

KASPER VILLAUME

HANDS

There's no doubt about it: Pianist Kasper Villaume is no longer young and promising. Now he's young - and one of the finest pianists in Europe, highly in demand in countless contexts at home and abroad. Kasper Villaume is the star of Danish piano jazz. Under his own name he has released two outstanding quartet recordings and a trio cd, recorded in New York last year - and the critics are cheering.

31-year-old Kasper Villaume, who comes from a small town in northern Jutland, has once again recorded a cd that will go down in history, exuding enthusiasm and joy of playing. Kasper never ceases to pursue new opportunities, and after his trio cd with drummer Jeff "Tain" Watts ("117 Ditmas Avenue") he went to New York again. Together with bass player Chris Minh Doky, who is also the producer of the cd, he has created a sparkling jewel, anchored in the bandleader's own strongly swinging and creative piano playing. The quartet is rounded off by another young comet, Ali Jackson (from Wynton Marsalis' band), with incredibly expressive and dynamic drumming, and Chris Potter - probably the hottest sax player around - who really lets himself go. The brilliant recording was made at the studios of Tony Bennett's son, with legendary sound technician James Farber at the board. Kasper Villaume, Chris Minh Doky and Ali Jackson will be touring Europe next spring.

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Kasper Villaume (p), Chris Potter (ts, ss), Chris Minh Doky (b), Ali Jackson (dr, perc).

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