



Sebastian Studnitzky *Trio*

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Studnitzky simply makes music

In today's music business a juicy story or a fancy marketing idea often appears to be more important than a song. Some "concept" albums are no more than inane "art" of packaging. More Christo than chorus, so to speak. American commercials have a slogan for this: "Where's the beef?"

No wonder trumpeter, pianist and keyboard player Sebastian Studnitzky is now looking for just that beef. Far from all industrial expectations, he pursues his aim – possibly out of time – to simply record his music. He is supported by two masters of the small form: Wolfgang Haffner and Dieter Ilg, who both have their places in the first league of European jazz musicians. Studnitzky is bound to the two not only by their common broad perception of music, but also a truly purist friendship of like-minded, which creates the musical reliance that is necessary for a confession as intimate as "Trio".

"What I had in mind was a business card in music without any blatant concept bullshit. Basically pure musical meat, served on a little round silver platter", explains the musician from Berlin. Studnitzky says: "I like things that come along a little frugally. I think we should re-learn to let music and musicians speak, and do without the showy and spectacular." This, of course, is an exclusive pleasure. It helps to be a master of what one might call 'feeling' or 'tint', like Studnitzky is. With relish he creatively searches for organic tone colors and patterns, his piano playing is calm, balanced and peculiarly centered. His music is more about reduction and distilling statements than about pressing as many notes as possible into one solo. Studnitzky's trumpet sound is also warm, soft and mellow.

Sebastian Studnitzky's "Trio" is a confident, unwound acoustic jazz album, a small, yet powerful artefact made of pure musical taste. For the band leader, these recordings are a creative time-out from the turbulence of his many projects in the past few years. Not only with his own band TRIBAND, but also as a sideman (Mezzoforte, Rebekka Bakken, Wolfgang Haffner, Nils Landgren, and others) he is one of Germany's busiest jazz musicians.

"I used to be a simple jazz trumpeter", Studnitzky confesses with a smile, surprised about his own development over the past years. "The piano was

more like a hobby. Then I found myself at the keys in the studio or on stage more and more often, for instance with Wolfgang Haffner or Rebekka Bakken. I had my own sound, but my playing was expandable, to put it mildly. So I played for my life night after night. That was tough training that I'm grateful for in retrospect. This has shaped my playing and my presence on stage" – as much as his experiences as a jazz composer and musician. "In the past couple of years I've moved more and more into other directions, away from pure jazz music. Looking back, I would say: all of that was extremely important to me. I found out so much about myself, now I can pinpoint exactly the sound that satisfies me. My sound. I sat down and wrote all this music. That's what this album is all about: being very close to myself. Triband, by the way, feels just about as good - even though the music is very different, but it's just as honest."

The fact that Studnitzky has engaged Haffner and Ilg as his companions, two big names in European jazz, is not a matter of marketing, but pure content: "I can't think of any constellation that could play my music better" - a statement that is confirmed with every time one listens to the album. The magic of this confident recording lies in the impression its eight tracks leave: that nothing in the world is easier as simply making good music.

**Sebastian Studnitzky is available for interviews.
Please contact us for appointments.**

For further information please click to: www.studnitzky.de
www.herzogrecords.com

Sebastian Studnitzky Trio live

26.03.2008 Stuttgart, Bix
27.03.2008 Karlsruhe, Jazzclub
29.03.2008 Ulm, Sauschdall

(w/ Dieter Ilg, Wolfgang Haffner)

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