THOMAS CLAUSEN STEVE SWALLOW

MORNING... DREAMING...



Stunt Records STUCD 13162

A long-time admirer of bassist Steve Swallow's music, Danish jazz pianist Thomas Clausen decided to invite Swallow to Europe for a duo tour and recording session. He discovered that his admiration was reciprocated. Swallow had listened to two albums from the early 1990's featuring Gary Burton with Clausen's trio with Alex Riel and Mads Vinding (CAFÈ NOIR and FLOWERS AND TREES). For years Swallow worked closely with Burton as bassist and composer.

MORNING... DREAMING features music by both composers in a melodic repertoire, which also includes a seldom-recorded piece by Mike Gibbs, the beautiful "Sweet Rain", and the Sinatra classic "You're My Girl".

73-year old Swallow is a giant in jazz and one the most prolifically used bassists in the world. His sense of melody and his compositional talents are unique, and he is an asset to any ensemble. Steve Swallow's music has become part of the repertoire of modern jazz, as played by people like Gary Burton and Pat Metheny. His tunes are melodic, deep and original. Since the early 60's his bass has backed almost every famous jazz soloist: Stan Getz, Art Farmer, Paul and Carla Bley, Jimmy Giuffre, John Scofield, Gary Burton and Pat Metheny. He records in his own name for ECM Records, and he has appeared on Stunt releases with among others saxophonist Hans Ulrik and Jonas Johansen.

He was the first to truly free the electric bass from its role in rock and jazz-rock, and he plays with a homogenous groove and

lyrical, flowing solos. He is a genuine master of spaces, and his relaxed sound has a personal and warm timbre.

Thomas Clausen has spread over many genres. With inspiration from jazz, Brazilian music and new European classical music, he has become an important musician in European jazz. He has won much respect as a solo pianist, for his trios, as accompanist for visiting American jazz greats, as an inspirational pianist for vocalists, and leader of large ensembles. He has played straight bebop. He joined the jazz-rock crusade. He has created wonderful music with Gary Burton, and he has composed prolifically, including for the DR Big Band and his own groups, and has written several pieces for classical ensembles. His virtuosic and melodious playing has been the backbone in many performances by numerous jazz soloists since the early 70's including Dexter Gordon, Ben Webster, Palle Mikkelborg and Jan Garbarek. Thomas Clausen has released numerous albums mainly released on Stunt Records.

The result of the meeting between Thomas Clausen and Steve Swallow is beautifully illustrated on the cover in Fie Johansen's photo of a white swan flying over the open sea. It represents the open, alluring musical landscape of warm, emotional music in varied tempi. The intimate format of grand piano and bass works wonderfully. Sometimes Steve Swallow's poetic bass almost sounds like a guitar and Thomas Clausen occasionally plays his Fender Rhodes.

Country Dreams/Morning... Dreaming.../Como en Vietnam/Evocation/You're My Girl Falling Grace/Sweet Rain/A La Blues/Nordic Ballad/Hullo Bolinas.

Thomas Clausen (piano, Fender Rhodes), Steve Swallow (electric bass)

Thomas Clausen & Steve Swallow, Morning...Dreaming, STUCD 13162, Stunt Records/Sundance Music.

