

Ole Matthiessen

FLASHBACKS & DEDICATIONS

Stunt Records



Stunt Records CD
STUCD 16042



This is Ole Matthiessen's fourth Stunt release as a bandleader. As his previous Stunt releases, this album also has a general theme. *PORTRAITS, POEMS AND PLACES* (2008) presented ballads, *PAST & PRESENT* (2011) featured blues, and *RED PYTHON* comprised music inspired by the jazz standard tradition. *FLASHBACKS & DEDICATIONS* is based on modal music and compositions and improvisations based on scales and colors. The music on *FLASHBACKS & DEDICATIONS* differs from other Scandinavian music that we usually categorize in that idiom these days. Ole Matthiessen's music is rooted in the lucid Danish song tradition and the spiritual areas in jazz while also focusing on fundamental jazz virtues such as interplay and coherence between composition and improvisation.

As on his previous releases the compositions are fuelled by personal and musical experiences. Small stories, portraits, poems and moods. Boiled down to the purest possible format, they leave space for individual interpretation while still retaining their individuality. As with his other releases, the compositions and arrangements can be downloaded and printed from the CD, where they are available as PDF files.

Ole Matthiessen has gathered a handful of Denmark's finest jazz musicians to help interpret and shape his music. Every one of them is a great storyteller: trumpeter Henrik Bolberg, American tenor saxophonist Bob Rockwell, who has been based in Denmark for the past 30 years, and bassist Jesper

Lundgaard – a leader among the elite of Danish bassists for ages. All of them have received the prestigious Ben Webster Award. They have all played on Matthiessen's previous releases and through the past six years formed the basis of his great group *Past & Present*. The drummer is this year's Ben Webster Honorary Award winner, Ole Streenberg, who turned 70 in July. Matthiessen and Streenberg have played together in countless constellations dating back to the 1960's with Pierre Dørges septet and Carsten Meinert's quartet.

Everything Ole Matthiessen does is based on his deep devotion to jazz. He has played piano since 1963, and was in the forefront until his work for the Danish Broadcasting Corporation took up most of his time. He has produced recordings with an endless list of Danish musicians and the Danish Radio Big Band as well as many international artists: Duke Ellington, Ben Webster, Sun Ra, Miles Davis and many others. He likes to introduce himself as a "jack of all trades of jazz": pianist, composer, bandleader, record producer, music historian, music politician, author, critic, jazz DJ, lecturer, instructor, radio producer (DBC), producer for the Danish Radio Big Band for 37 years, producer of talk and DJ programs, and active on Radio Jazz since 2007. One may often find him behind the counter at Jazz Cup, one of Copenhagen's two surviving jazz CD and LP shops, where he willingly shares his enormous knowledge. And he leads his own groups and performs as a sideman in various settings ranging from swinging mainstream to spontaneous improvised free music.

Henrik Bolberg (tp, flh), Bob Rockwell (ts), Ole Matthiessen (p), Jesper Lundgaard (b, bg), Ole Streenberg (d).

Love Song / Augustaften i Tivoli / Drummer's Mare/Für;-? / OCBCT / Voodoo Dance / To Trane / From The Top / Light And Darkness / Flashback / Miss Lise.

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