron Wallen.

Tickets for the event are available via the RAM website but are complimentary to JazzUK readers, who can email our Director Chris Hodgkins on education@ jazzservices.org.uk. The recipients of this year's awards will be announced in the next issue.

Andre Canniere Group

Coalescence album

and tour

The American-born trumpeter Andre Canniere has been making his presence firmly felt on the London jazz scene for a few years now, holding down a number of key sideman spots with the likes of Zhenya Strigalev, Henrik Jensen and Andy Fleet as well as leading his own excellent group, which includes John Turville on piano, Hannes Riepler on guitar, Ryan Trebilcock on bass and Jon Scott on drums. Coalescence is the quintet's second release on Whirlwind Recordings and finds all the musicians on fine form;

Canniere has a keen ear for a tuneful hook and leads his band through the set with confidence and a mature sense of groove. Great on record but worth catching live if you can; there are dates throughout October in London, Forest Row, Liverpool, Sheffield and Oxford, with more info available on Canniere's website, www.andrecanniere.com

Selwyn Harris' Jazz

On Film series

Regular readers of Jazzwise magazine will be familiar with Selwyn Harris' monthly feature on jazz in film, with the writer exploring the connections between these two distinctly 20th Century art forms. The 18th October, sees the release of French New Wave - Remastered original Jazz on Film Recordings 1957-62, a 5-disc set that collects seven classic scores

Recordings 1957-62, a 5-disc set that collects seven classic scores from the French New Wave cinema era and featuring music from the likes of Miles Davis, MJQ, Art Blakey and Martial Solal, with the CDs are accompanied by a 60-page booklet filled with Harris' brilliantly in-depth liner notes. With Christmas around the corner, this could be an ideal present for the jazz and film buffs who have (nearly) everything. www.jazzonfilmrecords.com

Zoe Schwarz – Blue

Commotion

Mixing jazz and blues with a sense of style and panache that should serve as a blueprint [or should that be blues-print? Ed.] for how to do it right, Zoe Schwarz tours her Blue Commotion group's new album *The Blues Don't Scare Me* throughout October and November, with dates at the Swanage Blues Festival (4/10), Bristol (17/10), Bournemouth (19/10), Tenby Blues Festival (9/11), Chichester (16/11), London (26/11) and Eastleigh (29/11). The core of the album is built around the pairing of Zoe's heartfelt vocals with the

playing of guitarist Rob Koral, and the two of them write 11 of the disc's 12 tracks - Billie Holliday's Billie's Blues completes the set. More details and dates are up on the band's site, www.bluecommotion.com

Blue Touch Paper –

Drawing Breath



Colin Towns' Blue Touch Paper group received a good deal of well-deserved acclaim in 2011 for their debut album Stand Well Back, and its successor, released on 14th October on Provocateur Records, should see more of the same come their way. *Drawing* Breath is a mutli-layered collection of tunes that displays composer and pianist Towns' versatility from the outset, and tracks like the 10-minute *Isadorai* appear to draw heavily on his experience writing for film, TV and theatre, while Fair Is Foul features the slightly unsettling inclusion of the witches' speech from Macbeth. It's all laden with great cinematic themes but never shies away from testing the band's abilities, weaving and winding with ease and obvious enjoyment. A full UK tour is to be announced for February 2014, but the album's well worth tracking down in the meantime.

www.bluetouchpaper.com