RICHARD ANDERSSON

INTUITION



STUCD 12022 Distribution DC'Norden

Bassist, composer and bandleader Richard Andersson is a very special new talent on the Danish jazz scene. His often understated, subdued approach to music is artistically successful and enticing – the same qualities he demonstrated on his album debut: Richard Andersson Sustainable Quartet, Please Recycle (Blackout Music, 2010). The Danish jazz monthly Jazz Special called it "... long-term sustainable music. Top-notch organic musicality..." The magazine also gave the CD the coveted "sax rose" – the magazine's highest distinction.

In 2011 Richard Andersson has proven the sustainability of his talent again and again, often with his own band with Danish pianist Jacob Anderskov and two profiles from New York's innovative Downtown jazz scene, drummer R.J. Miller and saxophonist Bill McHenry. Their collaboration can be heard on the new CD, INTUITION, recorded in Copenhagen in October 2011 and released on Stunt Records.

Childish play with fireworks rendered Richard Andersson blind at the age of 14. Since his accident, every day has been about music. He started out on classical guitar at The Institute for the Blind and Partially Sighted. This led to a degree in bass from The Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts; studies at the prestigious Manhattan School of Music in New York (2009); his acclaimed debut CD; acceptance in the soloist class at The Rhythmic Conservatory in Copenhagen, and collaborations with prominent Danish and American musicians. A few months after receiving Denmark's largest jazz talent award "Stjerneprisen", he was awarded yet another prize "Fuen's Jazz Musician of the Year 2010".

This remarkable bassist and his dark and moody music take Danish jazz in new directions. Richard had the feeling that a quartet with Jacob Anderskov, R.J. Miller and Bill McHenry had the potential to find its own sound and expression. At their first meeting early in 2011, they had agreed to play mainly new original material by Richard Andersson. Perhaps it was the dark, rainy weather that put them into a pensive, intuitive mood. They decided to drop the scores. They realized that this special feeling could become the foundation of the band, and Richard's inner voice told him that this was the right direction to take.

It was yet another rainy day when the group met for their recording session. Towards the end of the session, the rain was beating on the windows. R.J. was the only one playing, but he faded slowly, and they all held their breath listening to the meditative sound of water. Richard Andersson explains that at that moment he was touched by "an almost religious feeling of everything coming together".

All these emotions and moods are wonderfully preserved on this beautiful, tranquil and translucent release, generously inviting us to follow the creative process.

Take One First / Hanna In Esbjerg / Ronald's New Rhythm / Root / Together But Apart / Two And Four Song For Zeuthen / Origin / Rain Song Part I / Rain Song Part II

Bill McHenry (tenor sax), Jacob Anderskov (piano), Richard Andersson (bas), R. J. Miller (trommer).

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