

Hans Ulrik "Blue & Purple"

Appealing jazz, served with a lovely swing; not aggressive, but guaranteed to take hold of you. Fronted by a saxophone of melodic persuasion, deliberate and enhanced with a gutsy sound. This sound belongs to one of Denmark's most popular and dedicated jazz musicians.

Hans Ulrik has proven that it is possible to make jazz albums that are modern, of artistic importance and at the same time appealing and melodious. Or in other words: Hans Ulrik has found mass appeal without compromise, a fact his 1999 CD, JAZZ & MAMBO, amply proved upon receiving a Danish Music Award. The album became a genuine Danish jazz hit with sales exceeding 10.000, and a favorite on the stereos of Copenhagen cafés.

On his new CD, BLUE & PURPLE, Ulrik continues to find inspiration in the same vital musical vein. Airy, warm and inciting; eleven new tunes composed by the saxophonist and interpreted with his characteristic, relaxed feeling in a captivating setting full of atmosphere. The music was created in collaboration with a handful of Scandinavia's best musicians:

Peter Dahlgren, trombone; Fredrik Lundin, tenor saxophone & bass flute; Jonas Vestergaard, bass, Mikkel Hess, drums and Jacob Christoffersen, wurlitzer.

Hans Ulrik has long since proved his international standard. His exquisite, rock-steady saxophone is a sought-after commodity, and he appears on a long list of freelance projects and recording sessions. In the '90s, Ulrik was part of the trend-setting Emborg/Larsen Group, he has worked with Frans Bak, Cæcilie Norby, Thomas Clausen, Lars Jansson and Eivind Aarset, and for a number of years he toured and recorded as part of Marilyn Mazur's Future Song.

Ulrik has released several albums in his own name. In 1999 he recorded a Jazzpar album with international jazz greats John Scofield, Peter Erskine and Lars Danielsson. In 2002 he and drummer Jonas Johansen worked with legendary bassist Steve Swallow. The state of maturity and clarity Ulrik has reached in his musical pursuits is only confirmed when leaning back and enjoying this new release.

BLUE & PURPLE is available in the exclusive surround format, SACD, which offers extra musical pleasure, but naturally the CD can be enjoyed equally in stereo on a regular CD player.

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STSACD 04115, STUNT RECORDS