



Jubilee Release # 7

Nils Landgren, Esbjörn Svensson, Nguyễn Lê, Youn Sun Nah, Michael Wollny, Wolfgang Haffner, Vince Mendoza u.a.

The Jubilee Album: 20 Magic Years ACT 9570-2

German Release Date: February 24, 2012

20 Magic Years – the best of ACT's 20 year history: To mark the 20th anniversary of ACT Music, the Jubilee Album presents 20 highlights from the history of the Munich-based label. It offers not only a retrospective of ACT's own body of work, but also a fascinating sightseeing tour through the European jazz scene of the last couple of decades.

The ACT story began in 1992 with "Jazzpaña" (ACT 9212-2), a flamenco-jazz album that received two Grammy nominations. With a stellar line-up including Al Di Meola, Michael Brecker and the WDR Big Band, the track "Tangos" reminds the listener of the initial spark that lit the musical fuse of the ACT label. It was also during the live recordings of "Jazzpaña" that label boss Siggı Loch first met the French guitarist Nguyễn Lê, who subsequently became the first exclusive ACT-artist. He can be heard here on "Idoma", taken from his first album "Three Trios" (ACT 9245-2).

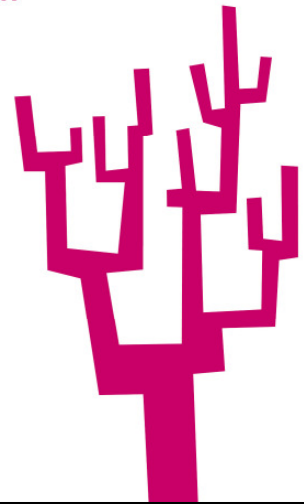
The open-mindedness to combine jazz with world music runs like a golden thread through the history of the label, from its inception right up to the present day. In this respect jazz is much more than simply a style or a set genre – it is a global musical language. This is demonstrated on "Calima" from "Jazzpaña II" (ACT 9284-2), on a version of Johnny Cash's classic "I Walk The Line" performed by Norah Jones and Joel Harrison, which combines jazz, folk and country music, and on "The Seagull" by Paolo Fresu, Richard Galliano and Jan Lundgren, which draws on Scandinavian and Mediterranean song tradition. A further example of this impressive genre-blending is "Norwegian Psalm" from the European jazz symphony "Europeana" (ACT 9804-2), which transfers songs from European folk tradition into the language of jazz.

Siggı Loch first heard the Swedish trombonist Nils Landgren at the JazzBaltica festival and was impressed by both his immense musical talent and his stage presence. It was the beginning of a close friendship that lasts till this day, and "Mr Redhorn" (as Landgren has come to be known, thanks to his signature coloured trombone) adorns the Jubilee Album with his very own version of ABBA's "Thank You for the Music".

Sometime later, the pianist Esbjörn Svensson also joined the ACT family – he and Landgren had known each other for some time, and that the two musicians are musical soulmates can clearly be heard from their collaboration on "Lapp Nils Polska". With their album "From Gagarin's Point of View" Esbjörn Svensson's e.s.t started a career that was one of the most successful in the past 20 years of European jazz. Tragically, Svensson's accidental death in 2008 put an end to the trio's remarkable success story but his legacy remains one of the foundations of the ACT label.

The Jubilee Album 20 Magic Years

ACT



This history of productive connections to Sweden has brought many Scandinavian artists to ACT, and several of them can be heard on the Jubilee Album; the Swedish guitarist Ulf Wakenius with his version of Keith Jarrett's "Dancing"; the Swedish world-class bassist Lars Danielsson playing with the Polish piano superstar Leszek Możdżer on "Tarantella"; and the Norwegian pianist Bugge Wesseltoft with "What Child Is This", taken from his timeless winter album "It's Snowing on My Piano" (ACT 9260-2), the most successful ACT album of all time.

ACT has also been a pioneer in bringing some great voices from the North to the attention of a global audience - the Jubilee album showcases Ida Sand on "The Brutal Truth", Viktoria Tolstoy on "Love is Real" as well as Rigmor Gustafsson on "Close to You". Meanwhile, as one of the more recent additions to the roster, Korea's Youn Sun Nah enjoys a reputation as one of most successful jazz singers in Europe. A member of the ACT family for three years, her unique vocal style can be heard on "Bitter Ballad".

German jazz is obviously a matter very close to Siggı Loch's heart, and personified strongly on the ACT roster by a number of exceptional artists. An excellent example is the pianist Michael Wollny, whom some consider the strongest personality in the German (jazz) music business since Albert Mangelsdorff – this is explicitly demonstrated on his interpretation of "Trauermarsch" from the Symphony No 5. by Gustav Mahler. Drummer Wolfgang Haffner, one of the most internationally sought-after German musicians, presents a masterpiece of relaxed groovy jazz with "Shapes", while at the other end of the spectrum pianist Jens Thomas offers his unconventional yet entirely convincing take on of Sting's "Shadows in the Rain", alongside Christoph Lauer on saxophone.

In the recent years, outstanding pianists have become the trade mark of ACT. The label has presented work by such artists as Michael Wollny, Poland's Leszek Możdżer and recently the American star Vijay Iyer, all of whom are in the top league of modern jazz piano. Sitting alongside these stellar names are younger acts such as Yaron Herman, whose open, creative, melodic and groove-based music is expertly presented on his unique version of Nirvana's "Heart Shaped Box".

The ACT Jubilee Album will be welcomed by experts and explorers alike; by both the curious and by those who are searching for the spirit of jazz. These 20 magic years are a real treat...



Jubilee Release # 7

Nils Landgren, Esbjörn Svensson, Nguyễn Lê, Youn Sun Nah, Michael Wollny, Wolfgang Haffner, Vince Mendoza u.a.

The Jubilee Album: 20 Magic Years ACT 9570-2

Cover Art © Gerwald Rockenschaub / by permission of the artist
Produced by Siggı Loch | Mastered by Klaus Scheuermann



01 Symphony No. V, Mov 1: Trauermarsch (Gustav Mahler) 3:34 Album: Wasted & Wanted ACT 9515-2
Michael Wollny, piano / Eva Kruse, bass / Eric Schaefer, drums

02 Heart Shaped Box (Kurt Cobain) 4:36 Album: Follow The White Rabbit ACT 9499-2
Yaron Herman, piano / Chris Tordini, bass / Tommy Crane, drums

03 Bitter Ballad (Youn Sun Nah) 4:02 Album: Same Girl Collector's Edition ACT 6012-2
Youn Sun Nah, voc / Lars Danielsson, bass / Xavier Desandre-Navarre, perc / Mathias Eick, trumpet

04 Shapes (Wolfgang Haffner) 4:05 Album: Shapes ACT 9603-2
Wolfgang Haffner, dr & keys / Sebastian Studnitzky, tp / Nils Landgren, tb / Frank Kuruc, git / Lars Danielsson, b & cello

05 Tarantella (Lars Danielsson) 3:58 Album: Tarantella ACT 9477-2
Lars Danielsson, bass / Leszek Możdżer, piano / John Parricelli, git / Eric Harland, perc

06 Brutal Truth (Ida Sand) 3:59 Album: Meet Me Around Midnight ACT 9716-2
Ida Sand, voc & keys / Henrik Janson, e-git / Lars Danielsson, b / Rasmus Kihlberg, dr

07 Dancing (Keith Jarrett) 3:01 Album: Notes From The Heart ACT 9435-2
Ulf Wakenius, guitar / Lars Danielsson, bass & piano / Morten Lund, drums

08 The Seagull (Jan Lundgren) 3:16 Album: Mare Nostrum ACT 9466-2
Paolo Fresu, trumpet / Richard Galliano, accordion / Jan Lundgren, piano

09 From Gagarin's Point Of View (e.s.t.) 4:06 Album: From Gagarin's Point Of View ACT 9005-2
Esbjörn Svensson, piano / Dan Berglund, bass / Magnus Öström, drums

10 Love is Real (Svensson / Haden) 3:18 Album: Shining On You ACT 9701-2
Viktoria Tolstoy, voc / Daniel Karlsson, p / Dan Berglund, b / Magnus Öström, dr / The Stockholm Session Strings arr. by D. Berglund

11 Close To You (David Bacharach / David Hall) 4:01 Album: Close To You ACT 9703-2
Rigmor Gustafsson, voc / Jacky Terrasson, piano / Sean Smith, bass / Eric Harland, dr & perc

12 Shadows In the Rain (G. M. Sumner) 3:27 Album: Shadows In The Rain ACT 9297-2
Christof Lauer, saxophone / Jens Thomas, piano / Sidsel Endresen, vocals

13 Calima (Gerardo Nuñez) 3:07 Album: Jazzpaña II ACT 9284-2
Gerardo Nuñez, git / Chano Dominguez, p / Michael Brecker, tenor sax / Perico Sambeat, alto sax / Jorge Pardo, soprano sax / Carles Benavent, e-b / Tino Di Geraldo, dr / a.o.

14 Lapp Nils Polska (Nils Landgren / Esbjörn Svensson) 4:18 Album: Swedish Folk Modern ACT 9428-2
Nils Landgren, trombone / Esbjörn Svensson, piano

15 I Walk The Line (Johnny Cash) 3:45 Album: Free Country ACT 9419-2
Norah Jones, voc / Joel Harrison, git / Rob Thomas, violin / Tony Cedras, accordion / a.o.

16 Idoma (Nguyễn Lê) 4:09 Album: Three Trios ACT 9245-2
Nguyễn Lê, git & git-synthesizer / Renaud Garcia-Fons, b / Mino Cinelu, perc & dr

17 What Child Is This? (Greensleeves) 3:40 Album: It's Snowing On My Piano ACT 9260-2
Bugge Wesseltoft, piano

18 Norwegian Psalm (traditional) 3:39 Album: Europeana ACT 9804-2
Joachim Kühn, p / Markus Stockhausen, flgh / Jean-François Jenny Clark, b / Jon Christensen, dr / Radio Philharmonie Hannover NDR cond. by Michael Gibbs

19 Tangos (Vince Mendoza) 6:07 Album: Jazzpaña ACT 9212-2
Juan Manuel Cañizares, acc-git / Al Di Meola, git / Michael Brecker, sax / Carles Benavent, e-bass / Peter Erskine, dr / WDR BigBand dir. by Vince Mendoza / a.o.

20 Thank You For The Music (Björn Ulvaeus / Benny Andersson) 3:27 Album: Funky ABBA ACT 9430-2
Nils Landgren, voc / Henrik Janson, git / Jesper Nordenström & Roberto Di Gioia, keys / Lars DK Danielsson, b / Wolfgang Haffner, dr

THE ACT COMPANY

Ehregutstrasse 28, 80469 München, Germany
Phone +49 89 72 94 92 0, Fax +49 89 72 94 92 11
e-mail: info@actmusic.com
Visit our website at <http://www.actmusic.com>

(LC) 07644

Distributor:

Allegro-Nail Distribution (US)
A&N Music (GR)
Andante Music (RO)
Apostrophe (RU)
C&L Records (KR)
Divyd (SK)
Dukyan Meloman (BG)
Challenge Records Int. (Benelux)
DC Comp (UA)
edelkultur (DE & AT)
Egea (I)
Equinox Music (TR)
GIGI Distribution (PL)
Gramofon (BA)
Harmonia Mundi (FR)
Harmonia Mundi (UK)
Intek (SI+HR)
Jassics (ZA)
Jazzworld (HK)
JSC "Bomba" (LT)
Karonte (ES & PT)
Musikklosen (NO)
Musikvertrieb (CH)
Naxos (SE/FI)
Outside Distribution (CA)
One-Hifi (RS)
Planet MGM Distribution (AU)
Southbound Records (NZ)
Sundance (DK)
Videoarts Music Inc. (JP)
2HP (CZ)